



Concerning
**Tithes,
Giving,
& Offerings**

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

Scripture quotations marked AMP are taken from the *Amplified Bible*.



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CHAPTER ONE

This post seems long but kindly sit back and read through.

The issue of tithes, offerings and giving always generate unusual attention when raised. The two major schools usually are within these divides;

Tithing is for today, though it's under the law, it precedes the law in the giving of the same to Melchizedek by Abram.

And Tithing is not a practice of the New Testament as it's an Old Covenant mode of giving, the New Covenant teaches giving as you are led or you want.

By practice, I don't join schools of thought. If any school at all I am a stickler to the epistles, with particular emphasis in the Pauline revelation by precept and practice. I believe Peter endeavored this too;

2nd Peter 3:15-16 KJV [15] *¶ And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; ¶ 16 ¶ As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.*

Because of the handicap of this media, I will recommend a series to anyone who intends to hear my study on the subject of tithing; **Must a Christian tithe, Bible truth on tithe and offerings, New Testament giving, Concerning giving ¶ receiving and Just give.** You could order for them by visiting www.saintscommunity.net or www.livingwordmedia.org. Hence I will address some very pivotal issues.

Tithe is a word in scriptures; it needs not a party for or against.

- Abram gave tithes;

Genesis 14:20 KJV [20] *And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.*

- Jacob gave tithes (or promised to)

Genesis 28:22 KJV [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.*

Take note of the two instances. Abram gave tithes of spoils of war (I doubt whether it referred to animal produce or plants as some want to adduce), also notice it's only recorded once.

Take further notice, it was because he was blessed and not to be blessed. The Epistles emphatically state Abraham (Abram in this case) was blessed by Gods promise;

Romans 4:2-3 KJV [2] *For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. ¶ 3 ¶ For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*

Galatians 3:18 KJV [18] *For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.*

So, Abram was blessed in **Chapter 12**, gave tithes in **Chapter 14** (Genesis). He gave tithes because “IT WAS NOT TIGHT FOR HIM¶

In Jacob’s case, He only vowed to tithe upon receiving God’s blessings. I will exempt the cases under the law (I dealt with that a bit extensively in the series mentioned above). However, I suggest it's either naive or deceptive to ask anyone to tithe because both of these bible characters gave tithes. We are NEVER instructed in the Epistles to model after AN¶ Old Testament saints.

Hebrews 12:1-2 KJV [1] *¶ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, ¶ 2 ¶ Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was*

set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

This scripture says to look Unto Jesus. This refers to His finished work and the reasons were very clear. These men were not perfected by the blood as we are today.

Hebrews 11:39-40 KJV ¶39¶*And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: ¶40¶God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.*

Notice it says they without US are not made perfect, NOT US without them. They needed us to be perfect and not vice versa. So, if we are to practice things they did, they are a lot more than tithing.

- Abram gave his son Isaac, had a second wife,
- Jacob had 3 wives, both regularly offered burnt offerings.

These were equally mentioned in the epistles. So, quoting **Hebrews 7** text for tithing is very dishonest.

Melchizedek was a type of Christ's priesthood. He was made like unto (figure of speech) the Son (referring to his historical records). You can equally order for our study "**Our priesthood in Christ**" we had some study on priesthood.

Hebrews 7 was only stating the obvious as written in **Genesis 14** and wasn't giving any instruction. Some speak of tithing by faith, that's rather difficult sell. You sure won't offer animals by faith either because Christ has been given. You can't place a "faith" tag on your fancy or likes, it is what is written and instructed in scriptures that is acted upon and referred to as Faith.

Tithing was a well-known practice to the Jews. Jesus mentioned it.

Matthew 23:23 KJV [23] *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise 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.

If you claim he was teaching tithe here, then you must be very dishonest, having discontent for the integrity of God's word. He wasn't! Rather He was rebuking those who tithe, yet ignore weightier matters of The LAW. **Faith** here is better translated as **faithfulness** (loyalty), as the Law is not of Faith

Galatians 3:11-12 KJV [11] *But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. ¶12¶And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.*

Romans 3:28 KJV [28] *Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.*

It's on record that tithing was NEVER mentioned by Paul, Peter, James, John, and Jude or even in the book of Revelation. The ONLY reference was **Hebrews 7**; I suppose we can rightly divide that without qualms.

