

## **Is Tithing & Offerings For the New Testament Believer?**

**By Dr. Jack & Rev. Marie Myers**

You can tell a lot about a person, when it comes to how they give to the Church and to Ministries. Jesus said in Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." If we keep this in mind about Tithing and Offerings and from all the profits we receive from our labor's, money will reveal Where A Person's Heart Really Is. Jesus made it very clear that where a person's treasure is — is where his money and possessions are — that's where his heart will be also. So if you really want to know where a person's heart is, follow the money and possessions trail in a person's life and you'll find out. Again I say, money and possessions talk!

Eccles.10:19

Webster Definition of Tithe: The tenth part of anything; but appropriately, the tenth part of the increase arising from **the profits** of land and stock, allotted to the clergy for their support. Tithes are personal or predial, or mixed;

a.) Personal: when accruing profits from labor, art, trade and navigation;

b.) Predial: when issuing from the earth, as hay, wood and fruit;

c.) Mixed: when accruing from beasts, which are fed from the ground.

So here is the question; **Is Tithing for the New Testament Covenant Believer?**

Let's lay a scriptural foundation starting in the Old Testament and will run into the New Testament about Tithes & Offerings.

We should also take note that in the Bible, God put single threaded themes from the Old Testament into the New Testament and tithing/offerings are in that threaded theme.

For example;

1.) The shedding of blood for the forgiveness of sins was a threaded theme from the Old Testament into the New Testament. In the Old Testament the Jews had to have blood from an animal sacrifice to forgive their sins. In the New Testament the shedding of Jesus Blood (The Lamb of God) became the sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins.

2.) Money is also one of those threaded themes from the Old Testament into the New Testament.

The History of the Tithe:

Tithing was instituted 430 years before the Law of Moses (Levitical Law) It was instituted under the same covenant we are under now, and that is the Blessing of the Abrahamic Covenant (the Covenant of Grace) - and Christ's fulfillment of the Law and the establishment of the New Covenant which includes the Abrahamic Covenant. So before the Levitical Law (for the Jew and

anyone who wanted to join the Judaistic religion) was instituted, Tithing is a Covenant issue not a Law issue. A Covenant cannot be changed but the Law is changeable and even fulfillable. Tithing was first mentioned in Gen.14:20 Under the Abrahamic Covenant where Abraham (a gentile not a Jew) gave a tenth to Melchisedek. The Melchisedek Priesthood Order being the title of Jesus Christ the High Priest, the King of Salem or (Jerusalem) Abraham actually presented to Jesus Christ the High Priest of God a tenth of all he had obtained.

Gen 14:18-20 "And Melchisedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine(communion): 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."

Melchisedec meaning: King of Righteousness, King of right, King of prosperity, brought bread and wine to Abraham,(communion) and bestowed upon him the blessing of El Elyon (Yahweh) the title of deity as worshiped at Jerusalem. The lesser was blessed by the greater.

Melchisedec is an "order or an office" established then to be filled by Jesus later, not ended but carried on eternally, without beginning or end, not a part of the Aaronic priesthood, or descended of the tribe of Levi but greater than the tribe of Levi.

It was set up for the children of Abraham to bring tithes forever to this "office" this was a type of Christ and in Heb. 7, Jesus stepped into the "office/order" of Melchisedec forever, this is the New Covenant, the Covenant of Grace in which the New Testament is established.

Psalms 110:4 the virtual successor of Melchisedec! "The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent "change", Thou art a Priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

This is why we bring the Tithes & Offerings into the storehouse/ church and not to a man. Should God require tithing under this priesthood at the first and then discontinue it when Christ became a priest after this order in the latter? Does grace lessen the obligation of man or increase it? Should a mere typical priesthood be supported and not the eternal priesthood itself? If men that die receive tithes, how much more should they who live receive them? That if temporary priests have received tithes, how much more should the eternal priests Jesus Christ receive them being His Body the New Testament Church. Those who receive tithes also pay them on their own income. In this, Abraham was there and our representative and an example of a tithe payer for all his seed to come and that includes us the New Testament children of Abraham.

