

The Abundant Life Series #3 Open Windows

Our series *The Abundant Life* and our *focus scripture* for the series is:

John 10:10 - KJV

¹⁰ The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come **that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**

So we are trying to understand what Jesus was talking about when He said **that they might have it more abundantly.**

- Today I want to focus on this thought, **Open Windows.**
- I want to share a scripture with you that I believe will help us here this morning.

Malachi 3:10 - NKJV

¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the **windows of heaven** And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will not be room enough to receive it.*

This "**Spiritual Law**" is a promise from God to "*open you the **windows of heaven,***"

- How do we get the "**Windows of Heaven**" seen in verse 10n opened?
- And how do we keep the "**Windows of Heaven**" open?
- It's strange to me that the scripture here refers to **Windows.**
- You **don't** usually pass things **through a window.**

You generally pass things through **a door.**

- **Doors** are mentioned many times in the scripture.

Revelation 3:20 - NKJV

20 Behold, I stand at **the door** and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens **the door,** I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

- But here in Malachi it mentions **Windows.**

Let's think about this for a moment.

What is a window used for?

- First of all, **it let's light come into a dark place** at the due time.
- I like waking up to the light.

- Without the light, you have to **fumble around in the darkness**.
- You have to **create something artificial** in order to be able to have ***some clear vision***.

A window does more than bring light into a dark situation.

- It also gives you **a view** outside of your circumstances.
- You may only be able to see what is happening **within your circumstances**
- But when you **step up to the window**
- You will get a **much different view** than what you had before.
- You will get a **much clearer understanding** of the **circumstances that surround** and ultimately **control your life**.

I think of the pioneers back in the day.

- They would wake up in the morning **freezing cold**.
- The **water on the table** from the night before would **have ice on it**.
- They wouldn't understand what was causing the ice **if they didn't look out the window** to see that winter had arrived.
- **The window** let them see **what season** they were in so **they knew how to dress** and what to do **inside and outside** the cabin **to be able to survive what the window was showing them**.

A window does more than show you what is immediately outside

- It also shows you what is **off in the distance**.
- **Mountains** may be off in the distance.
- Rivers – Streams – Forests - All kinds of **opportunities** - All kinds of **possibilities**.

Opportunities that other people **pass by** every single day.

- **Options** that other people never **get to consider**.
- **Promises and potential** that people **without open windows** never get a chance to see.

Jesus said when referring **to the Pharisees** in **Matthew 15:14 - NKJV**

¹⁴ Let them alone. They are **blind** leaders of the **blind**. And if the **blind** leads the **blind**, both ***will fall into a ditch.***"

- He was referring to **religious teachers** who **could not see** all that ***Jesus was offering*** to people.
- **Teachers of the scriptures** who themselves **had no ability to see** the promises of God.
- **Jesus said** they are like **blind people leading blind people** and when this happens, they both **fall into a ditch.**

Why did they fall into a ditch?

- Because there was **no vision**.
- And where there is **no vision**, the people **perish** right?
- And there was especially **no spiritual vision**.

See when **Malachi** speaks of the **Windows of Heaven being opened...**

- He is saying that **God is going to begin to show you** some things that **will keep you from falling into the ditch.**
- For some people, **that's the light** coming into the room.

I went to a Men's advance years ago...

- I felt stuck (in a ditch) in my life, stuck in my walk with Christ!!!
- I had paid the money for myself and others to attend this retreat and begin to wonder if it was even worth it!!!!
- On the second day and third service, something begun to happen...

As I was **sitting with a bunch of other believers** God began a new work.

- God began to **stir my spirit** – **dance** before me....
- As I did **I stood in amazement** as **I watched God** work.
- I watched as they **shed some light** on what I already had in front of me.
- They was preaching on the loss of my anointing (**The Ax Head**).
- About that time our son **Randy** was **miraculously healed...**

Wow, God was still God and HE was on the move!!!!

- Not because they were telling emotional stories....
- But because a much needed light was coming in.

Have you ever been in a ditch?

- Has your life ever felt stuck?
- **Muck and mire** is **what you find in a ditch**.
- **Ruts** that don't let you climb out are in a ditch.
- Other blind people are in a ditch...
- Complaining about how bad life is in the ditch
- And **how hard it is to get out**.
- And how many times they've tried to **get out of the ditch and failed**.

Do You know what you need when you find yourself blind and stuck in a ditch?