I once heard a preacher teach that Ananias and Sapphira died because they lied on tithing. God killed them because they held back the tithe. Such a man is a deceptive preacher and according to scriptures should be avoided.

1st Timothy 6:5 KJV [5] *Perverse disputing of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.*

A much more perverse doctrine stated that Adam and Eve ate their tithe; hence put the WHOLE human race in sin. It further states that Abel offered tithe (first fruit) and was justified. Such men are dangerous and as a culture I avoid their teachings. Even when it's do clear Abel was justified by faith.

Hebrews 11:4 KJV [4] *By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.*

His gift was the blood of an animal and this was a type of Jesus offering of blood. Abel had the substance of Jesus blood hoped for, the evidence of His sacrifice for

sins not seen (**Hebrews 11:1**). Jesus authored in the Old Covenant by His Word (**Hebrews 11:3**) and perfected such faith in His death and ascension in the New Covenant (**Hebrews 12:2**). Hence we look unto Jesus, our perfect offering. His blood is better (**lasting and eternal**) than Abel's offering

Hebrews 12:24 KJV [24] *And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

Is giving money a condition for material blessing in the New Covenant?

Before I delve into this I will love again to clarify some scriptures.

Simple rules of scriptures interpretation is to stick to context. Read the preceding verse(s) and the proceeding verse(s).

2nd Corinthians 8:9 KJV [9] *For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*

We are not physically rich because Jesus was physically poor. It's very naive or deceptive reading.

2nd Corinthians 5:21 KJV [21] *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

This verse explains it. Jesus's death gave us life; righteousness. Furthermore, He wasn't giving a prosperity scripture. He was teaching sacrifice i.e. giving to meet other people's needs; you becoming poor to make others rich.

What is this grace?

2nd Corinthians 8:1-8 KJV [1] *Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia ; [2] How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. [3] For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; [4] Praying us with much intreaty*

that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. 25 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. 26 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also. 27 Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. [8] I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love.

The grace of liberality and not grace to become rich; it is grace to make others full by becoming empty. New Testament giving is giving to meet others needs and not yours.

Let's view some examples:

Acts 2:44-45 KJV [44] *And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.*

Acts 4:34-35 KJV *34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.*

When the economy in Jerusalem was known by the Spirit ahead of time to go bad, they didn't organize prosperity conventions or "how to sow your way out of this recession" seminar or asked to sow 1 for all 1 blessings of scriptures for prosperity.

Acts 11:28-30 KJV *28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. 29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: 30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.*

Believers who were better off simply gave! Even Paul;

Acts 20:33-35 KJV [33] *I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. ¶34¶ Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. ¶35¶ I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.*

I guess he hadn't learnt the laws of sowing up to go up, where only members give to Pastors. Paul here gave to his fellow ministers who had need!

Romans 12:13 KJV [13] *Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. (needs of the saints) Ephesians 4:28 KJV [28] Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.*

Very apt!

Galatians 6:9-10 KJV [9] *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. [10] As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith*

1st Corinthians 16:1, 3 KJV ¶1¶ *Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. ¶3¶ And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem.*

Take notice that the emphasis is for saints. Distributing free food on the streets and engaging in corporate social responsibility whilst saints are in need is simply lack of focus. The emphasis is on believers. It appears we might be doing charity work for media attention.

Some misquote

Matthew 25.

Matthew 25:40 KJV [40] *And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

He referred to brethren. He won't use this for the unsaved.

Now, Back to giving

Philippians 4:16 KJV [16] *For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. They gave to Paul's needs.*

1 Timothy 6:18 KJV [18] *That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;*

No time where we were told to give so God will meet our needs.

We even misquote **2nd Corinthians 9**, kindly read with me.

2nd Corinthians 9:5-8,11 KJV ¶5¶*Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness. ¶6¶But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. ¶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. ¶8¶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: ¶11¶Being enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.*

Is he teaching “give to reap bountifully” i.e. have more? That's again either a function of laziness or deception.

Verse 8 says God is the giver who enables you to abound unto every good work.

