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# Tithes & Offerings

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## INTRODUCTION

Tithing is not an option. It is a part of our New Covenant. Those who do not understand the tithe will not be blessed according to the blessing of Abraham. God will bless those who understand and tithe, and bring a curse upon those who do not tithe under the New Covenant. Many Christians struggle in life and do not know why. They do everything some preachers tell them, yet they are defeated in their lives because they do not understand the tithes and offerings.

The Word of God is always true, but the understanding of the Word of God can only come when the Holy Spirit enlightens our minds to understand. Teachings on tithing for the wrong purpose (money, etc.), will not be witnessed by the Holy Spirit. Those who teach on tithes for the wrong purpose are not led by the Holy Spirit, but rather the flesh (natural mind). They are sowing to the flesh and of the flesh they will reap corruption (Gal. 6:7,8).

We must teach the Word of God in all truth, and honesty that the Holy Spirit can bear a witness with the Word and those who receive will benefit from what the LORD has to say to His people. Years ago there came a word from the LORD, saying, *"Those who have taught what they heard other men teach and have not received it from My Spirit, if they will repent, My grace will cover them!"*

Before the first writing of this book, I was about to teach this subject in Bible School. Before I began to teach, from my spirit came these words *"See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount."* This is from Hebrews 8:5. I knew in my spirit that the LORD wanted me to make sure what I taught was according to the pattern in the Old Testament, for these are **"the example and shadow of heavenly things"** (Heb. 8:5).

## Tithes & Offerings

Before we can teach on tithes and offerings, we must establish the truth of the Word of God and how the truth sets people free. In John 8:31,32,36, it says,

**Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

**And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

**If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**

It is the continuing in the Words of Jesus (the Word of God) that will set us free. To understand the tithe of the New Covenant we must understand, the tithe came before the Law of Moses, and that which came before the Law of Moses cannot be changed by the Law of Moses. The Law can only explain the things that came before the Law, as a school master; teaching in detail those things that came before the Law.

We do not live by the Law of Moses, but we do learn from the Law of Moses (Gal. 3:24), those things that are needful for us to understand our New Covenant, sealed by the blood of Jesus Christ for all who are the seed of Abraham (Luke 22:20, Heb. 9:12, Gal. 3:17,29).

We must establish everything upon the Word of God, and it must be established upon a solid foundation (which agrees with the whole Bible from Genesis through Revelation). The first time a subject is mentioned could be considered as the basis for the foundation of the Word of God concerning that subject.

In Genesis 1:3, it says, **“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”** This light was not only physical light that divided the evening from the morning; it was the light of the Word that brings into existence the Word of God. Jesus is the Light of man (John 1:4,5), the Light of the world.

Tithing is giving. God willingly gave His Son, as the Light of the world, that the world should not abide in darkness but have the Light of life in Christ Jesus. The tithe must always be given **“with a willing heart.”** Therefore, God gave us His Son with a willing heart, that He should be the Light of the world to all who will believe. **“In him was life; and the life was the light of men”** (John 1:4).

The first mention of a tithe began with Abraham. Let us look at Abraham, the father of all who are in Christ. In Genesis 12:1, it says, **“Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.”** In Acts 7:2-4 it tells how that the LORD had spoken to Abraham when he was still in Mesopotamia (Ur of the Chaldees), before he moved to Haran. After Terah, Abraham's father died, Abraham took Sarah, his wife, and Lot, his nephew and all that pertained to him and moved to the land of Canaan where the LORD had instructed.

This obedience to the LORD brought the blessing upon Abraham. In Genesis 12:2,3 it tells us of the blessing promised to Abraham if he would obey the LORD.

**And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:**

**And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

This promise was made to Abraham even before he left Ur of the Chaldees. Just as all the promises the LORD has made to us were made before we were born into this world, and they are recorded in the Bible.

Even though Abraham had many material blessings, even an abundance of servants and cattle, silver and gold (Gen. 13:2-6), “the blessing of Abraham” was not his material blessings but it was “the Holy Spirit.”

Abraham, because of his obedience to the voice of the LORD became a prophet (Gen. 20:7). A prophet in the Old Testament was one who was filled with the Holy Spirit, and did prophesy as the Spirit gave him utterance. “**The blessing of the Holy Spirit,**” is one of the greatest blessings a person can have in this world. The blessing of “**the Holy Spirit**” is so great that even the world cannot contain Him (Mal. 3:10).

Galatians 3:14 says, “**That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**” Therefore, the blessing of Abraham is “the Holy Spirit.”

