

Foundation Class

The Tithe

TITHES, OFFERINGS AND GOD’S FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Tithes and offerings is God’s primary financial plan for the personal prosperity of His people and the proclamation of the Gospel.

1. What is the Tithe? (Genesis 28:20-22)

1. Tithe (def) ...represents a tenth
2. Percentage (10%)...10% of \$100.00=\$10.00
3. “Tithe” means a tenth or tenth part.

2. The Purpose of the Tithe

1. Spiritual food – revelation knowledge (Malachi 3:10)
2. Needs of the local church and missions (Malachi 3:10)
3. Evangelism – Stranger (sinners) (Deuteronomy 14:29)
4. The Poor – fatherless and widow” (Deuteronomy 14:29)
5. Levites – laborers, full-time and part-time (Deuteronomy 14:27, 18:1 – 5; Numbers 18:20 – 24; Nehemiah 13:10 –12)

Note: God did not choose to endow (furnish with an income) or independently subsidize Israel’s leaders. He chose to relate their support to the welfare of the people at large, making the people and the leaders mutually dependent.

6. The people depended upon the leaders for spiritual leadership, guidance, and instruction. (Matthew 4:4)
7. The leaders depended upon the people for physical (financial) support and obedience.
(Luke 8:1- 3, 10:1- 9; Romans 15:27; I Corinthians 9:1 –14; Galatians 6:6; I Timothy 5:17 –18)

3. The Benefits of the Tithe

1. Financial Increase (Proverbs 3:9-10)
2. Ability/Strength to get Wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18)
3. Wisdom (Proverbs 2:6)

4. Favor (Proverbs 3:4, Psalms 5:12))
5. Rebuke the devour (Malachi 3:10-12)
 1. Rebuke (def) to personally neutralize or render ineffective
 2. Devourer (def) that which eats up or consumes (Satan)

Note: This is a broad promise that covers anybody or anything that comprises a threat to the well-being of God's people-spirit, soul, body, socially, and financially. Things that devour include: unemployment, sickness, recession, high interest, prejudice, inflation, divorce, child delinquency, miscarriages, business failure, etc.

4. How Do I Tithe-Gross or Net?

1. Gross=Total amount of your income
2. Net=The amount left over after all the non-optional deductions
3. There is no scripture reference regarding the gross or net
4. Pray for guidance..."Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Romans 14:5(b))
5. Jesus, said "There are some things that belong to Caesar" (Matthew 22:19-21)

Example If you tithe from the net and you receive an income tax refund, you would tithe from your refund. If you tithe from the gross and you receive an income tax refund, you have already tithed from it. It is not necessary to tithe the refund.

5. Four Facts About the Tithe (Leviticus 27:28 – 30)

1. The Tithe is Holy
 1. Special-distinguished by a particular quality
 2. Separated-From you unto God
 3. Dedicated-It is to be given to God
2. The Tithe is Devoted Definition-The Hebrew language carries two opposite meanings
 1. If that which is devoted, is presented to the Lord, the act of consecration releases blessings.
 2. If that which is devoted, is not presented to the Lord, then the

failure to act releases a curse.

3. The Tithe Belongs to the Lord

1. Leviticus 27:30... “All the tithes of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or the fruit of the tree, is the Lord’s.” Note: “Is the Lord’s ...indicates ownership.”
2. Tithing is not giving (in the technical sense) but returning that which belongs to another.
3. When a person takes that which belongs to another without permission and uses it in any way, it is called stealing.
4. When you take God’s tithe and use it for your personal benefit, God calls that stealing; robbery. To violate God’s tithe is to invite a curse into your life. (Mal. 3:9)

4. Tithing is for Today

1. Some Christians say tithing falls under the Old Testament Mosaic Law, therefore, because Christians are living under grace in the New Testament, tithing doesn’t apply to them today.
2. Tithing is an “Eternal Principle” of God’s Word, established and practiced hundreds of years before the Mosaic Law was given.

5. Offerings

6. Definition ... voluntary giving after (above) the tithe (2 Corinthians 9:7)
7. Offerings determine the size of your harvest (receiving) (2 Corinthians 9:6)
8. God has given a promise to His people to provide seed (offerings) to sow. (2 Corinthians 9:8,10)