

## Tithing

### Background of Malachi

Exile was about 585 BC

THIS is about 100 years after the return

Priests - blemished. Not leading. Poor instruction. Misleading people.

People - offerings rejected. Divorce. Intermarriage. Cheap tithe.

Crops are bad

Returning from exile waiting for blessing

About the heart in a weak harvest

Seeing the arrogant do well and go unpunished.

Last word spoken until Elijah. John the Baptist.

Return to me and I will return to you.

This is a heart problem and not a tithing problem

**DRAW NEAR IN JUDGMENT! Malachi 3:5**

“Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full TITHE into the storehouse, that there may be food in my HOUSE. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.” Malachi 3:8-10

Book of life

Judgment

The Day of The Lord

Curse. Separation that comes from unbelief.

3 tithes (after each harvest) and 5 offerings (year round)

Voluntary    Mandatory

Burnt         Sin

Grain         Guilt

Peace

Numbers 18:26

Levites (priests)

“Moreover, you shall speak and say to the Levites, ‘When you take from the people of Israel the

tithe that I have given you from them for your inheritance, then you shall present a contribution from it to the Lord, a tithe of the tithe.”

Deuteronomy 14:22-27

Feasts (food, not money. Landowners only. Only \$ if you can't carry your haul!)

22 “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. 23 And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. 24 And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, 25 then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses 26 and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. 27 And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your TOWNS, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.”

Deuteronomy 14:28-29

Poor

28 “At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up (stored) within your towns. 29 And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.”

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Works versus faith

The righteous shall live by faith. Habakkuk 2:2; Romans 1:17

Because they (Israel) did not pursue it (righteousness) by faith, but as if it were based on works. Romans 9:31-32

For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own (self righteousness), they did not submit to God's righteousness (by faith). For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Romans 10:3-4

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us— HE BECAME OUR SEPARATION!

Galatians 3:13

1 Corinthians 15:56: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that IN HIM we might (if we believe) become the righteousness of God.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

Imputed righteousness (justification)

Imparted righteousness (sanctification)

Imputed - done

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption

1 Corinthians 1:30

Imparted - shared between 2

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Psalm 23:3

So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

2 Timothy 2:22

SAVED, BEING SAVED, WILL BE SAVED

JUSTIFICATION

SANCTIFICATION

GLORIFICATION

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If we want to follow the law, then 23.3% is the floor, not 10%.

NT believers who hear and give from THE SPIRIT as opposed to a mandated set %. In fact, there is ZERO NEW TESTAMENT command of 10% giving. This comes from flat rent in the Middle Ages.

- Yes, God loves a cheerful giver.
- Yes, God blesses those who bless.
- Yes, God has hard wired us as natural givers.
- Yes, God will amaze you with His goodness.
- Yes, God multiplies the fruit of the ministries we support, and Paul says that this increased growth is to our credit. Phil 4:17

The offering plate isn't your RIGHT standing .... the offering upon the tree is!

Giving to get, is works.

Giving because you love, is sonship.

Romans 7:1-4. The NT tithe is 100%. It's everything. It's all of you AND your wallet.

We don't give until it hurts, it simply hurts not to give.

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What does new covenant giving look like:

Acts 2:44-47

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 4:34-35

There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

1 Corinthians 16:1-3

The Collection for the Saints

Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. 3 And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem.

Romans 12:1

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. **YOU ARE THE OFFERING.** Both mandated and voluntary.

To be set free from the burden of the law, but to be bound in our heart felt, spirit led giving ... is still bondage. You are, well ... mostly free at best.

God didn't set us free from the curse of the law by His Spirit, to then legislate our financial giving. If you aren't free **TO** give, you aren't really free at all!

Yes. 2% bound, is still fully bound.

For **FREEDOM** you have been **SET** 100% free! Gal 5:1

WHOEVER CONTROLS THE MONEY CONTROLS THE MESSAGE.

Hebrews 6:1-2

Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

Hebrews 7

Ancient Tithing

Babylonians  
Persians  
Egyptians  
Greeks  
Romans  
Phoenicians  
Arabians  
All tithed.

Yep. They all offered 10% to their god of choice.

When God set up the system of the tithe (3 separate tithes) He did so with Israelites who were already familiar with the tithes of Egypt. The premise of honoring God with a portion of their crops, already made sense to them!

But. Tithing PRE law, was literally a pagan act of obedience IN fear to a dead, fake god!

Yet. THIS is precisely why in Hebrews Chapter 7 the author clearly describes Father Abraham's 10% tithe to the priest Melchizedek as giving unto Jesus. Remember. Hebrews is a persuasive essay where the author is pleading the case for Jesus as Messiah with these semi believing Jews who are running away from the faith and back to the temple system of law, animal sacrifice, and tithing.

The author is making a historical case for FAITH pointing to Jesus, and not a command of our 10% giving. He is telling these Jewish people that Abraham SAW this day, and it's here!

Abraham didn't just give Melchizedek 10%, he gave this priest/king forerunner of Jesus .... 100%! Yes. Abraham gave the customary 10% from the spoils of war, PLUS he gave the remaining 90% of the haul so God would get the glory for Abraham's wealth.

And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is

yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share."

Genesis 14:21-24