Notice that there is no letter “s” on the word blessing. It is one blessing, “the Holy Spirit,” which caused Abraham to become a prophet. The word “prophet” in the Hebrew means “one who announces or pours forth the declarations of God.” A prophet is also called a “seer,” one who receives visions from God, and can interpret them correctly. A prophet is one who speaks forth the knowledge and wisdom of God from his spirit (not his mind). Job 32:8 says, “**But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.**” All prophecy comes from the spirit of man by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; not as man wills, but as the Holy Spirit wills (1 Cor. 12:11). When a true prophecy comes, it comes from the spirit of man “as described in” Job 32:17-22;

**I said, I will answer also my part, I also will shew mine opinion.**

**For I am full of matter, the spirit within me constraineth me.**

**Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles.**

**I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer.**

**Let me not, I pray you, accept any man's person, neither let me give flattering titles unto man.**

**For I know not to give flattering titles; in so doing my maker would soon take me away.**

A true prophet will not speak from his mind. He will speak by the unction of the Holy Spirit from his spirit. He will not change anything that comes from his spirit. He will not add anything to

it or take anything away from that which comes from his spirit by the unction of the Holy Spirit. A true prophet is very aware of the power of God within him, and has a very high respect for the anointing; being aware that if he adds anything to it or takes anything away from it, the LORD could take his life “immediately.”

A true prophet does not go around giving out words of knowledge or prophecies whenever he so desires. Everything a true prophet speaks as prophecy comes as the Holy Spirit wills, and not according to the will of the individual person.

Balaam was a true prophet. In Numbers 22:18, it says, **“And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more.”** In Numbers 23:5, it says, **“And the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak.”** In Numbers 23:12, it says, **“And he (Balaam) answered and said, Must I not take heed to speak that which the LORD hath put in my mouth?”** In Numbers 23:16 it says, **“And the LORD met Balaam, and put a word in his mouth, and said, Go again unto Balak, and say thus.”** In Numbers 23:19,20, Balaam answered Balak and said,

**God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?  
Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it.**

In Numbers 23:26, it says, **“But Balaam answered and said unto Balak, Told not I thee, saying, All that the LORD speaketh, that I must do?”**

A true prophet will never “add anything” to the Word the LORD gives him to speak, neither will he ever “take anything away” from what the LORD gives him to speak. In Numbers 24:13, Balaam spoke to Balak’s messengers, saying, **“If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?”**

Abraham was a true prophet. Abraham had the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon him, which operated “only as the Spirit wills,” not as Abraham willed. **“The blessing of Abraham”** that should come upon the Gentiles is **“the anointing of the Holy Spirit”**(Gal. 3:14). This anointing is to operate “as the Holy Spirit wills,” not as man wills.

A true prophet will be “led, guided, taught, and comforted by the Holy Spirit.” Yet, he is still a man, with a free will to choose whatsoever he will do when he is not under the anointing.

Abraham made a few “bad choices,” claiming Sarah was his sister. The Holy Spirit did not condemn Abraham for his mistakes, but defended him and spared Sarah from the intentions of kings (Gen. 12:14-20, 20:2-18). Not because Abraham was a perfect man, but because he obeyed the LORD in all that the LORD commanded him to do, he was blessed with the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon him.

A covenant was made with Abraham and his seed after him. Genesis 17:1,2 says,  
**And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.**

Abraham was seventy-five years old when he entered the land of Canaan. He was ninety-nine when the LORD appeared to him concerning the covenant we now have called “the New Covenant.” Obedience, over a long period of time brings the blessing of God upon a person’s life. In Genesis 22:17,18, it says,

**That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;  
And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.**

Therefore, in Genesis 17:7, the LORD said to Abraham, **“And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.”**

Galatians 3:16 explains this by saying, **“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”** The word “Christ” is “Christos.” Meaning “the Messiah, the anointed One.” Everyone who is in Christ, is in the anointed One. Therefore, Galatians 3:29 says, **“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”** If you are in Christ, you belong to Him, and if you belong to Christ, then you are the seed of Abraham, and heirs according to the promise. What promise? The promise of the anointing of “the Holy Spirit,” by which Abraham became a prophet.

What does this have to do with the tithes and offerings? In Genesis 14, it tells us that Abraham gathered together his servants and many others of the surrounding area and went against the kings that took Sodom and Gomorrah and carried Lot and his family away captive. Abraham overcame the kings, **“And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people”** (Gen. 14:16). Genesis 14:18-20 says,

**And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.  
And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:  
And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand.  
And he gave him tithes of all.**

The word “tithes” means one-tenth. Abraham gave the priest of the most high God one-tenth of all.

Melchizedek was a king over a city called Salem. He was also the priest of Salem. This was not unusual in those days, for the person who was the spiritual leader of the city many times also became the king over that city. He was given that position because of his ability to influence people.

The thing about Melchizedek was that He was “a priest unto the Most High God,” not some other god. Hebrews 7:1,2 says,

**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;**

**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;**

If you study Hebrews 7:1-3, you will notice Melchizedek’s position in comparison to Jesus was “**by interpretation.**” He was a priest of the most High God; being interpreted. “**King of righteousness.**” Secondly, he was King of Salem; by interpretation “**King of peace.**” Jesus is “**King of righteousness and King of peace.**”

From that point on in Hebrews 7: it is no longer talking about Melchizedek, but rather Jesus Christ, our LORD, Who is, “**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**” (Heb. 7:3). Jesus became Christ when He was anointed with the Holy Spirit at about the age of thirty. Jesus and Christ are the same person. Jesus pertains to His humanity, and Christ pertains to His Deity. Actually, the part of Hebrews 7, starting with “Without father, without mother,... is speaking of Jesus “as Christ.” Christ is “**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**” (Heb. 7:3).

