

WHAT THE
BIBLE
SAYS ABOUT
TITHING

The Center Of It All...
**the
Worship
Center**

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ONE CHURCH | MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
HONORING GOD UNIFYING COMMUNITIES BUILDING PEOPLE

What the Bible Says About Tithing

According to Hebrews 11:6 (NIV), “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists, and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.” When you tithe to God, you are truly walking by faith and not by sight. Most of us normally don’t have enough money to spare. So when we tithe, we’re putting God to the test. We’re saying, “Yes, Lord, I believe you are the God of your Word, and I am giving by faith”.

You have to use your faith to please God. As you step out in faith to give your tithes and offering, you are showing God that you believe him, and great shall be your reward eventually.

Be faithful day in and day out, week in and week out, month in and month out, year in and year out, and you will see the windows of heaven shower blessings on you and your family that are so great, that there will eventually be an overflowing in your life.

What is tithing?

“Tithe” means 10% or “a tenth part”. God’s Word tells us that the first 10% of everything we earn or receive belongs to Him. God says in Malachi 3:8 (NIV), “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me but you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ In tithes and offerings.” In verse 9, He says that we bring a lot of problems on ourselves when we don’t tithe. The only way God’s work will be done on this earth is if God’s people give of their finances.

What’s the difference between the “Tithe” and “Offerings”?

The tithe is to be the first 10% of everything you receive financially. According to Leviticus 27:30, “the tithe is holy to the Lord”. An offering is any amount you would give above the tithe.

What the Word of God Says About Tithing

“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ In tithes...., you are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. ‘Test me in this’, says the Lord Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,’ says the Lord Almighty.” (Malachi 3:8-12 NIV).

“A tenth of the land’s produce, whether grain from the ground or fruit from the trees, is God’s. It is holy to God.” Leviticus 27:30 (MSG)

“Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year.” Deuteronomy 14:22 (NIV)

What the Word of God Says About Offering

“Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from each man whose heart prompts him to give.” (Exodus 25:2 NIV)

“This is what the Lord has commanded: From what you have, take an offering for the Lord. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the Lord an offering...” (Exodus 35:4-5 NIV)

“...and everyone who was willing and whose heart moved him came and brought an offering to the Lord for the work on the Tent of Meeting, for all it’s service...and the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning” (Exodus 35:21 & 36:3 NIV)

What the Word of God Says About Sacrificial Giving

“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” (2 Corinthians 9:6 NIV)

“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” (2 Corinthians 9:10-11 NIV)

Well, I thought tithing was Old Testament Jewish Law that’s not for today.

No! According to Galatians 3:17, the Law came 430 years after God instituted the promise and tithing with Abraham. If tithing was under the Jewish Law, why did Abraham tithe 430 years before the Law was given? According to Genesis 14:20, Abraham tithed to the Priest Melchizedek from the very beginning, hundreds of years before the Law.

I can’t afford to tithe!

If you are a disciple of Jesus Christ, you can’t afford not to tithe! You need God’s supernatural help if you’re ever going to get out of debt. If you are waiting for your ship to come in before you tithe, you may be waiting a long time. Put your faith into action today by giving Him the first 10% of everything you earn or receive, and watch how He helps you get out of debt. I would also encourage you to teach your children to tithe to God from an early age, so that they will be blessed all the days of their lives.

Nine reasons why we should tithe

1. God commands it. In Malachi 3:10, God says, “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse”. The storehouse refers to the place where you worship. The tithe is to be given to your home church, the place where you are spiritually fed. When you give to support charities and other ministries, you should be giving out of your offerings. The whole tithe belongs to the local church.

2. Tithing proves God’s Word is true. God says, if you will put Him to the test in tithes and offerings, eventually you will see great blessings overtake your life, even to the point that you will see God open the windows of blessing upon you and your family.

3. God will rebuke the devourer. According to Malachi 3:11, you have an enemy that will steal all your finances, but, when you bring God the whole tithe, and give offerings as He leads you, God will rebuke the enemy. When you become a follower of Jesus Christ, the enemy targets you and your finances. You need God's help, if you're going to make it financially in today's world and the tough times that we live in. God actually challenges every believer to "put Him to the test" in their giving, and watch what He does in their lives. It's time to put God to the test, and watch God's blessings flow toward you. Do it today!

4. Tithing teaches me to put God first. According to Deuteronomy 14:23, the purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God first in your life. If God has our finances, then we know He has our hearts. If we refuse to tithe, we prove that He really isn't first in the first place.

5. Jesus recognized tithing. In Matthew 23:23, Jesus recognized or commended the Pharisees for tithing. Tithing was the only thing they were doing right.

6. Tithing is essential to spiritual growth. God tells us in Luke 16:11, "if therefore you have not been faithful in the use of money, how can you expect Him to entrust greater riches to you?" Many Christians don't grow spiritually, and remain spiritual babies because they are not faithful to obey God in the tithes and offering.

7. Tithing proves you love the Lord. In 2 Corinthians 8:8, God says that your giving tests the sincerity of your love. You say you love the Lord, but you prove you love him when you give. Talk is cheap and actions speak louder than words.

8. Tithing is an investment for eternity. In Matthew 6:19, Jesus told us to "store up treasure in heaven." When you give your tithes and offerings to the Lord's work, you are investing your money in souls for the Kingdom, and helping to get people to heaven.

9. You cannot "out-give" God. In Galatians 6:7, God says, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows that he will also reap." God is watching, and whatever you give to Him, He will give back to you. Giving unlocks heaven's gates on your behalf. You cannot out-give God. The more you give to Him, the more He'll give back to you.