The Law did not contain the original priesthood which existed typically in the order and office of Melchisedec and became reality in Jesus Christ our High Priest. Jesus Christ is the original High Priest before the Levitical Law and the tribe of Levi given and Law given by Moses.

Tithe has nothing to do with the Law today because the Law was fulfilled but it has everything to do with Grace because Tithes and Offerings was instituted in the beginning under Grace, God's ability freely given to us to prosper under the New Covenant even more so than our Father Abraham did in whom was also under "Grace" and we have better promises in that Grace.

## **Jacob the grandson of Abraham:**

Jacob the son of Isaac and the grandson of Abraham also under the Abrahamic Covenant (The Covenant of Grace) gave a tenth of all - In Gen. 28:20-22 "And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: And this stone, which I have set [for] a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."

Paul in the New Testament mentions this account in Hebrews chapters 7 through 9 (Please read)

Since Tithes & Offerings was instituted under the Abrahamic Covenant and then latter placed into as part of the Levitical Law and then continued after the fulfillment of the Law, the Covenant of Grace by Jesus Christ which continued into the New Testament Covenant by Jesus shed blood and the Abrahamic Covenant (Grace). So if Abraham paid Tithes should not the seed(children) of Abraham continue to pay tithes for the advancement of the Gospel and since it is based on The New and Better Covenant by the Covenant Blessing of Abraham (Grace) and after the Order and Office of Melchisedeck Holy Priesthood that is Jesus Christ - Gen.14 & Heb.7. Then we should continue to Tithe/Offerings to the Church which is the institution of our Lord and Savior and His Body. The Tithe and Offerings belongs to God based on Covenant Agreements between God & Man and is to be used to support the ministry of the Church and to advance Christianity in the world through Evangelism. Tithes and Offerings does this!

## **A.) Gods Covenants with Man on Tithing & Offerings:**

**Covenant:** A mutual consent or agreement of two or more persons, to do or to forbear some act or thing; a contract; stipulation.

The Abrahamic Covenant was made with an oath by God and it cannot be changed, it was also a covenant that included the two parties giving 100% to each other. The Levitical law is not a Covenant and was not established with an oath and therefore has been fulfilled/changed by Jesus Christ.

### **1. The Adamic Covenant - First Fruits & Offering**

The practice of tithing was established from the beginning of creation, before Abraham and is before the institution of the Law.

Gen. 4:3-7 "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: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, 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."

The reason why God excepted Abels offering and not Cains is because Ables offering was a sacrifice of blood and the (first) of his flock and Cains offering was a sacrifice from the ground. God cursed the ground because of Adams sin and for atonement to be accepted, their had to be a death and a sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin. Even though fruits were accepted as a offering for supplying the need of the ministry a cursed ground could not be accepted for the redemption of the curse of the fall. There had to be blood and Abels offering supplied this.

**Remember the Webster Definition of Tithes are in 3 parts:**

- a.) Personal: when accruing profits from labor, art, trade and navigation;
- b.) Predial: when issuing from the earth, as hay, wood and fruit;
- c.) Mixed: when accruing from beasts, which are fed from the ground.

Note: Theologians and others suggest that the tithe is simply a later form of the first-fruits.

The Adamic Covenant can be thought of in two parts: the Edenic Covenant (innocence) and the Adamic Covenant (grace). The Edenic Covenant is found in Genesis 1:26-30; 2:16-17.

The details of this covenant include the following:

- 1.) Mankind (male and female) created in God's image.
- 2.) Mankind's dominion (rule) over the animal kingdom and earth.
- 3.) Divine directive for mankind to reproduce and inhabit the entire Earth.
- 4.) Mankind to be vegetarian (eating of meat established in the Noahic Covenant: Genesis 9:3).

Eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil forbidden (with death as the stated penalty).

The Adamic Covenant is found in Genesis 3:16-19. As the result of Adam's sin, the following curses were pronounced: This is the curse of the Fall, the curse of the Law came much later.

