

What is a tithe?

A tithe is defined as a "tenth part". The tithe is "first fruit" of your increase. The principle behind your tithe being your first fruit is you are recognizing God as your source of supply; He is the cause of your prosperity. Therefore, the tithe is not any tenth of one's income; it is the first tenth of one's income. Leviticus 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest:

What is an offering?

An offering is a financial gift of any amount as God has prospered you over and above your tithe, *2 Corinthians 9:7* So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Why should I tithe?

- It is a spiritual command from God
- To walk in obedience to God's Word
- To support the work and vision of my church
- To cause the windows of blessings to open for me because of my alignment with the Word of God.
- It is God's way of ensuring I have a blessed life by including Him in my finances

What is the purpose of my tithes and offerings?

The purpose of tithes and offerings is to support the ministry and the ongoing work of your church. Just as it takes money to manage your own home, it takes funds to properly execute the vision and mission of God's House and while each church budget's may vary the fundamental framework is the same.

Malachi 3:10 (**INCOME**) "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food (provision) 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.

- **Church Income Sources:** *Tithes, Offerings, Pledges, Special Offerings, Donations, Church Business Income, Fundraising, Life Insurance*

1 Timothy 5:18 (**EXPENSES**) "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages."

- **Pastoral Expenditures:** Salary, Housing Allowance, Educational Allowance, Pension Contributions
- **Church Administration:** Staff Salaries/Retirement Payments, Church Debt, Supplies, Property Maintenance, Utilities, Insurance, Advertising, Special Programs, Future Building Funds/Projects, Church Upward Tithe
- **Benevolences:** Local, National, Foreign

How much should I tithe?

A biblical tithe is 10% (for example: \$1250 x .10 = \$125 tithe) of your pre-tax income (gross income) and could be as much as God leads you to tithe above 10%. The 10% tithe is a starting point.

Do I Tithe Only On Income From My Employment?

No. You are to tithe on all income that comes to you, Proverbs 3:9 (KJV) "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase:..."

Where should I tithe?

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse (**LOCAL CHURCH**), 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. Deuteronomy 12:11 Then there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD:

What happens if I don't tithe?

God calls you a robber and your disobedience causes you to live under a curse. Malachi 3:8-9 'Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. When Christians don't tithe they "rob" God of the opportunity to bless their lives. When Christians don't tithe they limit what God can do in their lives and limit the impact the local church will have in a community.

Is tithing all that's required?

God's Word commands tithes and offerings, see Malachi 3:8-15.

What are the benefits of tithing?

- Provision for the house of God; no lack of means or money to carry out God's work.
- Opening the windows of heaven to pour out a blessing so great that there will not be room enough to receive it
- God will rebuke the devourer (Satan) so that he will not destroy your harvest
- You will be recognized as blessed by men
- You will enjoy God's favor on your life. 2 Corinthians 9:8 (KJV) "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:..."

Isn't tithing an Old Testament law?

No, tithing was introduced in the Old Testament, but still was observed and practiced in the New Testament. For more study read Matthew 23:23, Romans 2:22, 2 Corinthians 9:7-14, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Galatians 6:6, and Hebrews 7:1-10

What should my attitude toward tithing be?

I should have an attitude of joy and willingness that God has blessed me to send back into the ministry. 2 Corinthians 9:7 every man according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loved a cheerful giver. When money comes into your hands your first thought is not, "Look at the money I have", but instead, "Look how much money I have to tithe with!"

What is the spiritual impact of tithing?

Worship; giving is an act of worship, Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. When we tithe we are saying God is first in my life. What you will notice is that your mental state changes, attitudes of self-righteousness, selfishness, disappear; you create a flow of blessing in your life

When should I start tithing?

Start Now! The moment you come into the knowledge of the truth make the necessary changes to obey the Word of God. Start now where you are even if it's not 10% (i.e. it may be 3%, 5% now), but you will grow in your obedience to God and personal discipline. This change will require repentance to God for your disobedience, but one definition of repentance is to "think again" or to have a radical change of mind. The product of repentance is God's forgiveness and blessing!