



The Blessed Life 3

“The Principle of First”

(Exodus 13:1-2) Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is mine.

(Exodus 13:11-13) And it shall be, when the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you, that you shall set apart to the Lord all that open the womb, that is, every firstborn that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the Lord’s. But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the first-born of man among your sons you shall redeem.

1) The firstborn must be sacrificed or redeemed.

- If it is clean, it has to be sacrificed.
- If it is unclean, it has to be redeemed.
- The clean had to be sacrificed so that the unclean could be redeemed.
- Jesus is God’s tithe – because you give the tithe first.
- It takes faith to give the first one.
- It is not the 10% that activates the blessing – it is faith that activates the blessing.
- The first portion is the redemptive portion.

2) The first fruits must be offered.

(Proverbs 3:9-10) Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

*(Exodus 23:19a) The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall **bring** into the house of the Lord your God.*

(Genesis 4:3-5a) And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering.

It was not just that God would not receive Cain's offering - God could not receive Cain's offering.

There are some things that God cannot do:

God cannot change (immutability).

God cannot think like we think (omniscience).

God cannot be 2nd.

3) The tithe must be first.

(Leviticus 27:30) And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's. It is holy to the Lord.

(Exodus 13:14) So shall it be, when your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is this?' that you shall say to him. 'By strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage'.

Is God first in your life?