Genesis 14:18-20, is the first time tithes are mentioned in the Bible. It started with Abraham, who is the father of all who live by faith; all who are the seed of Abraham. The tithe was before the Law of Moses. Therefore, the Law could not change the tithe (Gal. 3:17). It could not take anything away from the tithe, nor add anything to the tithe. Galatians 3:24 says, “**Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.**” If we did not have the Law, which is the written Word of God concerning His promises, we would have nothing to base our faith upon. We need the Law to build our faith upon, for the Law is the divine revelation of the will of God.

When we understand the Law, we understand the perfect will of God, the divine revelation of His Word is brought forth through the Law and the prophets. In John 19:28-30 it says,

**After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.**

**Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth.**

**When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.**

Jesus fulfilled the Law for us. He was crucified and hung upon a tree. Why? Look at Galatians 3:13,14, which says,

**Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:**

**That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

Had Jesus not fulfilled the Law for us, and went to the cross for us, the blessing of Abraham could not come upon the Gentiles. That is, “**the blessing of the Holy Spirit!**” Even Jesus’ disciples could not receive “the blessing of the Holy Spirit” before Jesus went to the Cross and died for us. In John 7:39 it says, “**(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)**” Jesus said to His disciples in John 16:7, “**Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.**”

The same day Jesus arose from the dead, He said to His disciples, “**...These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me**” (Luke 24:44). All that was written in the Law of Moses, in the prophets, and the Psalms had to be fulfilled that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles.

Notice in Galatians 3:14 it says, “**that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**” It doesn’t say “we shall” receive the promise, but that “we might;” that we are able to receive the promise. In John 19:28, it says, “**...that the scripture might be fulfilled.**” God made it possible for the Scriptures to be fulfilled; but, they were not completely fulfilled, and still are not completely fulfilled. Hebrews 2:8,9 says,

**Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.**

**But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.**

We see Jesus, Who has done all things for us “that the Scriptures might be fulfilled in us!”

For the Scriptures to be fulfilled in us, there is still something we must do. Jesus did His part, now it is up to us; will we do our part? What does that have to do with the tithes and offerings?

The Word of God always reveals both sides of the story, what we should do and what will happen if we don’t do what we should do. Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness (Gen. 15:6, Rom. 4:4, Gal. 3:6, James 2:23). Abraham obeyed the LORD (Gen. 12:4, 22:3,18, 26:4,5). Therefore, Abraham is the father of all who are in Christ and live by faith.

The Law of Moses explains the tithes and offerings that we can understand the importance of them. In Leviticus 17:30- 34, it tells us,

**And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD.**

**And if a man will at all redeem (take back or hold back) ought of his tithes, he shall add**

thereto the fifth part (an additional 20%) thereof.

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.**

He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed (held back or taken back).

These are the commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel in mount Sinai.

We must remind ourselves. The LORD is the creator of this universe. He is LORD over all that was created. There is nothing impossible for the LORD. No matter what our mind tries to tell us, the LORD'S way is always the right way. He will never lead us into any deception, or anything that will go against His Word. He has given us His Word and He will fulfill His Word in our lives if we will believe Him and trust in Him fully.

The tithes are "**an holy thing**" unto the LORD. The tithes belong to the LORD, and if anyone does not give it unto the LORD, or takes it back he shall be required to add to it another "fifth" (20% more). That, making his tithes not just 10% but a total of 30% of all his increase.

In Numbers 18:20-24, it says,

**And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.**

**And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.**

**Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin, and die.**

**But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.**

**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.**

It continues on in Numbers 18:25-32, saying,

**And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**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 tithes.**

**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.**

**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.

Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of the LORD, of all the best thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it.

Therefore thou shalt say unto them, When ye have heaved the best thereof from it, then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor, and as the increase of the winepress.

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.

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.

In Deuteronomy 18:1-8, it says,

**The priests the Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of the LORD made by fire, and his inheritance.**

**Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: the LORD is their inheritance, as he hath said unto them.**

**And this shall be the priest's due from the people, from them that offer a sacrifice, whether it be ox or sheep; and they shall give unto the priest the shoulder, and the two cheeks, and the maw.**

**The firstfruit also of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the first of the fleece of thy sheep, shalt thou give him.**

**For the LORD thy God hath chosen him out of all thy tribes, to stand to minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for ever.**

**And if a Levite come from any of thy gates out of all Israel, where he sojourned, and come with all the desire of his mind unto the place which the LORD shall choose;**

**Then he shall minister in the name of the LORD his God, as all his brethren the Levites do, which stand there before the LORD.**

**They shall have like portions to eat, beside that which cometh of the sale of his patrimony.**

In Deuteronomy 26:12-13, it says,

**When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;**

**Then thou shalt say before the LORD thy God, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them:**

The tithes went beyond the Levites even to the stranger, the fatherless, and the widows. Nehemiah 10:38,39 says,

**And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes:**

**and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.**

**For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.**

The tithes were also for those who work in the house of God, including the singers (praise and worship leaders). In Nehemiah 13:10-12, it says,

**For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and we will not forsake the house of our God.**

**Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place.**

**Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasuries.**

Where tithes and offerings are given there must also be the proper use of these tithes and offerings. Those called to the ministry are not to abuse or misuse the tithe. Many have forgotten their responsibilities as called and ordained ministers of the LORD. They have taken the tithes of as many as 100 to 150 families for themselves. This is many times the tithes allotted by the LORD for one person called to the ministry.

