

Union Bethel AME Church Bible Study God's Stimulus Plan

I. **Current Economic Climate**

Beyond tax credits and federal spending, our greatest need is not financial, but spiritual.

II. **God's Plan –**

God created humanity (Adam and Eve) and placed them in Eden – a “delightful place” where they could talk freely with God, love each other, enjoy God's creation, delight in meaningful work, and follow God's commandments.

Jehovah-Jireh – Our Provider. *The Lord Who Provides*. Literally: *The Lord Who Sees, or The Lord Who Will See To It*.

The Lord **sees** our every need and will see to it that our every need is met, because He **knows** our every need.

III. **God Owns Everything**

I Chronicles 29:10-12

Then David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly; David said: “Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for **all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours**; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all.

IV. **Stewardship and Tithing**

We have been **entrusted** with taking care of God's possessions.

Tithing is not only about a percentage. Tithing has to do with one's heart during the act of giving. We should tithe our time, talents, and treasures (money and those things we put value on). Exodus 20:-2-3

Genesis 4:1-5 and Hebrews 11:4 – God desires our best, our first fruits (Proverbs 3:9).

Tithing requires obedience and promises blessings – Malachi 3:8-10

Tithing teaches us to put God first in everything we do.

Luke 6:38 – **Give ...**

The stimulus, the catalyst, for financial blessing is to give!

V. **God's Reward**

The Lord is good - indeed, he is a fortress in time of distress, and he protects those who seek refuge in him. Nahum 1:7

Psalm 37:25

Psalm 91

Mathew 6:19-21

Matthew 6:25-33

I Timothy 6:6-9

John 10:10

Philippians 4:19

VI. How Then Shall We Live?

- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Do not live in fear, but take confidence in our sovereign God.
- Do not panic; continue to do those things that you know to be right, wise and consistent with Biblical financial principles. Stop doing those things that are not.
- Use this opportunity to take a hard look at where you can be a better steward – a more prudent spender, a wise saver, a cautious debtor and yes, even a more generous giver.
- Witness to family and friends; remember God's faithfulness – if He did it before, He will do it again.
- No matter the circumstance, no matter how things look, remember that GOD is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works us – Ephesians 3:20