

SERMON NOTES SERIES

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY NOTES

THE GOD BARRIER



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Hi,

Over the years I have had numerous people ask me for a copy of my sermon notes for their own personal Bible studies. I am glad to be able to present them to you. You have in your hands an exact copy of my sermon notes for your very own personal studies. I pray that as you study the Word, that the Holy Spirit will add even more than what you have before you. Put yourself there in what you are studying. What were they feeling, what were they facing...make the Word come alive by placing yourself there.

I am also including a list of the resources that I use to obtain my information, but I will say this, without the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you under the anointing all you have is just a bunch of books. I always pray before, during, and upon deliverance of each message I receive. I pray that...*you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (Colossians 1:9)*. I am both honored and blessed that you have selected a Sermon Notes Series and I pray that it will be a blessing to you!

With Much Love,
Pastor John

RESOURCES USED

- * The Companion Bible
- * Dake's Annotated Reference Bible
- * Young's Analytical Concordance To The Bible
- * A Dictionary Of Bible Types
- * Vine's Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words
- * The American College Dictionary
- * World's Bible Handbook
- * The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary
- * Nelson's Three- in- One Bible Reference Companion
- * The Word -The Bible In 26 Translations
- * God's Plan For Man
- * Harper's Encyclopedia Of Bible Life
- * Nelson's Expository Dictionary Of The Old Testament
- * Manners And Customs From the Bible
- * What The Bible Is All About
- * Halley's Bible Handbook

These are just a small listing of the study aides that I use. The greatest study aide available is letting the Holy Spirit be your teacher. May you get to know Him!

Words translated from the Gk = Greek and Hb=Hebrew.

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OUR VISION

“My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge;”

Hosea 4:6

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:”

Proverbs 23:7

“...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”

Colossians 1:9

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

Proverbs 24:3-5

“And the Gospel must first be published among all nations.”

Mark 13:10

As the Scriptures speak for themselves, our vision is to empower Believers everywhere to live a victorious abundant lifestyle that can be obtained through wisdom and understanding. If you are willing to change the way you think, you can change the way you live. A renewed mind towards the Word of God established you firmly in the faith and opens the door for the blessings and benefits of God to become evident in your life.

Because We Believe In You,
John and Karen Pelizzari

THE GOD BARRIER

Revelation 13:15

And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

1. One of the ways the antichrist will establish himself as a world leader is through the world economy.
2. Keep in mind the wealth of this world is based on the economy of this world, which can fluctuate at any given moment.
 - a. And most of the world's economy operates through fear of what is happening in other nations.

Revelation 13:16

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

3. He will cause / make / require everyone on the planet to be involved in his new economic structure.

Revelation 13:17

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the

name of the beast, or the number of his name.

4. This new economic structure will require people to use one of three distinguishers to buy or sell globally.

- a. His mark.
- b. His name.
- c. His number.

666 is his **number**,
not the **mark** of the
beast!

5. Notice what his number is, not his mark as so many believe.

Revelation 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

Revelation 13:18 (NLT) Wisdom is needed to understand this. Let the one who has understanding solve the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man. His number is 666.

6. Meaning that the world economic system will not be getting any better.

a. Remember that even our own government faced a shut down and another one is predicted to be coming soon.

7. So what are believers supposed to do to ensure a stable lifestyle?

1 Timothy 6:17-19 [17] Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; [18] That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; [19] Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

8. The point I want to focus on is nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God.

- a. This country is faced with economic instability.
- b. Even bible believing people still talk in a worldly influenced manner.

9. Why is it called uncertain riches?

a. Because you can have it today and lose it before tomorrow ever dawns.

10. Being rich isn't wrong, but where is your trust?
11. Rather than by putting your faith and trust in uncertain riches, there is a better way that Jesus provided for us.
 - a. The Apostle Paul is telling us whether the times are good or bad, put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.
12. The way we enter into God's economic plan is simply through **SEED!**
 - a. God desires for us to use seed.
 - b. Through tithing, different offerings.
 - c. Anything that you give becomes a seed.
 - d. This is how He chooses to bless us.
13. God initiated a law that works every time.

