

## Beautiful Feet by Obedience – September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Robbing God through withholding tithes and offerings together with the beauty of Christians feet who preach the gospel was at the centre of our prayers at church. The Holy Spirit revealed wonderful truths about this topic that is so sensitive to Christians.

**Malachi 3:8-12** was one the verses that the Lord was speaking to His church about this Sunday, it says; *“8 “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. 11 “And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” Says the Lord of hosts; 12 “And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land,” Says the Lord of hosts.”*

**Isaiah 52:7** was the other one and it says; *“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”*

The Apostle Paul also references it in **Romans 10:14-15** where it says; *“14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who [b]preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”*

The church cannot effectively do the work of the ministry without the tithes and offerings of Christians. In an article by Christian Post, a study from October 2021 states that only 13% of evangelicals in the USA tithe and half give away less than 1% of income annually! That is shocking, yet the majority of them say that tithing 10% of their income is a biblical commandment. That is a huge disconnect. One can't help but wonder why there's such a great falling away from the faith when 'Christians' can't obey one of the simplest commandments to tithe. It's called the love of money and Jesus rebuked especially the Pharisees for it, Luke 16:14. We know there is controversy over tithing with varied opinions, but we always need to see what the Bible has to say about it. We must remember that when Abraham tithed to King Melchizedek, it was 400 years before the Law was written by Moses, hence, making it a practice before the Law of Moses to the Israelite's. One must remember too that everything belongs to God and as Christians, is it below us to not at least give Him 10% of our increase and watch Him bless the rest? The promises and blessings that come from tithing are clearly seen in the scripture we just read in Malachi 3:8-12

In light of that, we prayed for ministers that are preaching the gospel that need the Lord's provision, that need His blessing, that need to pay their bills, that need to pay for all their debts, that need to pay for their church buildings, that have need of cars, have needs of plane tickets, bus tickets and tokens to travel to preach the gospel. We prayed for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on their congregations to draw them to repent for not having done right by the tithes and offerings. We prayed that they might prosper to be able to preach the gospel, free from the concerns of the world, free from debt, free to not work with their own hands and to be able to focus on the preaching of the gospel. We prayed that they would see how beautiful their feet are by the preaching of the gospel and the authority they're walking

in and the lives they're changing that it means more than anything else, that their feet would be protected having shod them by the preparation of the gospel of peace and with the full armour of God.

We're peacemakers, full of the Holy Ghost and power. We took authority of the devil who has been causing Christians to withhold from giving tithes and offerings to churches. We prayed that tithes would be back-tithed if they had been withheld, similar to how Zacchaeus said he would repay four-fold of what he had stolen.

We continued to pray for the backslidden Christians who not only are not tithing any longer, but are not even in church, we prayed for Holy Spirit conviction on them for being lackadaisical and lazy. We prayed for conviction on those who are worshipping money more than the love and worship of God, that they would see how out of order their priorities are.

Here are some scriptures that we prayed over the churches, the body of Christ.

**Matthew 18:18;** *"Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*

**Ephesians 6:13-18;** *"13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints."*

**Luke 10:19;** *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."*

**1 Timothy 6:10;** *"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."*

**Hebrews 7:1-28;** *"...4 Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the [a]spoils. 5 And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham; 6 but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. 7 Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better. 8 Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives."*

**Luke 6:38;** *"38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."*

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