

# WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT THE TITHE

By Rejoice Ministries, Inc. and  
“And He Healed Them All” (Luke 6:19) Healing School

For “doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16)

## Genesis 14 And 1—The Origin of the Tithe

The power lying within the tithe (or in the act of tithing) is the promise to both the Old and New Testament family of God that, if given correctly, it would profit us greatly. In the “sowing and reaping” system, such as taught in the Bible, tithing is the number one way to keep the blessings flowing to a Christian.

A tithe, by definition, is “dedicated and in a fixed position toward an appointed end, or the first tenth part of a whole.” The tithe is a holy portion of ten percent of all increase, dedicated to a specific purpose by the Lord God. The tithe is not like a free will offering, in that the offering is given by personal inspiration or desire but is to be brought to the Lord. If the tithe is instead used for food, personal comfort or even withheld, the tither is really robbing God, while hurting themselves.

*“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” (Malachi 3:8-9).*

Through his giving, Abraham received the revelation that God was the possessor of heaven and earth (v19) as he “gave” (v20) his tithe. Then the Lord spoke the reward of his tithing. “I am your shield and exceedingly great reward [treasury]” (Genesis 15:1). Abraham had the revelation that God, the Most High, was the total source of all his needs and supply! It pays to tithe when we receive benefits like this!

## Tithing In the New Testament

God recognizes tithing in the New Testament for the body of Christ also brings benefits and sets us apart. Believers are to tithe to “sanctify” the rest of our substance used on other things and needs.

*“And without all contradiction the lesser 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” (Hebrews 7:7-8).*

“The lesser is blessed by the better” is like Genesis 15:1. “By whom it witnessed that he liveth” refers to Jesus after His resurrection. “Receiveth” is in the present tense and refers to Jesus in His office as High Priest. While men on earth receive the tithes, it is also Jesus receiving them from Heaven.

## The Tithe Is Directed Towards a Fixed Person

*“And the Lord spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel. 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. But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. 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 (Numbers 18: 20, 21, 23, 24).*

*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. And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the fulness of the winepress (v26-27).*

*Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of the Lord, of all the best thereof. . . Then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshingfloor, and as the increase of the winepress (v29-30).*

*And ye shall eat it in every place, ye and your households: for it is your reward for your service in the tabernacle of the congregation. And ye shall bear no sin by reason of it, when ye have heaved from it the best of it" (v31-32).*

When God said the tithe was holy, dedicated to a specific purpose, He meant just that. The High Priests were the sons of Aaron, but the Levites were the pastors (the shepherd, the leader) of the local congregation. All tithes went to them and none to Aaron or the sons of Aaron. Then when the Levites gave their tenth part, or the tithe of the tithe, the remaining tithe was to be looked upon as if they worked for it and received it in the secular arena.

The tithe did not belong to the people in the congregation, the local building or for the expenses of the building, but to the Levite for his service unto the congregation. Once the first tenth of the tithe was given, the remainder was freely used for other necessary things desired of the Levite. The remaining portion of the tithe would only be considered polluted if the first tenth were not first freely given as the tithe. This is true for the New Testament church as well.

### **A Local Congregation Is the Tabernacle of Testimony**

*"But thou shalt appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of testimony, and over all the vessels thereof, and over all things that belong to it: they shall bear the tabernacle, and all the vessels thereof; and they shall minister unto it, and shall encamp round about the tabernacle. And when the tabernacle setteth forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death . . . and the Levites shall keep the charge of the tabernacle of testimony" (Numbers 1:50, 51, 53).*

The offering that belonged to Aaron serving as the High Priest was known as the sacrificial offering, or the sin offering, on behalf of the people. This offering represented the future offering now received by Jesus as our forever High Priest when He became the forever Sacrifice.

Today there are no longer any burnt or sacrificial offerings because those offerings were exclusively related to the law, and when the law was fulfilled at the cross, they were fulfilled. Aaron, as High Priest, received the "meat" from the sacrifices, the tithe of the tithes, because the Levite (the local pastor) was required to give a tithe of the tithes to the High Priest. (See previous scriptures and explanation.)

The Levite's ministry was to do the service of the congregation, be an instructor of the law and minister to the Lord. They could not live wherever they wanted to like the other servants of God could.

