

# GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME  
IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM



## Garden Pests

**I** was living in a school home at a medical missionary training center in the southern part of the United States. The long, hot summer days were used up with classes, studying, home duties, meals, and working in the garden.

Our garden wasn't doing as well as we would like. We had too little rain, too many weeds and too many bugs. Someone asked if we were tithing the garden produce. We hadn't thought of that.

We read the promise that God would rebuke the devourer if we brought all the tithe into the storehouse. Our garden was certainly being devoured.

While praying and claiming the promise, we heard the most raucous noise. Three dogs were fighting over a groundhog.

We realize our request to rebuke the devourer was being answered, even before we had finished praying. Imagine what

damage a groundhog could do to our garden.

The next day, while I was pulling up some weeds that had a stranglehold on our broccoli plants, I looked up and saw a rabbit come running out, and right on his tail was a fox. I never again saw the rabbit or any damage that could be blamed on a rabbit.

Then I noticed some green worms munching on the broccoli leaves. I started picking them off. As I reached for a particularly fat one a large wasp flew by my ear, swooped down on the worm and carried it away. I knew for sure that tithing the garden produce was the right thing to do.

"I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 3:11, NIV

by Larry E. Stapleton

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