One Levite family was given the responsibility of approximately twelve families of the children of Israel. The Levites' responsibility was to always be there to meet all the spiritual needs of those families. They were to teach each family their responsibilities and to minister to each individual wherever there was a need.

These Levites were to be like shepherds of a flock. They were to know each sheep individually. To care for each sheep individually. Whenever one sheep had a need they were to be there to minister to them. This is the same responsibility the LORD has placed upon every pastor of every congregation. They are to know every member "personally." They are to be ready at all times to minister to each member "personally." They are to know each member so well that they know when they need help, that they know when Satan is attacking any one of their members. And they must be willing to leave the ninety-nine to minister to that one that needs help (Matt. 18:12).

Pastors of churches today are to do the same as the Levites were to do under the Old Covenant. Pastors today have a much greater responsibility, for they are to have a much greater anointing of the Holy Spirit than the Levites had. Pastors today are to minister to each individual on an individual bases. If there is any sickly among them, they are to teach them and get them healed. They are to anoint them with oil and pray the prayer of faith over them, and the LORD will heal them and forgive their sins (James 5:14,15). If they do not receive their healing, the pastor must continue to teach them the principles of God that they do receive.

The pastors today are to minister by the anointing of the Holy Spirit doing whatsoever the LORD commanded them in the Gospels. They are to preach the gospel of the kingdom of God to every individual, heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils, and even raise the dead.

If the Pastors today are not doing these things we must find out why? Where is the anointing? If it's not there, are they receiving the tithe which is to be used for their living while they prepare themselves to minister under the anointing? Or, are they just thieves and robbers, taking that which is for those who are faithful to their duties as the LORD instructed them? Are they spending their time in prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4)?

Pastors with churches of more members than they can know and minister to individually, must add to their staff more pastors to care for the members. These added pastors are also to receive their living from the tithes of the congregation. Pastors who try to minister to too many members and keep all the tithes for themselves are nothing but thieves and robbers (John 10:1-14). Some are hirelings, and do not care enough about the congregation that many are sickly and many leave for lack of concern by the pastors. This is not the LORD'S plan to say the least.

The tithe is not just for the Pastors. The tithe is also for the widows, the fatherless, and the strangers among them (Deut. 26:12,13). The tithe is to help those in need among them. They are not to neglect those in need among them.

In Malachi 3:8-10, it says,

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

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

**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.**

It is interesting to notice that Malachi was written just before the end of the Old Covenant, the last book before the coming of John the Baptist. The LORD had prophesied the coming of the "dark ages" in Amos 8:11,12, saying,

**Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:**

**And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.**

The prophecy of Amos came to pass after the death of Malachi. Malachi was written for the benefit of the New Covenant, a finishing of the prophets that explained the Law. Therefore, if Christians would be obedient in their tithes and offerings as explained in Malachi 3:8-12, the blessing of the LORD, "**which is the Holy Spirit**" would be poured out upon them from heaven.

Malachi 3:9,10 tells us, we are cursed with a curse if we do not bring the tithes into the store

house. Where is the storehouse? In the Old Testament times there was one or more large rooms, built specifically for this use. **“That there may be meat”** (food), for the priests and Levites to live upon. Food had to be stored up, that there would be plenty for the priests and Levites when they needed it. Fruits, vegetables, grains, oils, etc. had to be stored ahead because of the seasons. Meats had to be preserved usually by smoking them for times when there was no meat that it was not wasted. The LORD is against all waste of food (Ex. 16:15-27, John 6:12).

In the New Covenant, the storehouse is the local gathering where we attend on a regular basis, not forsaking the assembling together (Heb. 10:25). This does not mean it is a special building, called a church building. In the early years of Christianity, the Christians met in houses (Rom. 16:5; 1 Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15). Sometimes only a few families met together on a regular basis. They did not usually meet in the Synagogues, because of the Jews who rejected Christ.

The Christians broke bread daily in the homes, which were considered the churches also in those days (Acts 2:46). These meetings in homes were the normal for many years among the Christians. These home meeting places were considered the storehouse for the tithes and offerings. It was from some of these home meetings that the Apostle Paul met and received the offerings to be taken back to Jerusalem for the poor saints at Jerusalem.

Today, the tithe of food can be sold and the money received of the sale brought into the local Church treasury (storehouse), for purchasing that which is necessary for those called into the ministry to live on.

If Christians have a problem with bringing their tithes into the church where they attend regularly, they need to seek the LORD for another place that they are comfortable in. The instructions of the LORD are to bring the tithe to the place where they worship, where there is someone called of God to minister to them whether it is in a home or a church building.