*"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation" (Numbers 3:5-7).*

### **A Pastor of a Local Church Belongs To Jesus, the Now High Priest**

*"And thou shalt give the Levites unto Aaron and to his sons: they are wholly given unto him out of the children of Israel. And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office.*

*And I, behold, I have taken the Levites from . . . among the children of Israel: therefore the Levites shall be mine” (Number 3:9, 10, 12).*

### **An Ordination Service**

*“And thou shalt bring the Levites before the tabernacle of the congregation . . . and thou shalt bring the Levites before the Lord: and the children of Israel shall put their hands upon the Levites: And Aaron shall offer the Levites before the Lord . . . that they may execute the service of the Lord. Thus shalt thou separate the Levites from among the children of Israel: and the Levites shall be mine. And after that shall the Levites go in to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation . . . , and I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and to his sons . . . to do the service . . . in the tabernacle of the congregation” (Numbers 8:9-15, 19).*

*“And I, behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel: to you they are given as a gift for the Lord, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. . . . I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift” (Number 18:6-7).*

When the Lord was raised from the dead, He gave gifts unto men (Ephesians 4:11). The apostle, prophet and evangelist replaced the Old Testament traveling prophet because of the need now to bring eternal life and redemptive truths to people. The pastor-teacher replaced the Levite, being the one responsible to bring the truth, or the law, to the people and local church activities in the altar (the pulpits of today's churches).

### **The Book of Nehemiah Corrects Tithing Errors**

In Chapters 10 through 13 in the Book of Nehemiah we learn of the story and explanation of how the Levites were forced to go into secular work because the then “appointed elders of the money” were not giving them their rightly due tithes. They “*reigned over the gifts of men that God had given them*” (Nehemiah 12:42). These so-called appointed elders were never God's plan, nor are such appointed elders over the pastors today the plan of God in the New Testament church.

As now, it was also in the time of Nehemiah, that the tithes were brought in were put into a general treasury. The other needs of the sanctuary (the churches today) were met through pledges of the people. “*We made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves [to make a pledge] yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God*” (Numbers 10:32).

Nehemiah corrected this error and gave direction that the Levites should have charge over their own income due them and not someone else. The Bible said it took three months to get this error corrected, but when it did, there was great rejoicing from all.

### **Changing the Manner, We Tithe Will Come Only Through This Revelation**

With regards to the tithe, every man cannot do according to what his own heart dedicates. It has to be God's way. The scriptures highlighted here should reveal to the New Testament believe that most have not been bringing their tithes correctly into the storehouse. We have primarily been using them for our own comforts and needs through building programs or expenses. God knew that the Church would not be tithing correctly, so He instituted a plan long ago.

### The Church Is Moving Into a Prophetic Promise

*“Behold, I will send my messenger [John the Baptist], and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the **Lord of hosts**” (Malachi 3:1).*

*“And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against . . . those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the **Lord of hosts**” (v5).*

It was not in Malachi’s time that we were first introduced to the **Lord of Hosts** of the Old Testament, but it was one place that the **Lord of Hosts** did confirm His last day’s purposes in tithing, wealth and prosperity for His family.

*“Lift up your heads . . . and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. The **Lord of Hosts**, he is the King of glory” (Psalms 24:7, 8, 10).*

The **Lord of Hosts** is the Lord of angelic armies, the One Who is battling. This Jehovah Name known as **Jehovah Tsaba** is a redemptive name of God, now revealed to and for the Church for these last days, which involve money and economics, and lots of it.

*“They shall be mine, says the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels” (Malachi. 3:17).*

“*Make up my jewels*” means that God will “*appoint the distribution of my wealth.*” God has made a set time when He will distribute and bestow and make an “appointment” for the distribution of His wealth. It is now!

The power of this event comes with the same anointing that provoked the Egyptians to give up their jewels and apparel to the Israelites in Exodus 11:2, 12:35-36 and 3:22). The body of Christ will not merely get blessed in this Day of the **Lord of Hosts**, but we are experiencing a planned event of God (Isaiah 2:12; James 5:1-7)! We are heading towards a “*great substance*” (Genesis 15:14), never seen before since the creation of man (Deut. 4:32-34)!

### Jehovah Tsaba is on the Move!

While hireling pastors may have emerged in these last days, the full blessing of the tithe correctly given will be reinstated and restored to the Church by the power of the **Lord of Hosts** through a fresh revelation. As the Levites of the Old Testament became some of the richest of all the early Jews with their descendants still wealthy, God has set up a reward for those who tithe after His instructions and patterns in the Word of God, the wealth and riches are being returned and restored to the Church, for which they belong!

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For more instruction on this Bible truth, please refer to other articles from this Ministry on the topics of faith and healing or *The Day of Jehovah Tsaba* (Isaiah 2:12).

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