- 1.) Enmity between Satan and Eve and her descendants.
- 2.) Painful childbirth for women.
- 3.) Marital strife.
- 4.) The soil cursed.

- 5.) Introduction of thorns and thistles.
- 6.) Survival to be a struggle – You will work by the sweat of your brow.
- 7.) Death introduced.
- 8.) Death will be the inescapable fate of all living things.

Although these curses are severe and inescapable, a wonderful promise of grace was also included in the Adamic Covenant. Genesis 3:15 is often referred to as the “Proto-Gospel” or “First Gospel.” Speaking to Satan, God says, “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, / And between your seed and her seed; / He shall bruise you on the head, / And you shall bruise him on the heel.” Tithing/Offerings was instituted under the same Grace and later introduced into the Law and latter continuing under Grace after the resurrection of Jesus. Tithing is under the same Grace Jesus Christ brought us back under before the institution of the Law. We are not under the curse of the Law but we are still under the curse of the fall. The Adamic Covenant still stands today -

#### B.) The Abrahamic Covenant (Blessing)(Grace) - Tithing & Offering

Gen 14:20-22 "And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. **And he gave him tithes of all.** And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself. And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth."

Heb 7:1-10 "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; 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. Now consider how great this man [was], unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. And here men that die receive tithes; but there he [receiveth them], of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him."

The Abrahamic Three-Fold Covenant was foundational to all other Biblical Covenants.

- 1.) The promise of land: Israel's possession of the Promised Land - Deuteronomy 30:1-10
- 2.) The promise of Kingly descendants in the Davidic Covenant through which the Messiah is promised ...2 Samuel 7:12-16

3.) The promise that all nations would be blessed through Abraham is fulfilled in the New Covenant in Christ - Jeremiah 31:31-40; Luke 22:17-20

As New Covenant believers we become the heirs of Abraham and the Abrahamic Covenant: Romans 9:6-8 "For not all Israelites are true Israelites nor are all Abraham's descendants his children, but as Scripture says, 'through Isaac shall your descendants be called.'

That means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God; it is the children of the promise who are to be considered descendants and if our father Abraham tithed, should not we his children tithe also." Our father Abraham showed how to keep Covenant and be blessed.

### **C.) Under Levitical Law (The Law of Moses) - Tithing & Offering**

**For the nation of Israel, the Jews,** this is where additional tithes were added in several areas. Tithing does not begin or end with the Levitical law. It begins with Covenant and ends with Covenant.

a.) Under Law It was Commanded:

Lev 27:30 "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."

b.) It was for the Levites for maintaining the temple (Jewish Church) - (Order of the Priest or Ministers):

LE'VITE, n. [from Levi, one the sons of Jacob.] One of the tribe or family of Levi; a descendant of Levi; more particularly, an officer in the Jewish church, who was employed in manual service, as in bringing wood and other necessities for the sacrifices. The Levites also sung and played on instruments of music. They were subordinate to the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who was also of the family of Levi.

Num. 18:21-26 "And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth 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. 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 tithe."

Because the ministers from the tribe of Levi had no inheritance and they worked in the service of the Lord, God allowed them to be paid of the tithes the people brought. They got paid a tenth of all the tithes.

**D.) The tithe and offerings belonged to God and not the people who brought them.**

The Book of Malachi is prophecy spoken from God and God is telling the people why they are not blessed in their lives – God always gives an answer to the problem!

Malachi 3:6-12 **For I am the LORD, I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? "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]. 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. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts."

**Take note:** that the prophet Malachi is prophesying By Gods Words - in Malachi chapter 3 to the people, and the Lord himself is declaring why the people are in such a bad way because of their breaking of the Abrahamic Covenant and Breaking the Levitical Law, but He tells them what they must do, to be blessed. He starts out by saying in verse 6 **"I am the Lord and I Change NOT"** So God does not change or break the covenants he makes with men, but men do break covenant and suffer from it. Then he proceeds by saying ye sons of Jacob our not consumed. Why are those who are the sons of Abraham, Issac and Jacob and that includes us not consumed, because God Keeps Covenant! God is saying because of your fathers Abraham and Issac and Jacob the Covenant of Grace I have made with them you are not consumed and then He says; because you have broken the Abrahamic Covenant and broken the Livitical Law, that is why you are not blessed, and both Abrahamic Covenant and Livitical Law included in tithing and giving of offerings and then He tells them to prove God if they are obedient to tithe and give offerings He will bestow benefits upon them. When God says through Malachi "Ye are cursed with a curse" God is stating the fact of two related curses; - (The curse of the Fall & the curse of the Law)