The curse for not bringing the tithe into the storehouse is not a curse of the Law of Moses, for the tithe was before the Law. In Galatians 3:13 it says, **“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law. . .”** The curse that comes upon Christians for not tithing is not a part of the curse of the Law, therefore it is not removed by the Cross. This is not a curse the devil brings upon people. It is the LORD that will curse those who do not tithe according to His Word. It is the LORD that will blow upon your increase and cause it not to prosper (Haggai 1:2-11). It’s not the devil, it’s the LORD who will judge His people. Hebrews 10:30 says, **“For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.”**

Many have not understood what it says in Malachi 3:10, and have instead added to it their interpretation according to their natural mind and human intellect. They have added an “s” to the word blessing, saying it included material blessings and earthly gain. Thereby teaching, you will be blessed with wealth and substance if you bring your tithes into the storehouse. This is not true according to Malachi 3:10. They have abused and misused this verse for their own personal gain.

May the LORD forgive them for their ignorance.

Based upon what the Law revealed as to the reason for the tithe and the use of the tithe; when it says **“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house...”**, it is talking about “food to eat.” It also includes everything necessary for those who are called of God to live on this earth in the natural. It does not include all the luxuries some claim should be included. Only their needs according to the same living standard of those who are doing the tithing, that there be no envy, strife, or divisions among those of the household of God. For envy, strife, and divisions are not of God, but are works of the devil (James 3:14-16, 1 Cor. 3:3).

Understand that there were thirteen tribes (including the Levites), giving their tithes for one tribe to live on. That comes to thirteen families tithe for one family to live on. The average Levite lived on the average wage of the average families giving their tithes. Now, we know that not everyone obeyed the law, therefore even if one family did not tithe according to the law, the other twelve tribes (besides the tribe of Levi) tithe was still enough for the tribe of Levi to live on.

At the same time, we must remember what David said in Psalm 37:25 **“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”** It doesn’t make any difference if others pay their tithes or not; the LORD is still God over this creation, and His hand is not short. Those who obey the LORD will always be taken care of, regardless of what others do. Whether they tithe or don’t tithe, the LORD will not forsake His faithful people, who live according to His Word and are obedient to His call.

Many people say they are called into the ministry, and enter into the sheepfold from another way (John 10:1). They are nothing but thieves and robbers. Don’t let that concern you, what they do will not effect your life if you are faithful in what the LORD called you to do.

The tithe does not only mean material things, it includes your time. If you will spend 2.4 hours a day in the Word and in prayer, the LORD will direct your path to a church that does what the LORD called them to do. And you will be blessed with the anointing of the Holy Spirit and God will use you also. God is always looking for those who are faithful with their tithes, including the tithing of their time in prayer and the Word.

The tithe of the first fruits of your labor is always what the LORD is looking for. The tithe of “the best you have” is important to the LORD. Many have not known that the LORD is more interested in your time with Him in prayer and in the Word than He is in your material things of this world. If you will give the LORD the best hours of your day every day as a tithe (one 10th, 2.4 hours), you will be blessed by the work of the Holy Spirit in your life beyond that of most Christians today,

The Holy Spirit is not looking for those who have great knowledge and abilities in the natural. He is looking for vessels He can prepare for His service. Time in the Word and in prayer gives the Holy Spirit an opportunity to make changes in your life that will benefit Him in using you

for His service.

The one thing every person has is 24 hours a day. Tithing that 2.4 hours in the Word and prayer, especially praying in the Spirit will benefit every Christian more than all the money in the world. Money, and material things cannot take the place of the power of God working through a person who the Holy Spirit has prepared for His use.

As an example, Joshua was obedient to the instructions of the LORD in Joshua 1:1-8. As a result of his obedience, when Joshua and the children of Israel made a mistake in believing the Gibeonites, they ended up fighting a battle they should not have even been in. The LORD knew the mistake that Joshua and the children of Israel made in listening to the Gibeonites when they came, deceiving them. Yet, Joshua went before the LORD, and received instructions of the LORD. First the LORD cast down stones from heaven upon the enemy (Joshua 10:10,11). Then as the day drew close to evening and the battle was not won, it says,

**Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.**

**And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.**

All the powers of heaven are available to those who will tithe their time to the LORD in prayer and in the Word. Tithing of our time is just as important as tithing everything else. Unbalanced tithing is like anything else that is unbalanced. It topples and falls down with no good results. It's not the mistakes that we make that keeps the LORD from helping us in time of need. It's our disobedience, "not doing what the LORD called us to do." Tithing our time helps us to become obedient to the LORD and receive the blessing promised to us.

Malachi 3:10 deals only with the tithe, not the offerings. The tithes belong to the LORD, **"they are holy unto the Lord."** If anyone holds back on the tithe, they cause the curse of the LORD to come upon themselves. The anointing of the blessing promised in Malachi will not come upon them. They can be born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, and still remain as carnal Christians, in envy, strife and divisions. A Christian can have the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, and still disobey the Holy Spirit, grieve the Holy Spirit and be deprived of all the benefits of the anointing which they could have. They will not prosper in the things they do. They will not have the anointing of the Holy Spirit operating in their lives.

