

WHY I PAY TITHES

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Tithing and the subject of money is a touchy subject for many in the church today, but the Word of God has a lot to say about it, in fact, Jesus talked more about money than He did about Heaven and Hell. It must be important.

I pay my tithe for a lot of different reasons.

One, to be obedient to the Word of God. Mal 3:8-10 "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."

Do you think a person who robs God is pleasing to God? I don't. In fact, the Bible lets us know how God feels about people who don't pay their tithe and rob Him. He says that they will be cursed! Do you want to be cursed by God? I don't think so. So it is wise to be obedient to Him and the things that He tells us to do in His word.

Lev 27:30 tells us that the tithe is the Lord's. It's not ours, it belongs to Him. Ten percent of everything I make belongs to Him. The first 10 percent. Not if I have any left over. Tithing is the first fruits.

I tithe to show thanksgiving and appreciation for the things God has blessed me with. The Bible tells us that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. Everything belongs to Him, yet He entrusts us with the blessings that He has given us. I tithe to acknowledge that I understand this and honor Him in my giving.

I tithe to keep from being selfish. We come into the world thinking the world revolves around us. Children grasp their toys and cry, "Mine". Some people have the attitude, "What's mine is mine and I'm going to keep it." Others have the attitude, "What's your is mine and I'm going to get it." The Good Samaritan had the attitude, "What's mine is yours and I'm going to share it."

I tithe to obey the words of Jesus. Some people think that tithing was just under the law and that it doesn't apply today. Jesus said we should tithe. Matt 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." Jesus did not criticize them for paying tithe, He commended them and said that it was something that they should have done.

I don't have space here to share everything that the Bible says about tithing, but I've shared enough for you to know that it is something that God expects us to do. I will be teaching on this important subject next month.