

"O remember not against us former iniquities: let Thy tender mercies speedily prevent us: for we are brought very low." Psalms 79:8 KJV



The word “prevent” means, “to go before” or “precede.” We often think of the word “prevent” as meaning, “to hinder,” which it also does here, in that God goes before us to hinder evil. God sees all time as, NOW. *“I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”* God knows your future, your next five minutes, and your next five decades, NOW! He proclaimed His name to Moses as *“I AM!”* Whatever your difficulty, trial, or trouble, God never changes! *“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever. 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!”* His tender mercies precede you to protect and guide. We mistakenly view God’s provision as His “blessings,” but His commands are His blessings. *“And God blessed them, (Adam and Eve) and God said unto them, ‘Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.’”* He had already finished all of Creation before He created man. The provisions they needed to obey were already in place! Our obedience to God puts us on the path of bountiful provision. I used to doubt it until I obeyed. With obedience comes provision, increased faith, and Joy! *“Seek ye FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness, (obey God) and ALL THESE THINGS shall be ADDED UNTO YOU! Your heavenly Father KNOWETH that you have need of all these things.”*

Blazing a trail before our eyes,
Mercy is there when we arrive,
Preventing evil in our way,
God always makes His child a way! ~CGP

Putting money in the offering plate is not giving to the church. It’s giving to God if it’s a Bible believing, practicing, Church! Misusing God’s tithe is robbing God, for the tither as well as the receiver! Tithe is 10% of all your time, your effort, and your increase. It’s been said, “If you don’t give God His due, He’ll send the Devil to collect!” Maybe, but I know before I started tithing, I had to be “Mr. Fixit,” because everything broke all the time! Since, we’ve had a used washer/dryer set that lasted us 15 years and 5 year light bulbs that have burned for 8! You can’t outgive God! *“Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, ‘Wherein have we robbed thee?’ In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith,” saith the LORD of hosts, ‘if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.’”* I can give story after story! Dad obeyed God and took a wife and four children to the Peruvian Amazon Jungle to give the Gospel to the Yagua Indians. We never missed a meal nor went without! My little brother fell in a bonfire, receiving third degree burns over a large part of his body, but afterwards, only one scar behind his ear! We lived day to day. Dad had no retirement or savings, but everything in their sunset years, including housing, health, and burial was completely covered! God’s mercies precede the obedient child!

“And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.” Malachi 3:11 KJV