

# NORTH HILLS NOTES

## GOD'S ANSWER TO THE WORLD'S CRISIS

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*"You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world—like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."* Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)

*"Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be."* Luke 12:34 (NLT)

*"A tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain or fruit, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to him as holy."* Leviticus 27:30 (NLT)

*You must set aside a tithe of your crops—one-tenth of all the crops you harvest each year. Bring this tithe to the place the Lord your God chooses for his name to be honored, and eat it there in His presence. This applies to your tithes of grain, new wine, olive oil, and the firstborn males of your flocks and herds. The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to fear the Lord your God... And do not forget the Levites in your community, for they have no inheritance as you do. At the end of every third year bring the tithe of all your crops and store it in the nearest town. Give it to the Levites, who have no inheritance among you, as well as to the foreigners living among you, the orphans, and the widows in your towns, so they can eat and be satisfied. Then the Lord your God will bless you in all your work."*

Deuteronomy 14:22-23, 27-29 (NLT)

*"No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."* Matthew 6:24 (NLT)

*"Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! But you ask, what do you mean? When did we ever cheat you? You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. You are under a curse for your whole nation has been cheating me. Bring all the tithes into the store house 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! Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not shrivel before they are ripe, says the Lord Almighty. Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight, says the Lord Almighty."* Malachi 3:8-12 (NLT)

*"Tell those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which will soon be gone. But their trust should be in the living God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give generously to those in need, always being ready to share with other whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may take hold of real life."* 1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NLT)

*"Look here, you rich people, weep and groan with anguish because of all the terrible troubles ahead of you. Your wealth is rotting away, and your fine clothes are moth-eaten rags. Your gold and silver have become worthless. The very wealth you were counting on will eat away your flesh in hell. This treasure you have accumulated will stand as evidence against you on the Day of Judgment. For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. The cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every whim. Now your hearts are nice and fat, ready for the slaughter."*

James 5:1-5 (NLT)

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."* Luke 4:18-19 (NLT)

- If your income is **\$25,000/year** then you are wealthier than **90%** of the world's population
- If your income is **\$50,000/year** then you are wealthier than **99%** of the world's population
- Of **6.7** billion people on earth, **1/2** live on less than **\$2.00/day**
- **93%** of world's population don't own a car
- Total income of American churchgoers: **\$5.2 trillion**
- Amount of money from American Christians to lift the poorest 1 billion people in the world out of extreme poverty: just over **1%**
- Number of American Christians that tithe (10%): **24%**
- Average giving of American church members: **2.58%** of their income
- Of the amount given only **2%** goes to overseas missions of any kind—**2% of 2%**
- In dollars and cents this amounts to **6 cents/day**
- Tithe on \$5.2 trillion: **\$520 billion**
- Actual tithe paid: **\$134 billion**
- Shortfall of tithe in funding the work of God: **\$386 billion**
- Amount Americans spend on entertainment and recreation (2008): **\$705 billion**
- Amount spent by teenagers ages 12-17 (2006): **\$179 billion**
- Amount Americans spend on jewelry (2008): **\$65 billion**
- Amount spent on state lottery tickets (2007): **\$58 billion**
- Total U.S.-government foreign assistance budget for the world: **\$39.5 billion**
- Amount spent on pets (2003): **\$31 billion**
- Amount spent by Americans on cosmetic surgery (2007): **13 billion**
- Total overseas ministries income to 700 Protestant mission agencies, including denominational, interdenominational, and independent agencies (2005): **\$5 billion**
- Cost to eliminate most extreme poverty for 1 billion people: **\$65 billion**
- Cost to provide universal primary education for children: **\$6 billion**
- Cost to bring clean water to most of the world's poor: **\$9 billion**
- Basic health and nutrition for all of the world's poor: **\$13 billion**

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