Keeping Your Pledges
Leviticus 27:1-34

Main Point:
Faithfully keep your pledges to serve Jesus and contribute to His ministry on earth.

1. God expects you to keep your pledges to serve Him.

Kenneth Mathews "Vows were offered out of a heart that was thankful to God for his goodness and mercy."

Deuteronomy 23:23 23 That which has gone from your lips you shall keep and perform, for you voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth. (NKJV)

Allen Ross "Whatever the righteous do should be a reflection of the nature of the LORD. Since the LORD is faithful to his word and keeps his promises, then his people must also be true to their word."

John Currid "It is important not to hinder or deprive the impoverished from being able to perform a pious act."

Mark 12:42-44 42 Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. 43 So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; 44 for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood." (NKJV)

2. Your faithfulness to these pledges is proportional to your ability.

Kenneth Mathews "The Israelites gave according to their ability to serve, both in terms of their physical capability and their financial ability. It was not a matter of whether one person was more devoted because he could give more …"

Kenneth Mathews "Because of the human temptation to renege on promises or manipulate the system, the regulations closed potential loopholes and encouraged godly behavior."

Exodus 13:2 2 "Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, *both* of man and beast; it is Mine." (NKJV)

3. Your faithfulness to these pledges should not be deceitful or reserved.

Kenneth Mathews "Although there are many details in this chapter that do not correspond to Christian living today, it contains a message that still holds true for us. The message is one that we particularly need to hear because of the ready temptation to renegotiate, so to speak, our commitments to God."

John Currid "Why it is is placed here is puzzling: it may be simply to reinforce the importance of funding the sanctuary which, of course, is the central object in Israel's worship."

John 5:30 30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me. (NKJV)

4. Your faithfulness to these pledges contributes to Jesus' ministry on earth.

Kenneth Mathews "By giving to the service of the Lord we are expressing our recognition of Christ's love for us. It is our act of devotion to God."