Whoever refuses to work is not allowed to eat." 2 Thessalonians 3:10 (GNT)

"The fact that God put work in paradise is startling to us because we so often think of work as a necessary evil or even punishment. Work is as much a basic human need as food, beauty, rest, friendship, prayer, and sexuality; it is not simply medicine but food for our soul. Without meaningful work we sense significant inner loss and emptiness."

- Tim Keller

Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

Proverbs 22:29 (NIV)

The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it a wall too high to scale.

Proverbs 18:11 (NIV)

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Psalm 20:7 (NIV)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

John 10:10 (ESV)

They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer).

Revelation 9:11 (NIV)

#### <u>Destroy: apollymi</u>

To put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to, ruin. Satan is the lord of destruction, lack, and loss.

# REBUKE THE DEVIL PART 4: THE ATTACK ON YOUR PROVISION

8 Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions (offerings). 9You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. 10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. 11 will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the Lord of hosts. 12 Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 3:8-12 (ESV)

### The Spotted Lanternfly:

Spotted lanternflies cause damage to plants by sucking sap, with the waste product of their diet encouraging fungal disease.

A 2019 study by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture estimates that, uncontrolled, this insect could cost the state \$324 million annually and more than 2,800 jobs.





### Giving by faith releases the expulsive power of God over our lives and communities.

#### **Expulsive:**

The act of elimination, displacement, or banishment.

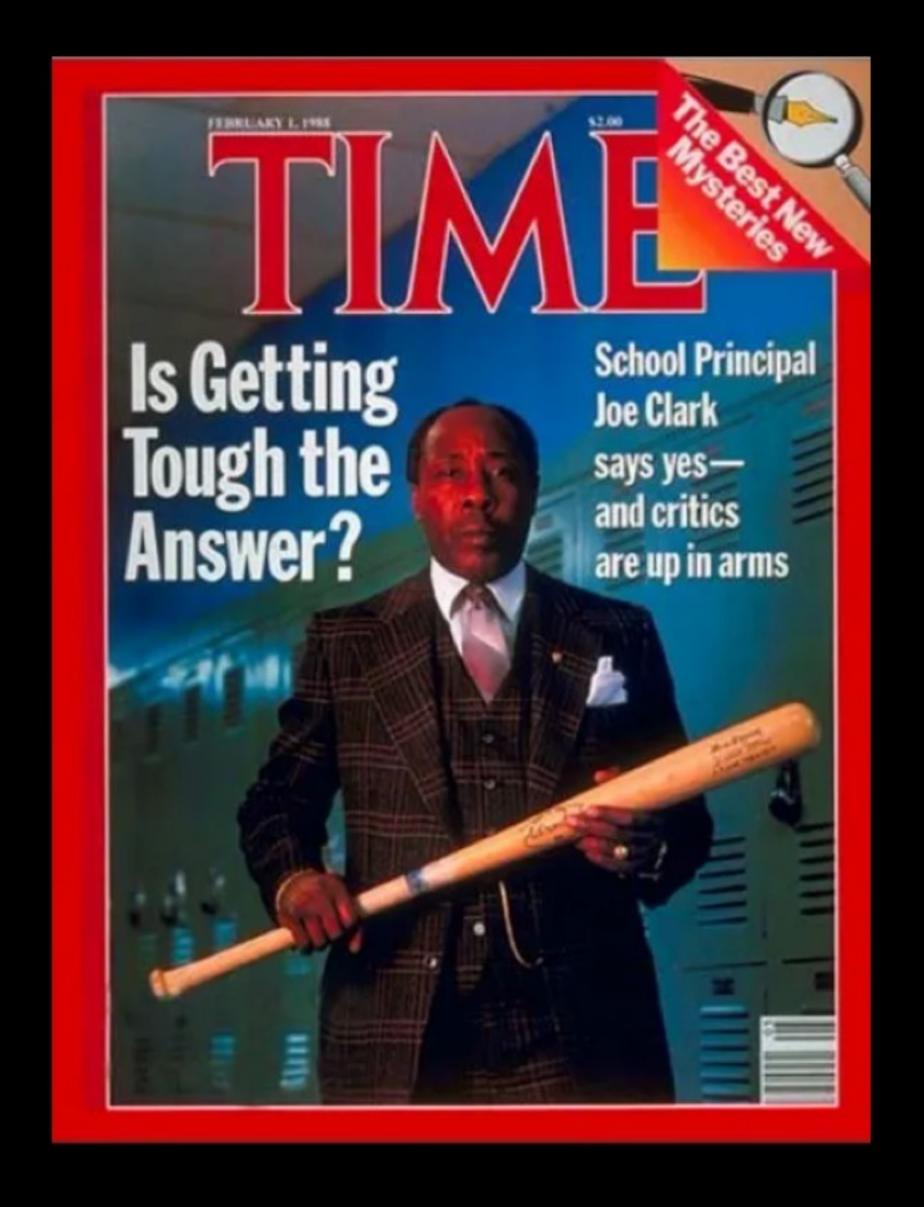
The act of removing what's troublesome.

#### Joe Clark

Patterson, NJ School Principal

Clark took over a declining high school that was going to be closed unless 75% of its students could pass the state mandated exam.

Clark's first move as principal involved expelling over 300 students who were drug dealers and gang members.



You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

Matthew 23:23 (NIV)

#### It's Not A Tithe Unless It's:

- 1. First and Best
- 2. 10%
- 3. To the Storehouse

## Giving Rebukes the Devourer Over Us

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

Psalm 91:1-3 NIV

## Giving Rebukes the Devourer Through Us

"There are many good things that need to be done in our world, many good causes that need support, but proclaiming the gospel is exclusive to the people of God. No one else will do it, and no one else will fund it."

- John Rinehart, Gospel Patrons

"I get great satisfaction by investing in God's kingdom. That's where I will live forever and I want to help as many people as possible get there. I have made other financial investments, some good and others not so good, but you can never make a mistake investing with God. To be able to share our resources in such a way that they produce eternal dividends for the kingdom is pure joy. The joy comes from participating with God in the building of his kingdom, knowing that it will last forever."

- Tom Conway, Generous Giving Advisory Council