There are many Christians today, saying, "I do not tithe, but I do have the anointing working in my life. I do prophesy under the anointing." Be not deceived, God is not mocked, they may be operating from the flesh. Galatians 6:7,8 says,

**Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**

**For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to**

**the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.**

There are many false prophets within the body of Christ. Many who prophesy lies. Many have been taught how to prophesy from their minds. Many have spoken great sounding words over others, yet, these are not of God. Whatsoever God says “will come to pass!” In Deuteronomy 18:20-22, says,

**But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die**

**And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken?**

**When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.**

If the prophecy which is spoken came from the LORD, it will surely come to pass. False prophecies may or may not come to pass. It depends upon the work of the spirits behind the prophets, if they can cause that prophecy to come to pass.

Almost every personal prophecy that cannot apply to others within the body of Christ as well are false. For God is not a respecter of persons. God is not raising up one individual above another.

The person that receives a prophecy that encourages them to move on with the calling in which they are called to, will always be someone of a humble personality, not one who is high and lifted up, who thinks themselves more highly than they ought. God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).

Satan exalts those who desire attention. He raises them up above others that they are not humble before the LORD to do the LORD’s work. Pride and self-exaltation are signs of someone who is misled by other spirits, not the Holy Spirit.

We must first be broken by the Holy Spirit before He can use us in His gifts (Isa. 28:9-13). Isaiah 54:13 says, “**And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.**” We must all be taught of the LORD, if we are to be used by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit uses vessels He has prepared for His use, not those who operate from their minds in spiritual operations.

Malachi 3:10 is a promise of the LORD to those who will be faithful with their tithes. If we are faithful with the tithes He will pour out from heaven “the Holy Spirit upon us,” to the degree that we cannot contain Him. The blessing is “the Holy Spirit,” not money, material things, or any other than the Holy Spirit. That is why, verse 10 is in the book of Malachi, and not in other books of the Old Testament. For it is preparing the way of the LORD. First John the Baptist, then Jesus, then the Holy Spirit, then the body of Christ.

Malachi 3:10 is for the New Testament Church, for the Holy Spirit could not be given until

Jesus was glorified (John 7:38,39). Those who teach “money, and material blessings” from Malachi 3:10 have their minds darkened by the teachings of men. They have added to the Scriptures and taken away from the Scriptures that which the LORD declares in His Word.

If all the tithes were brought into the store house, there would be all that is necessary for “all of those called to the ministry by the LORD” to have all their needs met. Then they can all spend their time in prayer and the ministry of the Word (Acts 6:4). Then the anointing would be present at the times of assembling together of the saints. Then the Holy Spirit would have vessels He can use to minister to those in need, especially the babes in Christ who have no knowledge of the truth of God working in their lives. That they may grow thereby and become mature in the things of the LORD.

The tithe is primarily for those all who are chosen by the LORD to do His work. Those who are set aside by the LORD as vessels unto Him. This includes apostles, prophets, teachers, evangelists, pastors, praise and worship leaders, and intercessors (1 Cor. 12:28, Eph. 4:11).

The “love of money and greed” have come into the body of Christ. Therefore, many called into the ministry have gone astray following the worlds system rather than trusting in the LORD to supply their needs. Many preach money rather than the Word of God concerning the supplying of their needs.

## Offerings

The first mention of offerings is in Genesis 4:3,4,

**And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.**

**And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:**

Cain was the firstborn son of Adam and Eve. The Bible mentions Cain’s offering before it mentions Abel’s offering. Both men offered to the LORD an offering.

The difference between “**the fruit of the ground**” and “**the firstlings of his flock,**” is of no significance. Each one offered that which he had to offer, of that which he possessed.

The giving must be of that which a person has, not that which he has not (2 Cor. 8:8-15). We must be careful not to be led astray by the teachings of men. There is no place in the Scriptures that tells us Cain’s offering was not accepted because he did not offer a lamb, or a blood sacrifice.

Offerings are according to that which a person has, not that which they do not have. Offerings must be by a willing heart, not a religious act (Ex. 25:2; 35:5,21,22,29; 2 Cor. 8:12; 9:7).

Cain’s offering was not accepted but Abel’s offering was accepted. What Cain and Abel did

is called an offering, not a tithe. Tithes and offering fall into the same category, yet there is a difference between a tithe and an offering. Tithes are required by the LORD, whereas offering are as the person wills.

Why was Abel's offering accepted? Hebrews 11:4 says, **"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."** By faith, Abel offered to God... Faith establishes righteousness, not by what we do, but by faith in that which we do is acceptable to God. Abel, in making his offering acceptable to God, offered by faith **"...of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof."** The best that Abel had, he offered it to the LORD.

Cain also offered to the LORD **"...of the fruit of the ground an offering..."** It was not from Cain's heart that he offered it, but he did offer to the LORD. He did it because it was the thing to do, most likely taught them by Adam and Eve. Religious operations are not acceptable to God, only that which is given with a willing heart. Exodus 35:5,21, says,

**Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass, And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments.**

Cain's offering was not by faith (not a willing offer from his heart), of the best he had to offer, therefore, his offering was not accepted. Genesis 4:5 says, **"But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell."** There is no joy in giving unto the LORD if our heart is not in it. "Righteousness, peace, and joy come from the Holy Spirit," bearing a witness with our spirit (Rom. 8:16,14:17).

