

QUESTION: *Should Church Musicians Be Paid from the Tithe?*

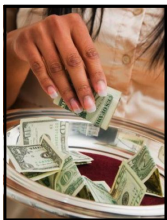
To answer the above question, **FALSE DOCTRINE** that has been taught by Satan's "ministers of righteousness" for over 2000 years must be unraveled.

Since the church began on the day of Pentecost, "...the mystery of INIQUITY" (2 THESS.2:7) has been at work, with **FALSE APOSTLES** and **DECEITFUL WORKERS**, "...transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ."

And no marvel; for Satan himself IS TRANSFORMED into an angel of LIGHT. Therefore it is NO GREAT THING if his ministers also BE TRANSFORMED as the ministers of righteousness; whose END shall be according to their works" (2 COR. 11:13-15).

Teaching by Satan's ministers are the **CORE** of False Christianity; Satan's **COUNTERFEIT** to the **TRUE New Testament Church**.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TITHE



The originally meaning of the word "**TITHE**" has been **REDEFINED** to include the church: "**ONE TENTH** of the **ANNUAL** produce of one's land OR of one's annual income, paid as a tax or contribution to support a **CHURCH** or its **CLERGY**."

But originally, the "**TITHE**" had **NOTHING TO DO** with the New Testament Church, or its clergy. Instead, it had to do **ONLY** with the twelve tribes of **ISRAEL**.

When the children of Israel took possession of the promised land, only 11 tribes were given an inheritance of the land. But to the 12th tribe of Levi, **IT WAS NOT GIVEN**.

"...the Lord SEPARATED the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister unto Him, and to bless in His name, UNTO THIS DAY."

Wherefore Levi HATH NO PART nor INHERITANCE with his brethren; THE LORD IS HIS INHERITANCE, according as the Lord thy God promised him" (DEUTERONOMY 10:8-9).

As a result, the other tribes **GAVE TITHES** to the tribe of Levi to sustain them; each individual giving annually **ONE TENTH** of his **INCREASE**, such as corn, oil, etc., to **SUSTAIN the tribe of Levi** as they in turn ministered unto the Lord.

THE TRUTH ABOUT N. T. GIVING

Later, the apostle Paul said, "...that AFTER MY DEPARTING [AFTER MY DEATH] shall GRIEVOUS WOLVES ENTER IN" (ACTS 20:29), and **THEY DID ENTER**, "teaching for DOCTRINES the commandments of MEN" (MATT. 15:9; MARK 7:7), and **INCORPORATING** the doctrine of **TITHING** to support themselves.

But, when the church first began in the book of Acts, **TRUE** believers "continued steadfastly in the APOSTLES' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers" (ACTS 2:41).

Notice the **NATURE** of these **TRUE FIRST CHRISTIANS**: "...ALL that believed were together, and had ALL THINGS COMMON; and SOLD THEIR POSSESSIONS and GOODS, and PARTED THEM TO ALL MEN, as every man HAD NEED" (ACTS 2:44-45).

"And the multitude of them that BELIEVED were of ONE HEART and of ONE SOUL: neither said ANY OF THEM that ought of the things which he POSSESSED was HIS OWN; but they had ALL THINGS COMMON" (ACTS 4:32).

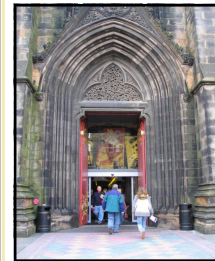
Jesus told his disciples that **BECAUSE OF THIS KIND OF LOVE**, "...SHALL ALL MEN KNOW that ye are my disciples" (JOHN 13:34-35). Now, just look at them after the day of Pentecost!

TRUE LOVE GIVES and **GIVES!** Suddenly after the salvation of all believers, this world with **ALL** its possessions of "**THINGS**" becomes strangely dim because **WE** "...desire a BETTER country, that is, an heavenly" (HEB. 11:16).

God **IS LOVE** (1 JOHN 4:8), and the best example of it: for He **GAVE** His Son to die, and His Son **GAVE** His life for many! **TRUE LOVE** causes the husband to **GIVE** himself unselfishly to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband! And the Church **GIVES WILLINGLY** to the brethren!

Now, ask yourself: **WHAT EVER HAPPEN TO THIS CHURCH? WHERE DID THEY GO?**

THE CHURCH & WORSHIP



Not long after the church began, wicked men, known in our history books as "the church fathers," changed the meaning of the church into a physical building, much like the pagan worshippers.

But, only those who are born of the Spirit truly **KNOW** that the church of the living God **IS NOT** a building. Neither do **WE** have a physical place of worship. The church of God is **SPIRITUAL**, a **LIVING ORGANISM**, made up of all saints of God, and, known as the Body of Jesus Christ, or the Bride of Christ!

Each one of us are "**LIVELY STONES**" and we are **BUILT UP** a **SPIRITUAL HOUSE** [**NOT A PHYSICAL HOUSE**], "...an holy priesthood, to offer up SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1 PETER 2:5).

There is no such thing as a physical church building in the Word of God, because **WE** are that "building," the body of Christ, "...which is the church" (COL. 1:24), or "the called" (ROM. 1:6).

Our place of worship has **ALREADY** been **DEFINED** by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: "...the HOUR COMETH, when ye shall NEITHER in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, WORSHIP the Father...the HOUR COMETH, and NOW IS, when the TRUE WORSHIPPERS shall worship the Father in spirit and in TRUTH...God is a Spirit: and they that WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP HIM in spirit and in TRUTH" (JOHN 4:21-24).



CHURCH MUSICIANS

Since tithing has **NO PART** with the church Jesus came to build, and the church is **NOT a building**, nor do Christians have **WORSHIP SERVICES** in such buildings, then how will church musicians get **PAID**? We will allow God to answer this on Judgment Day!