

Tithes – the faith of Abraham

Hebrews 7:1 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, 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.

What is the tithe?

Established by God to honor Him and trust Him by giving him a tenth of the increase of one's life. The word increase means "profit" – in modern times, this means the first tenth of your earnings. It is established in Scripture that the first ten percent (called the tithe) of our increase belongs to God and

omission of giving this is called “robbing God” according to the Scripture.

Malachi 3:8 ¶Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? **In tithes and offerings.**

The first time the word tithe is mentioned in Scripture is in this verse:

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

This is talking about Abraham giving tithes of all to Melchizedek. There is an erroneousness teaching that tithe was part of the Law of Moses, but that it is incorrect. God started showing man His concept of the tithe all the way back in the garden of Eden when he told man he could have all of the fruit in the trees of the Garden except for the tree of the knowledge of God and Evil, which God did not want man to partake of showing that a part was reserved for God and not man. To the critic that won't accept the garden as the first example, it is undeniable that the Scripture teaches us that the concept of tithe was from Abraham and that it proceeds the Law of Moses. He said that the seed of Abraham would be blessed, and as the seed was commanded to be circumcised, the seed is also commanded to give tithes to the LORD.

Genesis 22:18

And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

It is a mistake to state that tithe was part of the Mosaic Law fulfilled by Christ. The principal of the tenth to God is a Spiritual principle. While circumcision in the Old Covenant was a physical principle, it has a Spiritual principle of Water Baptism in Jesus Name (Colossians 2:12), but for the Tithe it was a Spiritual principle when given to Abraham. God expects the seed of Abraham to be obedient to this principle.

When we give the tithes to God, we are trusting Him to take care of us, and giving the reins of our life to Him. People often take note at how the Children of God have their needs taken care of, but they don't realize that it is a two way covenant. When we give a tenth to God, we are doing our part of the covenant. His part of the covenant is written in Scripture and will always be fulfilled for the seed of Abraham that obey and trust Him!

Our part of the covenant

(v10) bring God tithes into the storehouse (our Church) for his house to have meat! If we don't do this, He tells us directly that He will curse us. (v9) 9

In verse 8 the audience of the book ask God, where have we robbed you? The answer – **in tithes and offerings!**

Malachi 3:9 Ye are cursed with a curse: **for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.**

Is God teaching them this to condemn us? Does God truly need anything from human beings? On the contrary, He is doing this to bless the seed of Abraham. He is giving us the opportunity to give our financial lives to Him and let Him open doors for us. We are telling God we trust Him first before anything else when we obey.

God's part of the covenant

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.**

11 And I **will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground;** neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 3:12 **And all nations shall call you blessed:** for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.

This is not a prosperity teaching, this is not promising that His seed will be wealthy. This is teaching that God will be faithful to His portion of the covenant. God will be in charge of our life, God will help our decisions and lead our career and He will rebuke the things that will try to rob us.

This is not a teaching that should be received in a negative way, we should be hopeful and rejoice that God has promised to watch for us when we honor Him. We truly belong to Him, and He is involved with every aspect of our lives!

Who is Melchizedek?

Hebrews 7 is not trying to give us the endeavor to figure out the details of Melchizedek as an individual. Many scholars argue rather He is God Himself or rather He is human, at the end that is not important to know the exact answer to. The Scripture teaches that He is (Heb 3:7) “without” father and “without” mother and “without” descent, can we take this to mean He is of Spiritual origin absolutely! But what this Scripture and the others that refer to Him are referring to a type Jesus Christ (Psalm 110:4) – stating He is a priest after

the ORDER of Melchizedek and the Priesthood of the New Testament Church (1 Peter 2:9).

The Scripture teaches this in reference to His Priesthood not on Melchizedek as an individual.

Hebrews 7:14 For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest,

16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. (Quoting Psalms 110:4)

The purpose of this discussion is to show the New Testament Church that the plan of God to us is SUPERIOR to the priesthood of Aaron and Moses (Levi) – While Levi was in his father's loins (Israel) – his Father, Isaac, and his Grandfather, Abraham was paying tithes to the Priest. The plan of God's Church being the seed of Abraham is not a second class decision, it is even more of a reality to God than the natural seed.

Hebrews 7:9 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.

Hebrews 7:15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest,

16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

In conclusion, the teaching of the tithe came before Moses, and was instituted by God through Abraham and to Abraham's seed. It is to be brought to the storehouse for their to be meat in God's House and when the seed of Abraham obey this covenant, God has great promises that we can experience.

Hebrews 10:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

It is undoubtedly not a question to obey this principal of Scripture and the Minister that will not teach this to God's people is teaching them to rob God, and holding back the protection and leading that God wants to provide in our lives.