

A Lifestyle That Gives

Why The Tithe? (Part 3)

Malachi 3:6-12

Malachi 3:10

Malachi 3:11

Why would anyone want to argue with this?

1. The only reason someone argues with tithing is that the enemy **hates** you and he has convinced you to not do this tithing thing.

Hebrews 7:1

Hebrews 7:2a

² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated...

The writer here explains what Melchizedek means:

- Most theologians because of this verse say, Melchizedek was either **Jesus** Himself, or He was a type of **Christ** in the Old Testament.

Hebrews 7:2b

² ...first being translated "king of righteousness," ...

Question: Who is the king of righteousness?

Answer: **Jesus**

Hebrews 7:2c

2...and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace,"

Salem – means peace

Jerusalem – means city of peace

Question: Who is the King of peace?

Answer: Jesus

Hebrews 7:3

Hebrews 7:4

Hebrews 7:5 – this is in the New Testament

Hebrews 7:6-7 – this is Melchizedek again

Hebrews 7:8

2. Mortal men receive the tithe for the church, but "He" Jesus receives them also, and it is a witness that Jesus lives – when you tithe.
3. The heart is this: when I return the tithe and give above and beyond, the Lord knows my heart and Heaven is open and the enemy's deception is rebuked.

A. Tithing is a test and it is a test of our hearts.

Tithing also is...

B. Tithing is biblical, it's in the Bible.

Here is the next thing about tithing:

C. Tithing is a **benefit**

2 Chronicles 31:4-10 – he is Hezekiah the king

- Hezekiah is reading the **scripture**
- He realizes we have gone away from the **ordinances**.

Ordinances – **ordinary** behavior

- The command of the king is **everyone** tithe
- Then he goes to the temple and sees **heaps** of the giving and then gets **worried** for the people – thinking they gave **all** they had; we just asked for **ten** percent!

* This is what the priest said to the king:

4. O king, when they **began** to tithe, God blessed them and what you see in the heaps is just ten percent, your people are **blessed**.

The miracle in all this was that it changed their **hearts**.

2 Chronicles 31:20-21

- It was done with **all** his heart and King Hezekiah **prospered**.

When you return your tithe, and give extravagantly, you will be **okay** – not only okay, but **greater**.

Prosperity is your future

Your homes will be **blessed**

The enemy will be **rebuked**

5. A lifestyle of giving is an **extravagant** lifestyle having a **pure** heart.

D. Tithing is an expression of love.

- In other words, you express your love tangibly to people.
 - To your spouse
 - To your children
 - To your friends

I hope you understand tithing is personal to God.

Scripture says this:

Matthew 25:29

- Speaks to those who don't give and those that do.
 - To the one who gave Teri 1000, I keep giving to him.
 - To the one who gave more, I will give him more.
 - To the one who did not follow my directions, I'll take it away.

Blessing and curse

Jesus said: I'm going away for awhile, please take care of My Wife.

Does not the Bible refer to the Church as the Bride of Christ?

I want you to give My Bride/Wife ten percent while I'm gone.

When you get paid, this is what you're telling Jesus:

- You tell Jesus how much you love **Him**.
- You tell Jesus how much you love His **wife**.
- It is very **personal** to Him.
- He will look for **good** stewards and He will bless them because He knows He can **trust** him.

Why tithe?

Answer is **simple**.

- It is a **test** from God.
- It's **biblical**
- It **benefits** you
- It's an **expression** of our love from the bottom of our **heart**.