- Someone who has some vision to lead you out.
- Someone to tell you the truth about your circumstances, whether you want to hear it or not.
- Someone who will shed some light on your situation so you can see what you need to do to get out of the ditch.

You need some Heavenly Windows to open up in your life.

- Where light and vision and perspective and insight can enter into your situation.

Abraham is called in the scriptures the **Father of the Faithful**.

- In fact Hebrews 11 accounts the great faith that Abraham had in God.
- But God had to teach Abraham how to have faith.

Genesis 12:1-3 NKJV - Promises to Abram

12 Now the Lord had said to Abram:

“**Get out of your country**, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.

² **I will make you a great nation**; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

³ **I will bless those who bless you**, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth **shall be blessed**.”

Look at that, “**Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you.**”

God told Abraham, **I’m going to show you** a place I want you to live.

- A place of **promise and possibilities.**
- A place where you and your family are **going to be blessed.**
- A place of **greatness**
- A place where **curses are going to fall off** your life.
- A place where people are going to go out of their way **to bless you** and when they do, **God said, I’m going to bless them.**
- **Instead** of being surrounded by people **who are stuck in a ditch...**
- You are going to find yourself **surrounded by people who are blessed** – because of **you and your great faith** in God!

Instead of hearing all the murmurings of the ditch, you are going to **hear the testimonies of people** who **have had some light and vision** come into their life.

- Some people who’ve **had some miracles** happen
- **Wherever Abraham put his foot he was prospered**
- **God gave him the land he walked into for an inheritance** for his children and their children’s children.

Let’s look at - Malachi 3:10 - NKJV

¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven **And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.**”

Room enough – That’s not just talking about **quantity**

- That’s talking about **space** – **Area** - **Capacity**

God wasn’t just promising us **quantity in Malachi 3:10**

- He was promising to **bless us in all** the different **areas** of our life.

*****There will not be room enough to receive it.*****

God is inclined to **“open you the windows of Heaven**, and pour you out a blessing, that **there shall not be room enough** to receive it.”

Verse 11 even tells us that **God will involve himself** in the success of their crops and vines.

Some people think **Malachi 3:10** is just talking about **God’s blessings on our finances**. - **Quantity...** **He’s not** just talking about **your finances**

James 1:17 – NIV - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who **does not change** like shifting shadows.

He’s talking about -

- Your **home** - Your **marriage** - Your **relationships** with other family members
- Your **children**
- Your **job** - **Those you work with** - Those you **do business with** - Those you **buy from**
- Your **church** - The areas of ministry that you are **involved in**
- Your time availability **to serve other people**

Malachi 3:10 doesn’t just say “WINDOW”

- God doesn’t just promise to **open one window** – finances.
- He promises to open **“The Windows of Heaven”**.
- **All kinds of areas of your life** that **He would like to bless you in**.
- **All kinds of ways**.
 - Ways you never **imagined before**.
 - Ways you never **thought possible**.
 - Ways you never **seen other people get blessed**.

CLOSE:

So He’s going to **“pour out a blessing”** through

- **Windows** – multiple views. - Plenty of **opportunity**
- New **ways** of looking at things - Some ways, **right up close to you**.

They are **already available to you**, you just need someone to **shine a light on them**.

How do we get the “Windows of Heaven” opened, and keep them open?

1. Keep your heart open! Welcome the Holy Spirit to shine the Light of God’s Word in any dark place of your heart.
2. Keep your mouth open! Prayers & Praise are natural outcomes of a life that honors God.
3. Keep your pocket open! Let God use your finances.
4. Keep your hands open! Help others.
5. Keep your eyes open! See the need for the lost in the world.

There shall not be room enough to receive it.

- I don’t know about you, but I’d like to get to the point where I say, “**STOP!**”
- ***I’m too blessed!!!!!!!!!!!!***

Have you been fumbling around in the dark?

- For someone, light is starting to appear.
- You’re seeing something you’ve never seen before.
- A new understanding

One last thought out of Malachi 3:10. Notice the words, “**Prove Me...**” It simply means that if we will be obedient, God will prove Himself true to His Promises.

Others can’t see what you see - But you do!!!!

- Because a Heavenly understanding has been opened to you.

I’m amazed sometimes how some people can’t see what is right in front of them...

- But it’s because they are not letting God open the windows of Heaven to them.

I wonder what God has for your life today.

- ***Right now.***
- Something that is right in front of you and you haven’t been able to see it.
- ***But there it is.....***