1.) The curse that comes from the fall of man of the (Adamic Covenant) and 2.) The curse that comes from the Levitical Law. So Malachi chapter 3: 1-12 is not just based on the (Levitical Law) only for tithing and giving of offerings it is also based on the Adamic & Abrahamic Covenants. Break the "Covenants" and break the "Law" – the people suffered from it. And so it is today break the (Abrahamic Covenant)(Grace) people suffer for it even today.

Remember a Covenant can be broken but it cannot be changed once the two parties have agreed upon the terms in the Covenant. We are under the Covenant Of Grace (the Abrahamic Covenant)

in today's time, so if there is a curse that comes from not tithing & giving of offerings it is the curse of the fall that is in effect or the curse under the Adamic Covenant in which is in force today. Jesus did not change the curse of the Fall but he did change the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us on the cross. So God says that if you tithe & give offerings there would be the blessings that comes from Tithing & Offerings and because we are still under the curse of the fall, **that curse can have limits** because we apply the principal in which God instituted under "Grace" "The Tithe & Offerings" under the Abrahamic Covenant not just under the Law.

God takes very serious the Covenants that are made between Him and Man. **The Law is not Covenant and the Law can be changed and or fulfilled. Once God makes a Covenant it is everlasting.** So Tithes & Offerings fall under Covenants not just the fulfilled Law.

God promises to "open heaven's windows and pour out a blessing" so that there would be no "room to receive it," provided the people by bringing in all the tithes would put Him to the proof as to keeping His word. Christians, whose privileges are so much greater and to whom heaven is opened by Christ's death and ascension, should at least offer no less a proportion of all their income to the Lord's cause than did the Israelite.

That is the reason Pastor James says to be very careful what you swear too, in: Webster's – the word - Swear: To affirm or utter a solemn declaration, with an appeal to God for the truth of what is affirmed.

James 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

A Covenant is utterance of solemn declaration by an oath. God does this in Covenant.

The word **curse** in the Webster Dictionary means: To injure; to subject to evil; to vex, harass or torment with great calamities.

Do you know Christians today that are suffering from a curse? You know: Sickness, divorce, lack, poverty, loss, marriage problems, can't pay bills, ect....ect...We have to remember that we are no longer under the curse of the Levitical Law, but we are under the curse of Adam and Eve's fall, the Adamic Covenant. To be preserved from the curse of the fall and for it to be limited in it's effects on us, Christians need to get back to Tithing and the Giving of offerings, it is part of the shed blood of Jesus and His Priesthood and it is also away to be victorious over the curse of the fall and the God given way for protection and blessings.

**E.) Tithes and Offering were to Honor God. It is a honor & heart issue not a dollar issue!**

Proverbs 3: 9,10 "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

1.) Under Levitical Law not Abrahamic Covenant: if the Tithes were borrowed you had to pay the tithe with 20% interest. Repeat; not applicable today!

Lev 27:31(AMP) "And if a man wants to redeem any of his tithe, he shall add a fifth to it."

## **F.) The New Covenant, The New Testament - Tithing & Offering**

The New Covenant is spoken about first in the book of Jeremiah. The Old Covenant that God had established with His people required obedience to the Old Testament Mosaic(Levitical) law. Because the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23), the law required that people perform rituals and sacrifices in order to please God and remain in His grace. The prophet Jeremiah predicted that there would be a time when God would make a New Covenant with the nation of Israel and all those other nations who would choose Jesus to be their Savior.