Genesis 8:22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

14. Three things are involved:
 - a. Seed
 - b. Time

- c. Harvest
15. Understand that God can go outside of that has done so many times.
16. For example:
 - a. He rained down manna from heaven.
 - b. He sent quail.
17. But that was not His best nor His desire.
 - a. His desire was for His people to enter the Promised Land and **work with** seedtime and harvest.
 - b. That is why when the children of Israel came into the Promised land after forty years in the wilderness, the first thing that happened was that the manna ceased and they began to live off of the fruit of the land.
18. That is seedtime and harvest. That was God's best.
19. Instead of working *for* the children of Israel, God's plan was to work *with* the children of Israel.
 - a. Instead of God doing all the work for you, He desires to work with you.
 - b. The way that you get into this co-op with God is to give tithes to the Lord.

20. You may be asking why we should teach on money at all. Jesus talked a lot about money and He knew this would be a key issue with a lot of people.
- a. If not, why do people get all mad and defensive when biblical economics are being taught?
 - b. Why do you feel the preacher is getting ready to try and get money out of you?
21. Understand that some people make tithing and sowing the major area and teach on money all the time, but did you know that Jesus warned against this.

Matthew 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

22. Notice what Jesus is saying...He is saying that teaching on tithing is important, but it shouldn't dominate our teaching because there are more important issues like judgment, mercy and faith that needs to be taught alongside of tithing.
- a. So He's saying that we should teach on all four subjects.

23. These preachers were teaching on tithing / giving / sowing all the time and it was getting worse and worse.
24. It had gotten so bad that the people were paying tithe off of their spices.
- a. Imagine a preacher saying "I want you to bring ten percent of your salt and sugar."
25. This is what happens when you continually teach on one thing.
- a. You start getting more nit-picky over things that really don't matter in our walk with God.
26. Jesus chewed out the scribes and Pharisees because they taught on tithing because they were money hungry.
- a. They wanted more money in the coffers.
27. The scribes and Pharisees were simply looking to the people as their source. They thought of every trick they could to get money out of them.
28. We live in an age today where there are many tricks to get money out of people in the body of Christ!
29. We must come back to the fact that our giving has to be because we love the Lord, and we have to give because we love the work of God and we want to see people blessed.

30. As a pastor, I want you to tithe, but because you're being obedient to God.

31. Understand, God prospers this church. Like with the children of Israel, He has gone outside seed, time and harvest to supernaturally care for this church.

a. It didn't come through tithes and offering from the members like many assume.

b. Yes, you are a vessel that God can flow through, but our trust is in God from which prosperity comes.

32. So, we try to keep a balance.

a. I usually teach on faith, on the judgment of God against sin, on the love of God, the mercy of God, and the grace of God.

b. But as a pastor, I have been unbalanced in teaching you biblical economics because of the stigma that television preachers have put on sowing.

c. So I repent to you.

Acts 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

33. So let's work on getting you blessed and living free from this world's system of living.

34. Tithing is a foundational area *that causes your life to be so blessed.*

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

James 1:17 (MSG) Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light. There is nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle.

35. Notice it doesn't say every good gift and every perfect gift comes down from the congregational member.

a. It says every gift comes down from God.

36. When God gives to you, He gives to you through the hands of obedient other people.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

37. When we give back to God, we give through the hands of men.

Luke 6:38 (MSG) Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."

38. Even though we give through people, it ultimately comes from God and it goes back to God.

39. People are the vessels through whom the finances flow. Either way, God receives the glory.

40. The main reason Jesus went to the cross was for people. He went to deliver people from their sin, heal their sickness, but also to bring finances into their life by breaking the curse of poverty.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

41. God loves people in the world so much that He gave Jesus Christ.

a. That must be our motive also.

b. The love of God in our hearts motivates us to give because we love people.

c. Today, a lot of people have no regard for God.

42. There were two cases in the Word of God where the people of Israel had departed from the truth of God's Word.

a. They had turned their back on God and gone their own way.

43. I want to take a new look at a scripture that is commonly used for tithing.

Malachi 3:7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

44. The subject matter is having dumped God and how to return.

Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

45. God told them that the starting point in returning to Him was that they needed to start with the tithe.

a. To God's house...why?

46. Because the foundation that they needed was the truths that they learned in the temple. That foundation represented the foundation of their life.

a. They had to have their foundations right.

47. God is saying “Give Me something to work with in your life. If you’ll return to Me, I’ll return to you, but the way you start is by simply giving of your finances to Me. I can have something to work with and I can begin to bless your natural life.”

