

Giving and the Tithing

Philippians 4:17 Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account.

Giving is an issue of the _____.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. NIV

What was _____ was in the _____?

Tithe = one tenth (Leviticus 18:32, Numbers 18:21,26, Deuteronomy 26:12, Nehemiah 10:38)

Leviticus 27:30 “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.” (NIV)

Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; ¹⁰then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. (NIV)

Numbers 18:21-26 “I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance in return for the work they do while serving at the Tent of Meeting. . . ²⁴Instead, I give to the Levites as their inheritance the tithes that the Israelites present as an offering to the LORD. That is why I said concerning them: ‘They will have no inheritance among the Israelites.’” ²⁵The LORD said to Moses, ²⁶“Speak to the Levites and say to them: ‘When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the LORD’s offering.’” (NIV)

Malachi 3:7-12 “Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty. “But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’” ⁸“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ “In tithes and offerings. ⁹You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. ¹¹I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit,” says the LORD Almighty. ¹²“Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the LORD Almighty. (NIV)

Other types of giving were encouraged and at times expected

- Deuteronomy 12:6 Sacrifices, tithes, special gifts, and freewill offerings
- Deuteronomy 15:10-11 Openhanded toward poor of the land
- 1 Samuel 17:25 Paying taxes in the time of Saul
- 1 Chronicles 29:1-14 Giving for building the temple
- 2 Chronicles 24:9 Josiah’s restoration of the temple

There are examples of tithe-type giving from before the Law.

- Genesis 14:18-23 Abram to Melchizedek (Also: Hebrews 7:1-10)
- Genesis 28:20 Jacob’s promise of a tenth

What does the NT say about tithing and giving?

Luke 11:42 “Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.” (NIV)

1 Corinthians 9:13-14 Don't you know that those who work in the temple get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? ¹⁴In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. (NIV)

- God's provision for ministers in the NT is the same as that of the OT.
- Luke 10:5-7 Worker deserves his wages
- Galatians 6:6 Share with instructor
- 1 Timothy 5:17-18 Elders of church worthy of double honor

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. ⁵And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.

1 Corinthians 16:2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. (NIV)

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- This is perhaps the most quotable verse on New Testament giving, but it does not necessarily reflect the emphasis on NT giving.

Acts 11:29-30 The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. ³⁰This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul. (NIV)

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." (NIV)

- Blessing sounds similar to Malachi 3:10's “so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”
- Like in the Old Testament, giving brings blessing.
 - Matthew 6:1-4 Give in secret and you will be rewarded
 - Matthew 6:19-21 Don't store up for yourselves treasures here but in heaven
 - Matthew 10:42 Cup of water will be rewarded
 - Matthew 19:21 Give to the poor and get treasures in heaven
 - Luke 12:33 Provide purses for yourselves in heaven
 - Luke 14:33 Give everything you have to be a disciple
 - Luke 16:9 Use wealth to gain friends
 - Luke 16:10-12 Trustworthy with little, trusted with more
 - Acts 20:35 Better to give than receive
 - 1 Timothy 6:17-19 Generosity commanded / Lay up treasures
*Note similarity to Jesus' teachings

Ephesians 4:28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. (NIV)

Reasons I think tithing is a good practice:

The example of the _____ was one of extreme _____.

- Acts 2:44-45 All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. NIV
- Acts 4:32-37 All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. ³⁴There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.
³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. NIV
- Acts 9:36 Tabitha helping the poor
- Acts 10:1-4 Cornelius a generous giver
- Acts 24:17 Luke's gifts and offerings to the poor

We are _____ to be generous.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. (NIV)

Average household income in the world is _____ per year.
_____ household income is in the top 1%.

_____ taught a lot about generous giving.

Luke 12:15-21 Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. ¹⁷He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

¹⁸"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

²¹"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God." (NIV)

It gives me _____.

It _____ giving.

It _____ the _____ of God.

Those I _____ practice _____.

It releases money's _____ on my _____.

I've seen the _____ of it.