"The day will come,' says the Lord, 'when I will make a New Covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. . . . But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day,' says the Lord. **'I will put my law in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts.** I will be their God, and they will be my people' (Jeremiah 31:31, 33), (Heb 10:16,17)

Jesus Christ came to fulfill the Law of Moses (Matthew 5:17) and create a New Covenant between God and His people and all who would call upon the Name of Jesus to be their Savior. The Old Covenant was written in stone, but the New Covenant is written on our hearts, made possible only by faith in Christ, who shed His own blood to atone for the sins of the world. Luke 22:20 says, "After supper, [Jesus] took another cup of wine and said, 'This wine is the token of God's New Covenant to save you – an agreement sealed with the blood I will pour out for you.'

Now that we are under the New Covenant after becoming born again and grafted in the vine, we are not under the penalty of the Levitical Law but we are still under the penalty of the Adamic Covenant and the curse of the fall and because Tithing was instituted under the Adamic and Abrahamic Covenants and therefore has not been done away with . We are now given the opportunity to receive salvation as a free gift (Ephesians 2:8-9). Through the life-giving Holy Spirit who lives in all those who choose to believe and accept Jesus Christ as their Savior (Romans 8: 9-11), we can now share in the inheritance of Christ and enjoy a permanent, unbroken relationship with God. Hebrews 9:15 declares, "For this reason Christ is the mediator of a New Covenant, that those who are called may receive **the promised eternal inheritance** - now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the Adamic covenant." Jesus has still provided a way for His people to be blessed by the continuance of the Tithe and Offerings to the work of the ministry to advance Christianity in the world and provide protection and blessing. The New Testament plan of Tithe/Offerings is a moral obligation, and not by force, it is in keeping with Covenant with God.

## **G.) Jesus taught Tithing:**

Matthew 23:23 "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier [matters] of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

Note: That Jesus told the Scribes and the Pharisees that they should pay tithes "These ye ought ye to have done"

a.) Jesus tells a parable and includes in his teaching about tithing, this parable shows the condition of one's heart – Pride vs. Humility.

Luke 18:10-14 "Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men [are], extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [rather] than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

b.) Give to Caesar what is Caesars and give to God what is Gods.

Matthew 22:17-21 "Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, [ye] hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose [is] this image and superscription? They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

Note: The theme here is about money. What should Caesar get? That which belongs to Caesar and that was his tax money. But Jesus went a little further and said; Caesar should get what is his and God should get what is His. What belongs to God? We know EVERYTHING! Belongs to God (The earth is mine and the fullness thereof) but the issue here was over money and God gets His 10% and any offering you should want to give. And the Gov't should get what is theirs.

If Tithing was first instituted under Grace then included in the Law then continuing under Grace and we are under Grace (Abrahamic Covenant) then 10% is nothing to give back to God to advance Gods Kingdom in the world and to take care of the ministers who spread that Good News.

c.) In Theory or Something to think On.

God has always had His and He has always given to man what is his. This goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden. God had one tree He did not want Adam and Eve to eat from and that was "The Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil" and he gave to man every other tree in the garden. But because the nature of man says "what's mine is mine and what's yours is mine" deception came and man fell from "Grace" and disobedience and pride became their down fall. So could this one tree that God had be His 10%? and God gave to man 90% but because of the selfishness of man, man wanted 100% and this became their down fall. Selfishness, Pride, Disobedience.

d.) The Women with the two mites:

Some argue about the woman who gave two mites in the temple while Jesus was watching: She gave 100% of her finances not just 10%.

Luke 21:2-4 And He saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had. This woman gave more than 10% she gave 100% - Does this mean that every-time we give we should empty out our bank accounts – by all means NO – This same story was also mentioned in Mark 12:42-44.

In My experience people that don't believe in tithing and say they only give "offerings" and only what they purpose in their heart. To that I would say the N.T. church blueprint being the book of Acts, if we were really scriptural we would be giving 100%, and if 100% then don't be surprised if the Holy Spirit would ask you for your entire bank and savings account. So until someone has ever emptied out their bank or savings or 401k or investment portfolio accounts, they really don't stand a chance to be equal to this woman with the two mites, because she gave her entire living.

