

STUDY ELEVEN

TITHES AND OFFERING

Tithes and offering forms part of the Grace of giving (2 Cor 8:1). Tithing and offering being an act of worship is also a responsibility of every believer. Tithes are one tenth of one's income set aside and paid into the house of the lord. Offering is whatever much or less one gives willingly to the lord in furtherance of His work. (Mal 3:8-11, 2 Cor 9:6-10, Luke 6:37-38).

PURPOSE OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

1. Tithing is a command from God and an obligation (Mal 3:10, 2 Cor 9:6-10)
2. We tithe so that there will be enough food in the house of the Lord
3. We tithe to open the windows of Heaven over our lives
4. We tithe to prevent the devourers from coming to our lives
5. Offering enhances God's work, e.g. spreading of Gospel, building churches.
6. Offering brings down God's blessing that tithes make ready for us.

SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

1. Giving tithe expresses our faith in God and obedience to His word. (Lev 27:30, Matt 23:23)
2. It is also an expression of appreciation or gratitude and thanksgiving (Gen 14:18-20, Gen 28:22)
3. Offering is like a seed which when bountifully sown produces abundant harvest (2 Cor 9:6-10)
4. It is the means of support for God's work (Num 18:20-32, 1 Cor 9:1-14)

WHERE COULD TITHE BE SENT?

Anywhere as led by the spirit of the lord. (Rom 12:13, Luke 21:1-14). And as may be conveniently arranged in the church.

We have also been advised that every first day of the week, we have to put something (money) aside for collection (1 Cor 16:2). This should not be neglected.

HOW SHOULD WE GIVE?

1. Cheerfully and willingly not grudgingly nor under compulsion (2 Cor 9:7)
2. According to ability (Act 11:29, 2 Cor 8:12)
3. As the Holy Spirit through faith leads us to give, even beyond our ability or liberally (2 Cor 8:3,9:13)
4. Regularly 1Cor. 16:2
5. with immunity not most incautiously. 1Chro. 29:5c. Exo.2-9, 35:5-9

THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT VIEW ON TITHES

1. tithe was there before the law.(Gen 14:18-20, 28:20-22)
2. during the law tithing was explained (Lev 27:30-33, Num 18:21-24, Deut 14:22, 16:16-17)
3. Jesus approved tithing (Matt 23:23)
4. The early disciples gave more (Acts 4:34-37, 2 Cor 8:3-4).

MEMORY VERSE: "Bring ye all the tithes into the store house that there may be meat in mine house, and prove now here with, 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".Malachi 3:10.