The LORD revealed His conversation with Cain that we might understand the foundation for offerings, saying,

**Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him** (Gen. 4:6,7).

There is no joy in religious actions; things done in the flesh for the purpose of doing that which is required outwardly, and not doing it from the heart. Cain's countenance was fallen (he had no joy). The LORD was saying, "If Cain would have made an offering unto the LORD with a willing heart, by faith, it would have been accepted."

The reason it was not done by faith, was that sin (a work of Satan) was at Cain's door (his mind) trying to rule over Cain. The LORD informed Cain; sin is at your door (your mind, which is the entrance to your heart). Proverbs 4:23 says, **"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."**

Offerings must be given with a willing heart, by faith; not grudgingly. In 2 Corinthians 9:7, it says, **“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”**

In Exodus 25:1,2 it says,

**And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.**

This is the LORD’s instructions concerning offerings. The LORD said, **”...every man that giveth it willingly with his heart...”** It is important to understand what the LORD taught concerning offerings and what men teach. The LORD said, those that give with a willing heart, not those that give because someone else told them to give.

In Exodus 35:5 it says, **“Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass.”** Again it says **“whosoever is of a willing heart.”** The LORD is only interested in those who give from a willing heart. But let’s go on and see the process of obtaining that willing heart.

In Exodus 35:21,22 it says,

**And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments.**

**And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.**

Notice that it was those **“whose heart stirred him.”** What was it that caused their heart to be stirred up? It says, **“whom his spirit made willing.”** God works from mans spirit. Job 32:8 says, **“But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.”** Therefore, they were made willing by God working in their spirit. These are the ones that came and gave with a willing heart.

Then in Exodus 35:25,26 it says, **“And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands...And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goats' hair.”** How did these women become **“wise hearted”**? Their **“heart stirred them up in wisdom...”** Where does wisdom come from? The Bible tells us in James 1:5, **“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”** Wisdom comes from God.

In Exodus 35:29 it says, **“The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the LORD, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.”** Over and over in Exodus 35 it is emphasized that offerings were to come from those who have a willing heart, those whose spirit made them willing. In 1 Chronicles 29:9 it says, **“Then the people rejoiced, for that**

**they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.** Offerings should always be brought by those who have a willing heart, those whom the Spirit has made willing. Religious operations concerning offerings are not from God.

In 2 Corinthians 8:12 it says, **“For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.”** God is not the one telling Christians to give beyond that which they have. The Old Testament and the New Testament agree, it should be by those who have a willing heart, a heart that has been made willing by the Spirit of God in them.

In my own life, after I was born again and baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, I gave into a ministry after the Holy Spirit made me willing. Not that I would not have given, but my mind was not in agreement to give at that time. In 1981, just after I received the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, I was in need of finances. I was in the television repair business and it was the last week in May. On Tuesday, the day following Memorial Day, I was watching television at noon. There was an evangelist on, telling about a situation where he needed one hundred thousand dollars to finish a project.

All of a sudden from my spirit I heard “send \_\_\_\_ one hundred dollars”! It wasn’t an audible voice, but it was the same as if it was. I knew I needed about three thousand dollars by the fifteenth of June and didn’t have anywhere near that amount. I said, “LORD, I don’t have one hundred dollars to spare.”

The next day, about noon, from my spirit came these same words, “send \_\_\_\_ one hundred dollars”! I said, “LORD, I don’t have one hundred dollars to send, I need three thousand dollars by the fifteenth of June, if I had it, You know I would send it.” After I said that, I began to check all the money I had. I totaled everything up; my home money, my personal checking account, my shop checking account, and my shop cash. I had about six hundred dollars total.

Again, on Thursday about noon, from my spirit came these same words, “send \_\_\_\_ one hundred dollars”! This time I answered, “LORD, I’ll send the money, but You will have to take care of the three thousand dollars I need by the fifteenth of June.”

I wrote out the check and went to the corner mail box and mailed it. When I was entering the door to the shop the telephone was ringing. I got one phone call after another for service work.

I started working long hours every day, trying to get all the jobs done on time. By the fifteenth of June I had over three thousand dollars. By the first of July I had another one thousand dollars, and by the end of July I took in about five thousand dollars more than any year previous during those three months.

God knows when we have a need, and He wants to supply all our needs. God will do everything He can, according to His Word to help those who are His children.

In the Old Testament, the offerings were used to build the tabernacle in the wilderness and the house of the LORD later. But when they neglected the offerings and the house of the LORD, the LORD spoke by His prophet Haggai. In Haggai 1:2-11 it says,

**Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built.**

**Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,**

**Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?**

**Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.**

**Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.**

**Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.**

**Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.**

**Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.**

**Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.**

**And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.**

Offerings are separate from the tithes. The tithes belong to the LORD and anyone who does not tithe is robbing from God. But the offerings are those things which belong to each individual after the tithe. No one is required by the LORD to make an offering. But the tithe is required, for it belongs to the LORD.

A person who gives offerings and does not tithe is like unto the heathen nations that gave into the building of the temple at the time of Solomon. They gave because they desired to. They were not children of Israel, but they gave of their own substance. The LORD cannot bless those “with true works of the Holy Spirit” if they are not tithers.

