

IS TITHING SCRIPTURAL for New Testament Christians?

Ed Priebe

DID YOU KNOW THAT —

- Jesus never asked His disciples to tithe 10% of their income! Instead, he taught them to “*remember the poor*” and to give to those in need.
- Tithing is a legalistic part of the Temple worship of the old **Mosaic Law**, “*the Old Testament, which ... is done away in Christ.*” (2Cor.3:14)
- For **three centuries** after Jesus, Christians gave to help the poor, widows and orphans, and to support those preaching the Gospel. But they did not tithe!
- Tithing first began to come in to the Church **after** Christianity was recognized by Constantine (313 AD) and they needed money to support *their hierarchy* and build church buildings.
- Church fathers continued to speak *against* tithing as late as **400 AD**, saying that it was no more of a requirement than *circumcision*.
- The Church made tithing a law nearly six centuries after Jesus, in **585 AD**, at the Council of Macon! Most Christians still did not tithe.
- Everyone was finally forced to tithe **800 years** after Jesus, when Charlemagne founded the Holy **Roman Empire** and made tithing a state law! People tithed because they would go to **prison** if they didn’t!
- Priests “*cursed for their tithes*”, threatening believers that those who didn’t tithe would lose **their salvation** and go to hell!
- In the 1500s, Protestant **state churches** preached “*salvation by grace*”, but they wanted revenue, so they continued the Catholic practice of tithing.

What Does The Bible Teach About Giving?

by Jack Wellman

New Covenant Giving

Today, under a new and better covenant, we are not under the legalistic requirements of the tithe because if we were, then we’d have to also be giving the three tithes as required by the Law in the Old Testament. As James said, “*For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it*” (James 2:10). If you’re going to tell others that the tithe is still binding, then you’re going to have to pay the second and third tithe also. Every year that means that you should be giving 20% of your gross income, because the tithe was a 10% of everything you had and every third year you’d be required to pay 30% gross of *everything* you had for the year. You cannot keep some of [the Law](#) and not all of it. The same thing goes for the Sabbath. For those who try to keep the Sabbath the way it was required in the Old Testament, then you couldn’t even start your car (no fires could be started), you couldn’t drive to church (couldn’t travel that far on the Sabbath), you couldn’t even prepare meals on the Sabbath!

Most Pastors have Services on Sunday, that is the day of the Sun God that the Roman Emperor Constantine introduced when the ways of the Early Church **were changed** – even the meeting in buildings instead of Home Churches. Constantine was self-appointed when he turned the Church into a **State Institution** and all manner of error came in.

Friends, that is NOT God appointed. And you mean to tell me Tithes and Offerings survived?

Is there such a thing as a Grace Tithe? "A confusing paradox indeed"

**Yet so many of us have been sold on this Hybrid Teaching
for years - traditions die slow.**

God says that we are BLESSED and that the curse that was a result of the
Fall of Man is REVERSED because of JESUS Work on the Cross -
we are REDEEMED and this is a DISPENSATION OF GRACE.
The OT Law is OBSOLETE and does not have any place for THIS AGE
now that the NATURE of GOD has been RESTORED to those IN CHRIST.

Furthermore, the Tithe that Abraham gave was not from his income as proposed but
the spoils of war.....and he also gave the other 9 tenths to the King of Sodom
stating his reasons for doing so. Read it in Gen 14:17-23

What about Jacob? It may enlighten you to find that he actually made a one-off tithe too.
He actually made a **conditional vow** with it. Read this in Gen 28:20-22.

And as for Malachi 3:9-10, Grace is not found there. Yet it has become the preacher's
point of persuasion to extract money from you in God's name - they take in vain -
attempting to change Paul's counsel from God because__

Tithing is a part of God's covenant with the Jews only.

LAW was the OT Covenant with Israel.

GRACE is the NT Covenant with Believers.

CHRIST'S Sacrifice on the CROSS has made the Old Covenant OBSOLETE

God no longer deals with us according to our misdeeds.

JESUS Himself is the Mediator of this Better Covenant. Heb 8:6

It is a Covenant of COMPASSION and GRACE not Judgement!

God has now BLESSED US with ALL Spiritual BLESSING

in Heavenly Places making us HOLY and BLAMELESS because of JESUS.

Surely the Windows of Heaven are OPEN NOW did you just read the above?

"He has Cancelled the Bond that stood against us with it's Legal Demands"

Read Eph 1:6-8 and Col 2.14-15

Yes, in Vs 6 of Malachi, The Lord addresses the tithers as "Sons of Jacob"
(Israelites) and speaks of His intention to them "a Land of Delight and all the nations
shall call them blessed" in Vs 12.

We have to be careful we don't confuse God's Ways with Israel with His Ways with the Church.

This is a different dispensation with a different Covenant and a different Calling.

Where's the Grace?

JESUS encourages us to give Generously
MINISTERS make us give Painfully
NEW TESTAMENT encourages Giving to the Poor
MINISTERS attempt to Make you Poor
PAUL counsels us to give wisely as we are able
MINISTERS empty your pockets, even if you have debts
PAUL said to decide in your heart how much to give
MINISTERS tell you how much you must give
PAUL says not to give grudgingly
MINISTERS enforce and encourage it
PAUL says not to give out of compulsion
TELEVANGELISTS have all manner of enticements
SCRIPTURE says not to give out of covetousness
MINISTERS do the very things they preach against
PAUL said as we have purposed in our hearts
MINISTERS tell you to pray first so your hearts are disturbed
and you give more!

**Paul says that God Loves Cheerful Givers
and we said**

"We would love to give Cheerfully without all the pressure!"

Whose obedience is in question here, yours or theirs?
Quite honestly, most ministers harden our hearts in the area of Giving.
God's Ministers are not supposed to Coerce you and find ways to your purse.
The privilege of Giving ought to be a JOY and DELIGHT.
The work of the Holy Spirit ALWAYS keeps a Softening effect on our hearts
He does not bring pressure on you.

Paul's Counsel on Giving in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 are Pictures of
Benevolence and Willingness rather than Obedience and Constraint.
He encourages us to SHARE our BLESSINGS with **Those in Need** not preacher's
PAY for your BLESSINGS and the way many Televangelists entice us to
make Shopping Lists with God. IE "He will give you this, that and that if you give your
Best Offering!"

Take your guidance from Scripture

(English Standard Version)

[1 Timothy 6:10](#)

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

[2 Corinthians 8:13](#)

For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, that as a matter of fairness

[1 Timothy 6:17](#)

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

[Proverbs 13:11](#)

Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

[Matthew 6:33](#)

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

When Pastors or Evangelists preach for fleshly gain

we need to be spiritual.

Don't let them get the victory because of your ignorance of Scripture.

Sometimes they are ignorant too!

In a sense of speaking, rich and wealthy preachers are in effect, keeping funds from the poor, the desperate and needy (physically and spiritually). Yes, they are keeping physical comforts and the Good News from those who are still waiting.

Think of the many thousands who can be blessed by those of us who see the Truth about Giving.

Together with helping each other, like they do in House Churches - when they pool together to meet a genuine need - this is the New Testament way, The Lord has clearly ordained.
