

Break Through the Cycle with Giving - Biblical Discussion

Why should you give? Where does the money go?

What are some of the things that you are doing financially?

What are some of your plans to get out of debt?

How often do you give? And how do you give? **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

What are you giving to? What is your financial plan for the future?



²² A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children,
but a sinner’s wealth is stored up for the righteous. **Proverbs 13:22**

Show I give 10% of my income **Matthew 23:23**

²³ “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens,^[a] but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.

Giving as sowing seeds

Luke 6:38

³⁸ Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.^[a]”

Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Luke 8:5 “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.

Genesis 1:11 And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so.

Why are you losing money - **Haggai 1:3-6**

³ Then the LORD sent this message through the prophet Haggai: ⁴ “Why are you living in luxurious houses while my house lies in ruins? ⁵ This is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies says: Look at what’s happening to you! ⁶ You have planted much but harvest little. You eat but are not satisfied. You drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!

Testing God with your Giving

Malachi 3:10¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!

If I succeeded financially without sacrificing or sowing a seed, then someone who went before me made that sacrifice or sowed the seed.

If I sacrifice or sowing a seed and do not see the harvest or success, then someone behind me will reap that harvest or success.

How to stay blessed **Deuteronomy 28:1-14**

“And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. ...

God and Giving – John 3:15

What is a tithe?

A tithe is defined as a "tenth part". The tithe is "first fruit" of your increase. The principle behind your tithe being your first fruit is you are recognizing God as your source of supply; He is the cause of your prosperity. Therefore, the tithe is not any tenth of one's income; it is the first tenth of one's income. Leviticus 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

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What is an offering?

An offering is a financial gift of any amount as God has prospered you over and above your tithe.

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What is the purpose of tithes and offerings?

The purpose of tithes and offerings is to support the ministry and the ongoing work of your church

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Why should I tithe?

- . It is a spiritual command from God
 - . To walk in obedience to God's Word
 - . To support the work and vision of my church
 - . To cause the windows of blessings to open for me because of my alignment with the Word of God.
 - . It is God's way of ensuring I have a blessed life by including Him in my finances
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How much should I tithe?

A biblical tithe is 10% (for example: \$1250 x .10 = \$125 tithe) of your pre-tax income (gross income) and could be as much as God leads you to tithe above 10%. The 10% tithe is a starting point.

Do I Tithe Only On Income From My Employment?

No. You are to tithe on all income that comes to you (i.e., salary, dividends, interest income, insurance proceeds, inheritances, profits from businesses, tax refunds, etc.). Proverbs 3:9 (KJV) "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase:..."

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Where should I tithe?

- . To the "storehouse". The storehouse in Israel was the temple and cities of the Levites; but today it would be the place where one receives spiritual food and help (i.e., their local church where they are members or attendees). Malachi 3:10 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.
 - . Deuteronomy 12:11 Then there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD:
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What happens if I don't tithe?

- . God calls you a robber and your disobedience causes you to live under a curse. Malachi 3:8-9 'Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.
 - . When Christians don't tithe they "rob" God of the opportunity to bless their lives
 - . When Christians don't tithe they limit what God can do in their lives and limit the impact the local church will have in a community.
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Is tithing all that's required?

God's Word commands tithes and offerings, see Malachi 3:8-15.

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What are the benefits of tithing?

- . Provision for the house of God; no lack of means or money to carry out God's work.
- . Opening the windows of heaven to pour out a blessing so great that there will not be room enough to receive it
- . God will rebuke the devourer (satan) so that he will not destroy your harvest
- . You will be recognized as blessed by men
- . You will enjoy God's favor on your life. 2 Corinthians 9:8 (KJV) "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:..."

Isn't tithing an Old Testament law?

No, tithing was introduced in the Old Testament, but still was observed and practiced in the New Testament. For more study read Matthew 23:23, Romans 2:22, 2 Corinthians 9:7-14, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Galatians 6:6, and Hebrews 7:1-10

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What should my attitude toward tithing be?

- . I should have an attitude of joy and willingness that God has blessed me to send back into the ministry. 2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
 - . When money comes into your hands your first thought is not, "Look at the money I have", but instead, "Look how much money I have to tithe with!"
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What is the spiritual impact of tithing?

- . Worship; giving is an act of worship, Proverbs 3:9-10 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
 - . When we tithe we are saying God is first in my life.
 - . What you will notice is that your mental state changes, attitudes of self-righteousness, selfishness, disappear, you create a flow of blessing in your life
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When should I start tithing?

- . Start Now! The moment you come into the knowledge of the truth make the necessary changes to obey the Word of God.
- . Start now where you are even if it's not 10% (i.e. it may be 3%, 5% now), but you will grow in your obedience to God and personal discipline
- . This change will require repentance to God for your disobedience, but one definition of repentance is to "think again" or to have a radical change of mind.
- . The product of repentance is God's forgiveness and blessing