Grace here means to give without conditions and He clearly explains this

2nd Corinthians 9:9-15 KJV ¶9¶*(As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. He is teaching giving to the needy ¶10¶Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for*

your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) Here God gives you what to give.seed to sow and bread for your food too.He multiplies what you have given.How? ¶11¶Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. ¶12¶For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; ¶13¶Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men ; ¶14¶And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. ¶15¶Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

We assume we are sowing into our lives or sowing into another's life and the fruit comes through ours! Haba'! That's illogic.

Verse 12 we supply the wants of the saints. It comes back with MANY thanksgivings unto God.

And **verse 14**, we keep excelling (exceeding) in this grace of giving from what we receive from God.

The harvest of our sowing is in the lives of the saints we blessed. Same as Jesus sowed into our lives, and our Lives bear the harvest.

Is it only the needs of saints?

No!

Galatians 6:6 KJV [6] *Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.*

Philippians 4:18 KJV [18] *But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.*

Paul was blessed by saints he taught the word.

1st Corinthians 9:11 KJV [11] *If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?*

So, also those who minister spiritual things to us.

Romans 15:27 KJV [27] *It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things.*

(Though contextually he refers again here to the needs of saints in Jerusalem)

We need to realize the needs of our spiritual leaders; in particular Pastors are our obligations. Paul calls it muzzling when we either refuse this obligation or treat such with levity.

1st Corinthians 9:9 KJV [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?*

He repeats it in another epistle.

1st Timothy 5:18 KJV [18] *For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.*

It's his right; due; salary and our obligation!

How much do we give or what measure do we give?

As I am led? Yes! Led by the written word.

Scriptures actually tell us what and how to give;

2nd Corinthians 8:2-3 KJV [2] *How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. ¶ 3 ¶ For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;*

They gave beyond their convenience; sacrificially; even in need they gave. This is the Grace of Jesus.

2nd Corinthians 9:6-7 KJV [6] *But this I say , He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully¶ ¶¶¶ Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give ; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*

Bountifully means bountifully! Give well.

Cheerfully (it means laughing while you do it).

So, purpose to give cheerfully and bountifully!

There's no freedom to be loose, lazy and lackadaisical about giving because you feel you are not under the law! Men in the New Covenant gave beyond percentages. They gave according to their ability. What was paramount was to do enough within your means to meet needs. They sold houses and lands (today that might be termed manipulation). You are to give more when you have more. Just like Paul, I tell folks in our churches who are blessed more materially, they must give more and I also lead by example.

1st Corinthians 16:2 KJV [2] *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

As you prosper you give more!

1st Timothy 6:17-18 KJV [17] *Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; [18] That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;*

The rich were given special instructions; you must give. This shows they didn't become rich by giving; rather they must give because they are rich. Your church (saints in need and spiritual leaders must be blessed because God has blessed you).

He instructs what to give to Pastors;

1st Timothy 5:17 KJV [17] *Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.*

Double means Double. It's a measure i.e. percentage. Whatever you give to others you double to your Pastors. As an example, I don't receive salary from church; I work for a living. I ensure I give double to the church of what everyone gives.

The New Testament giving isn't percentage giving of 10%; it is sacrificial, cheerful, bountiful and honorable giving. Being stingy isn't a fruit of the spirit; neither is greed (asking God to multiply money like a casino).

Philippians 4:19 KJV [19] *But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

He supplies OUR need not according to our seed but His freely given blessings in Christ! And we walk in the New Covenant when we demonstrate His life and Nature by giving!

Hope you are blessed?

Say: I am a product of the New Covenant; I give unconditionally, sacrificially and cheerfully because God meets my needs!

Jesus is Lord,

We win!

About Us

OUR MISSION.

Our mission is to teach and preach the WORD all over the world, in every nation, in every tongue and tribe, in every region, culture, continent and Earth space.

Thus, we are committed to teach, train and inspire believers into the Reality, Maturity and Ministry in Christ Jesus – THE WORD. This we do with a strong emphasis on the realities of the new creation in Redemption.

We endeavour to teach and preach this gospel with its Christ - centered consciousness of definite signs and wonders - The Miraculous.

The Saints Community is our church ministry where we consistently develop the believer to effectively receive and minister this mission, by regularly communicating our vision to him.

We (will) see the whole Earth covered with the knowledge of the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea (Hab 2:14).