Just because the scriptures mentions that Abraham tithed 10% one time does not mean he did not do it more than once. And just as in the case of the woman with the two mites that cast in all that she had, does not mean that every-time she did do that, nor should we do that, unless the Holy Spirit leads us to.

Here in is the question? If Tithing and the giving of Offerings were to be done away with under the New Testament of Grace, then why did Jesus refer to them in His teachings? And if Offerings were also under the Law why not do away with Offerings as well. Why is the Tithe picked on and not Offerings just because offerings are mentioned more in the New Testament more than the word Tithe, does not eliminate the Tithe. Tithe is mentioned in the New Testament and even taught, we have seen that? Or is it once again mans Selfishness, Pride, and Disobedience?

Remember the Levitical Law required Tithes and Offerings so if Tithing were just under the Law then why not eliminate Offerings as well – they both were under the Law just like they are both under Grace. So the thought here is when the New Testament came about, Jesus just split the Tithe & Offerings right down the middle? So now He says please just give as you desire, if you want to, I the Lord don't require anything from you – Really? That is just like saying Jesus died for the whole world and everyone in it, so no one is going to hell because Jesus saved the world, right!. No, one must be Born Again to enter into heaven, that is the requirement. So to be blessed beyond measure God requires us to Tithe and Give offerings – It allows God to Bless Us for our Good! "It's His and Our Covenant relationship"

## **H.) The Apostil Paul taught on Tithing and Giving.**

a.) Ministers to be paid -

Gal. 6:6(AMP) "Let him who receives instruction in the Word [of God] share all good things with his teacher [contributing to his support]."

1Cor 9:7-14(AMP) [Consider this:] What soldier at any time serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of the fruit of it? Who tends a flock and does not partake of the milk of the flock? Do I say this only on human authority and as a man reasons? Does not the Law endorse the same principle? For in the Law of Moses it is written, You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the corn. Is it [only] for oxen that God cares? [Deuteronomy 25:4] Or does He speak certainly and entirely for our sakes? [Assuredly] it is written for our sakes, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher ought to thresh in expectation of partaking of the harvest. If we have sown [the seed of] spiritual good among you, [is it too] much if we reap from your material benefits? If others share in this rightful claim upon you, do not we [have a still better and greater claim]? However, we have never exercised this right, but we endure everything rather than put a hindrance in the way [of the spread] of the good news (the Gospel) of Christ. Do you not know that those men who are employed in the services of the temple get their food from the temple? And that those who tend the altar share with the altar [in the offerings brought][Deuteronomy 18:1] [On the same principle] the Lord directed that those who publish the good news (the Gospel) should live (get their maintenance) by the Gospel.

**Note:** Paul here is actually referring to the Old Testament Levitical Law as an “example” in taking care of Gods Ministers. [Remember the Tithe and Offerings were to go to the support of the Levi Priest (the Ministers), Gods chosen to support because of their work in the temple. The Tithe is 10% of all your increase and needs to go to the church you attend or being fed from and offerings should go to other outreach ministries or the local church you attend as you purpose in your heart.

Paul addresses in the book of Galatians chapter three that we are sons of Abraham and the Abrahamic Covenant was not annulled by the Law. He also tells for what purpose the Law was intended and why it was instituted and how it would be fulfilled and changed to the New Covenant.

Galatians 3:6-29(ASV) “Even as Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness. Know therefore that they that are of faith, the same are sons of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, *preached the gospel beforehand unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all the nations be blessed.* So then they that are of faith are blessed with the faithful Abraham. For as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one who continueth not in all things that are written in the book of the law, to do them. Now that no man is justified by the law before God, is evident: for, The righteous shall live by faith; and the law is not of faith; but, He that doeth them shall live in them. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: *that upon the Gentiles might come the blessing of Abraham in Christ Jesus;* that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Brethren, I speak after the manner of men: *Though it be but a man's covenant, yet when it hath been confirmed, no one maketh it void, or addeth thereto. Now to Abraham were the promises spoken, and to his seed.* He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. Now this I say: **A covenant confirmed beforehand by God,** the Law which came four hundred and thirty years after, *doth not disannul, so as to make the promise of none effect.* For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no more of promise: **but God hath granted it to Abraham by promise.** What then is the law? It was added because of

transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise hath been made; *and it was* ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator. Now a mediator is not *a mediator* of one; but God is one. Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could make alive, verily righteousness would have been of the law. But the scriptures shut up all things under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept in ward under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. **So that the law is become our tutor to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith is come, we are no longer under a tutor.** For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ. There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female; for ye all are one *man* in Christ Jesus. **And if ye are Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.**

So we see several things pertaining to the Abrahamic Covenant(Grace & Promise) & the Law

- 1.) A Covenant cannot be voided or added too.
- 2.) The Law did not disannul the Abrahamic Covenant of Promise
- 3.) The Law was instituted because of transgression and until Christ was revealed.
- 4.) Because Christ Fulfilled the Law we are now back under the Abrahamic Covenant.
- 5.) And Tithing & Offerings were under the Abrahamic Covenant
- 6.) Tithing/Offerings is a Covenant issue not a Law issue.

**I.) So if I Tithe & give Offerings what are The Blessings or Benefits of doing Both:**

- 1.) There will be blessings for obedience to the Abrahamic Covenant.
- 2.) Gods Church will have its needs met.
- 3.) Gods Gospel will be preached to the nations.
- 4.) Gods Ministers will have their needs met.
- 5.) God will rebuke the devourer, open the windows of heaven and provide meat for your house and everyone will call you blessed and your needs will be met.

Conclusion:

We can see that Money is a theme that runs from the Old Testament into the New Testament it is a matter of the heart and a matter of honor, not one just of Law but based on Covenant, and those that chose to Tithe and Give Offerings do it because they Love God and want His Gospel to go forth into the world and desire to keep Covenant with God. Those who do not Tithe and Give Offerings lose out on it's benefits and break Gods Covenant. It is a condition of ones heart for the things of God. Jesus said in Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." For me and my family, tithing has always worked, through the times we did not have much and in the times we have had much. Never, Never, Never has God ever let us down and we have never suffered lack in anything. I believe because we tithe and give offerings, God has

preserved us from the destroyer and we reach the world with the Gospel – Millions Saved – The Gospel is for free, but it takes tithes/offerings to take it to the world.

Note From Rev. Marie...

Deut 6:5 "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy **might**."

Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy **strength**: this [is] the first commandment."

**Might and Strength**, in this verse translates: FINANCIAL POWER! He is the same today as yesterday with this first and most important commandment in the Old & New Testaments!

We have been redeemed from the curse of the law, not the fall, tithing, offerings, alms for the poor were instituted from the beginning of creation to allow them to sow, so they could reap and be redeemed from the curse of the fall, that the devourer can be rebuked in their lives. We still enjoy the blessings of Abraham which include the tithe and we still enjoy the dominion Adam had over the earth that Jesus bought back for us. God wants us to do everything out of our love for Him, not because we feel forced! No one especially God would enjoy that kind of relationship, and He is a God of the Heart, a God of relationship. Money is a matter of Love and Honor and of the Heart that we show to Him for all He has done for us. Let's give God as much as we can, not as little as we can get away with.

Acts 4:34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, .35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

1Cor 7:23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

But because of selfishness this heart and action does not exist in churches today and "offerings" consist of \$5, maybe \$20, or the occasional larger gift to Missions/Building fund, ect. by wealthy patrons. This limits the church from reaching the world, while Christians are fighting over the fact whether or not tithing is for today or not. The Muslims are pouring millions into their false religion and it has become the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest religion in the world. If we even had the right heart concerning offerings we would do at least as much if not more as the Magi who came to Worship the King, their "offering" was worth more than 2 million dollars in today's \$.

What kind of offering is worthy of the King!? What should we bring to his house as the privileged guests of honor we are each week!?

For the love of God let this be our motivation! God speed!

Blessings Dr. Jack & Rev. Marie Myers