Malachi 3:7-8 (MSG) [7] **You have a long history of ignoring my commands. You haven't done a thing I've told you. Return to me so I can return to you," says God-of-the-Angel-Armies. "You ask, 'But how do we return?' [8] "Begin by being honest. Do honest people rob God? But you rob me day after day. "You ask, 'How have we robbed you?' "The tithe and the offering—that's how!**

48. So the starting point to living a blessed life was by tithing.

Malachi 3:9 **Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.**

Malachi 3:9 (NLT) **You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me.**

49. Natural curses usually begin because of a spiritual root, and natural blessings usually begin with spiritual roots.

Malachi 3:10 (NLT) **Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord Almighty, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Let me prove it to you!**

Malachi 3:10 (MSG) **Bring your full tithe to the Temple treasury so there will be ample provisions in my Temple. Test me in this and see if I don't open up heaven itself to you and pour out blessings beyond your wildest dreams.**

50. Break the barrier that has robbed you of God’s best. He is challenging you to do it.

51. Your heart attitude towards the Lord can determine your poverty or your prosperity.

- a. Your heart attitude is the key.
 - b. He's saying in Malachi, "If you want to show Me your heart is back toward Me, start with the tithes."
52. Here's a new perspective...**Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me.**
53. How can we rob the very One who has everything without measure?
54. We're only stewards over His finances. We were born without anything and we will die without anything.
- a. We only use the finances here in this earth.
 - b. The only thing we take with us are the things we've done for the kingdom of God.
55. So how do we rob God?
56. First - we rob God of the ability to bless us.
57. Despite the national economy, Wall Street, First National Bank, despite the world economy, He can bless us because He blesses us not from the world's standards, but He blesses us according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
58. The second way that we rob God.

1 Corinthians 9:13 **Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar?**

1 Corinthians 9:13 (MSG) **All I'm concerned with right now is that you not use our decision to take advantage of others, depriving them of what is rightly theirs. You know, don't you, that it's always been taken for granted that those who work in the Temple live off the proceeds of the Temple, and that those who offer sacrifices at the altar eat their meals from what has been sacrificed?**

- 59. Ready for the whole counsel of God?
- 60. Paul is teaching the Corinthians on why finances are given into a church.

61. In this verse of Scripture, Paul is saying that is how a pastor makes a living because pastors have bills to pay too.

1 Corinthians 9:14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

1 Corinthians 9:14 (NLT) In the same way, the Lord gave orders that those who preach the Good News should be supported by those who benefit from it.

62. This verse is saying that things have not changed concerning taking care of the priests because we have a New Testament.

a. Ministers still live off of what the people bring into the church.

63. But you have to understand something: when a believer doesn't give, they also rob their pastor.

a. When church folks rob the ministry, they rob God.

Hebrews 7:8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

64. If you give it to men who represent the Gospel, in essence you're giving to the Lord.

a. If you take it from men on this earth, you're robbing them and in essence you're robbing God.

b. When you give the tithe, God blesses you.

65. So where do you start. What's God's plan?

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (NLT) [1] Now about the money being collected for the Christians in Jerusalem: You should follow the same procedures I gave to the churches in Galatia. [2] On every Lord's Day, each of you should put aside some amount of money in relation to what you have earned and save it for this offering. Don't wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.

66. We should come to church prepared with our tithe to give.
67. When your prosperity comes during the week, lay the tithe aside and bring it to church on the first day of the week.
68. How often do we come to church and say, “I forgot the checkbook!”?
- a. This verse is saying it should be part of our thinking process during the week that whenever prosperity comes into our life that right off the top we give and set it aside so when we come to church we can give it to the Lord.
69. Notice that it says, **as God has prospered us**.
- a. Give God something to work with because God isn't tied to this world's economy.
 - b. As prosperity comes in, set aside some for the Lord.
70. God is looking for a heart of giving toward Him, and in so doing you let God bless you. You don't want to rob Him of the ability to bless you.
71. Prosperity is not just in your finances. Prosperity also comes through favor.
72. In every aspect of your finances, whether personal or business, keep your trust in God.

73. Don't put up, keep up a barrier, a wall between you and God...
74. If you have been out of sorts with God...He said in Malachi, return by tithing.
75. Don't deny God the opportunity to bless you.
76. And definitely don't put your trust in the economy of today.
- a. See, one way or another, you're either going to learn to live by faith or fear the economy will overwhelm you.
 - b. Trust God and have peace of mind.

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