Other scriptural references

“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”

(2 Corinthians 9:6 KJV)

“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.”

(Luke 6:38 NLT)

10 frequently asked questions about tithing

1. **Should I tithe on my gross or my net?** The Old Testament teaches the principle of first fruits (Exodus 23:16; 34:22; Leviticus 2:12-14; 2 Chronicles 31:5). Old Testament believers gave from the best of their crops, not the leftovers. The same principle should apply to our giving today. Again, a believer should give what he believes God would have him give. It all goes back to the attitude of the heart. Are we giving out of reverence for God or out of selfishness for our own wealth? “Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).
2. **Should I tithe on my income tax refund?** If you tithe on your gross, the answer is no. If you tithe on your net, the answer is yes. If you tithe on your gross then you don't have to tithe on your refund. However, God does expect you to give an offering. Deuteronomy 16:16-17.
3. **If I own a business, do I pay tithes on all monies received?** No- Your overhead cost is not profit. You pay tithes on capital gains not capital expenses. Another way to look at it is : If it is taxable income, then it is tithe-able worship.
4. **What if I give my tithe to someone in need, does it still count as tithing?** No- supporting those in need is good, but when you give your tithe to them, you take what belongs to God and give it to someone else. Help them if you can, but not out of your tithe. That is what the Word of God means when it says, “Bring all the tithes into my house, that there may be meat in my house.”

5. **What if the church is mishandling money?** This is a great question and the Biblical answer is found in I Samuel 2 with Hophni and Phinehas, Eli's sons. God judges wicked leadership for their unrighteousness, not the faithful worshipper. In this text God reveals that He does not judge those who tithe, He judges the leadership that mishandles it. God rewards obedience so He will bless you for obeying and He will deal with those who mishandle HIS resources. Obey God and leave the rest to HIM!
6. **What if I'm tithing and I do not seem to be getting ahead?** There can be a myriad of reasons why you're tithing and not getting ahead from bad business choices, living outside of the will of God, living beyond your means, etc. Also understand this, getting to the next level or dimension does not mean that there are not new challenges with progress.
7. **What if my spouse is not in agreement with tithing?** Agreement definitely enhances success. Talk it over with your spouse. If they don't want to tithe on their income, just tithe on yours. If you have no income, then you cannot make the providing spouse walk in faith. You can however, P.U.S.H (Pray Until Something Happens).
8. **I have no income, is it possible to tithe in some other way?** Yes. You can give your time by volunteering.
9. **I thought tithing was just under the Law?** No. Tithing was before AND after the Law. Jesus came to fulfill the Law and actually commended the religious leaders for their tithe (Matthew 23:23). Just as Jesus commended the religious leaders for their tithe, He will commend you when you tithe.
10. **If I do not pay tithes, I have been told that I am going to hell, is that true?** Absolutely not. Your Salvation was purchased with the blood of Christ, not your tithes. We should never confuse divine grace with human responsibility. Tithing unlocks God to work in your finances. It is a promise/blessing issue not a Salvation issue.

You Can Start Today!

What better way to grow than through giving. God's Word in Luke 6:38 (NIV) states, "Give and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." WOW...HOW EXCITING!!! God has many ways in which you can give: Tithing, Offering and Sacrificial Offering. The Worship Center accepts monies in different ways as well, such as : Cash, Credit Card, Debit Card and Electronic Check. Know that our website allows you to categorize your giving by simply clicking "more categories" and entering your desired amounts. Better than that, you can schedule recurring automatic donations on any day of the month you choose.

So Give Today and Receive the Blessings God has for You! We have several ways in which you can give!

1. You can bring your tithes and offering with you when you come to God's House and give during offering time or lay it on the altar.
2. You can give online by simply logging onto our website, **www.theworshipcentercc.org/give** and give online. Many of our members give online and it is a very safe and convenient way to honor God with your gifts.

Financial Confession

Father, in the Name of Jesus I confess Your will over my finances this day, that I have given the tithes of my increase and I claim the windows of heaven blessings for my life. Thank You Father, my mind is alert and I hear Your voice and the voice of the stranger I will not follow. Thank You, I receive now doors of opportunity open for me and my family. Father, I have given to the poor, therefore, I will never lack. I will always have all sufficiency in all things as you are raising up others to use their power, their ability and their influence to help me. I expect daily, Father, for the Spirit of God to speak to men and women concerning giving to me, and in the name of Jesus those to whom the Spirit of God has designated are free to obey and give to me good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. In Jesus' Name, I believe every need is met with heaven's best. I have given for the support of the work of God and those who teach His Word. You promised that You would supply all my need according to your riches in glory by Christ Jesus. So, I thank You Father, I live the best and enjoy the best in every area of my life. Father, Your Word said I can decree a thing because of my covenant vow with You for the kingdom of God in the earth. Now this is my decree (whatever that particular decree is) and I thank You for wisdom and insight to bring it to pass. You give me and my family richly all things to enjoy. Now, Satan, I bind your activity in my life and I loose the angels, the ministering spirits of God to minister for me and bring in the necessary finances so that I may continue to finance the kingdom of God. Father, Your Word declares that my giving increases the fruits of my righteousness. I thank You Father, I have the abundance of peace, the abundance of joy, the abundance of patience, the abundance of temperance and the abundance of goodness. The maximum return on my giving is mine because I give to promote the Name of Jesus and the gospel in the earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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