Offerings are what the LORD considers when He rebukes the devourer in our lives. Malachi 3:11 deals with the offerings mentioned in Malachi 3:8. It says, “**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.**” The word “and” means in addition to the promise for bringing in the tithe.

The offerings will cause the LORD to rebuke the devourer for you. Many Christians who make offerings above their tithes find that their finances go much further. Their belongings last much longer than the average. I have made many offerings, for years and years, and as an example, my washing machine and clothes dryer lasted over 30 years. My refrigerator and freezer are over 30

years old and still working good. My automobiles run and run, over 200,000 miles and up. God will rebuke the devour for our sakes if we will make offerings where and when the Holy Spirit leads us.

False spiritual operations and false anointings operate among those who do not tithe. Many of these are not teachable when it comes to the things of God. They are in all the churches. They manifest all over the body of Christ. They despise those in the ministry, and they claim themselves as spiritual, dabbling in all kinds of spiritual operations.

Many of these operate in “mind control” operations. They say, “God told them!” When God did not say anything, it was an operation of their mind, enticed by other spirits. There are multitudes of these so-called spiritual Christians in the churches everywhere.

Those who are not tithers, and do not bring their tithes into the storehouse have a hard time hearing from the Holy Spirit. They are carnally minded rather than spiritually minded. They do not get a witness from the Holy Spirit when dealing with others. They try to impose their will upon other Christians, to get them to do whatsoever they desire. They say, “God told them to do what they are doing.” When all the time, God is not in on it at all. It’s all of the flesh, the desires of the mind.

I have heard many of these so-called super-spiritual Christians in the churches. When they say, “God told me,” they identified who that god is. One pastor stood up in front of the church and said, “God just told me to hold up the offering bucket and everyone should come up and put their offering in the bucket while I am holding it.” That was not God speaking to that man. God does not do that!

The offerings were not to be given to the Levite directly, they were to be brought into the storehouse, where a number of people were in charge of it. Those who think the offering is their’s and they are in control of the offering are hearing from the wrong spirit. The tithes and offering belong to God. Those who go beyond the allotted amount and use it for their own purpose are robbing God. They are taking what belongs to God and using for themselves.

Those in the ministry who do this, “take more for themselves than what is allowed by God,” and use it for their own purpose could be judged by the LORD for “their robbing God.” In Haggai 2:8 it says, “**The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.**” The LORD did not say it belongs to those who say they are in the ministry. It belongs to the LORD and if it is not used according to the LORD’s instructions, they are robbing God themselves.

There are reports from some who claim that they have seen hell. Some say they have seen Pastors in hell because they misused money that belonged to the churches they pastured. That is not worth it. Life on this earth is not as important as life after we leave this earth. What we do here on earth according to the Word of God will determine where we will spend eternity.

Another pastor got up in the front of a church and said, “God told me there is one person here that can give \$100.00, so we are going to take up another offering so that person has an opportunity

to give what God told them they should give.” That was not God, God does not do that.

Those who dabble in false operations will give an account in the end. Those who go around saying, “God told me.....,” and it does not agree with the Scriptures in the Old and New Testament, will give an account, if not at this time, in the days to come when they stand before the LORD.

The LORD said, those who take His name in vain will not be held guiltless (Ex. 20:7). Those who use God’s name for their gain, if they do not repent, they will someday give an account for their using the name of the LORD for personal gain. We are instructed to use the name of Jesus against the demonic forces, but we are not told to use it falsely.

Some Christians hear voices. All voices are not always of God. The devil also speaks in a supernatural voice. He presents himself as an angel of light. Listening to his voice will only cause Christians to fall away from the LORD and serve another master.

Why is it that many Christians live on what some call “barely get along street”? In almost every case you will find they do not tithe, and many do not give offerings. They have a curse upon them, which is not a curse of the Law of Moses that Christians are not under. For Jesus bore the curse of the Law for them (Gal. 3:11). This curse is not of the Law, it is separate from the Law. It is upon all Christians who do not tithe.

The curse comes because they “rob God”! The tithe is not theirs, it belongs to God and must be given, otherwise they will be cursed with a curse from the LORD. The tithe is “**an holy thing**” that belongs to the LORD, we must not withhold that which belongs to the LORD. Leviticus 27:30,32,33 says,

**And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD**

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

**He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed {\*taken back/bought back}.”**

Those who are obedient to the tithe have a guarantee from the LORD that they will be blessed. They will be blessed above any other nations, or kindred. The LORD Himself will bless them with the greatest blessing man can receive. This is an individual blessing and a corporate blessing, from groups unto nations. Churches, whose members tithe, and Churches that use the tithe properly, not abusing or misusing it will prosper above all others. The anointing of the Holy Spirit will destroy the works of the devil.

Tithing is not an option. It is a requirement. Christians must tithe as it is explained in Deuteronomy 8:18, “**But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it**

**is this day.”** God has a purpose for the tithe, and we must submit to His purpose.

Never underestimate the ability of God to keep His promises. The LORD said, “**... 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...**” (Mal. 3:10). It doesn't make any difference where a person lives. God's Word works wherever anyone will believe Him. He will not withhold anything good from those who love Him and obey His commandments.