

Tithes & Offerings

Heb 7

1 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; **2** *To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;* **3** Without father, without mother, without descent, ^{F19} having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually. **4** Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. **5** And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: **6** But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. **7** And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. **8** And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. **9** And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. **10** For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.

Gen 28

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, **21** So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: **22** *And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.*

Lev 27:32

And concerning the tithes of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the **tenth** shall be holy unto the LORD.

Num 18

24 But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. **25** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **26** Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the LORD, even a tenth part of the tithe. **27** And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the fulness of the winepress. **28** Thus ye also shall offer an heave offering unto the LORD of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof the LORD'S heave offering to Aaron the priest. **29** Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of the LORD, of all the best ^{F43} thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it. **30** Therefore thou shalt say unto them, When ye have heaved the best ^{F44} thereof from it, then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor, and as the increase of the winepress. **31** And ye shall eat it in every place, ye and your households: for it is your reward for your service in the tabernacle of the congregation. **32** And ye shall bear no sin by reason of it, when ye have heaved from it the best of it: neither shall ye pollute the holy things of the children of Israel, lest ye die.

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Mal 3

7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? **8** 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. **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. **11** And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy ^{F11} the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. **12** And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Matt 23

23 *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise ^{F45} and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.*

1 Cor 9

1 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord? **2** If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.

3 Mine answer to them that do examine me is this, **4** Have we not power to eat and to drink? **5** Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, ^{F26} as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? **6** Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working? **7** Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? **8** Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? **9** For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? **10** Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope. **11** If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? **12** If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. **13** Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live ^{F27} of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? **14** Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

Tithes & Offerings

Gen 3

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, ^{F19} hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **2** And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: **3** But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. **4** And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: **5** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant ^{F20} to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat

Some argue that tithing was only under the Law – but:

- In Eden one tree was withheld from Adam & Eve (before the Law) (Innocence)
- Abraham tithed to Melchisedek (before the Law) (Promise)
- Jacob vowed to tithe (before the Law) (Promise)
- Moses instituted tithing and offerings to Israel (under the Law)
- Malachi rebuked Israel for not tithing & offering (under the Law)
- Jesus told the Pharisees that they should tithe
- Paul taught ministry supported by laity – used O.T. to support his reasoning

Tithes & Offerings are referred to throughout the Bible

Tithes means “tenth”

God knew about what proportion would be needed to adequately support ministry to people. He chose 1/10 plus offerings on top of that. That is what it takes for a church to operate and grow as it should.

Dangerous attitudes:

- all the church wants is your money (congregation)
- all the tithes are mine (minister)

Proper attitudes:

- God partners with me and blesses me when I tithe and give offerings (giver)
- God expects the church to wisely use its funds and adequately support its ministers
- Tithes are for the support of the ministry primarily & then help on other things
- Offerings are for buildings, special projects, special needs, missions, etc

Tithes & Offerings

Tithes & Offerings:

- Voluntary
- Systematic
- Express commitment to Christ and his church
- Enriches your life
- Helps the church to accomplish its mission
- Weekly (1 Cor 16:2)
- Reflects the truth that we are stewards – not owners
- Based on all our increase
- Is a way of loving
- Is a way of growing
- Is a way of helping

Everyone can tithe and offer:

- Employees
- Self-Employed
- Retired
- Teens
- Children
- Anyone who has an income

When you look at what you have earned this pay period:

- Move the decimal one place to the left & pay that first to God's work (firstfruits)
- Then as God enables you, give an offering too.
- God should come first!
- As God blesses you over time, increase your giving.

From the church's perspective:

- Tithing is necessary
- Tithing is reliable (gives a dependable operating budget)
- Tithing with offerings enables evangelism
- Tithing with offerings enables helping the needy

Rewards of Tithing and Offering:

- Joy
- Awareness of others and God
- Fulfillment

Make Tithing and Offering a consistent part of your life in Christ

- Express your gratitude
- Renew your faith
- Help your church
- God loves a cheerful giver
- The measure you give will be the measure you get back (Luke 6:36)
- Sow abundantly and reap abundantly)