

TITHING

Tithing is not legalistic, as many people want to think. In fact, it came before the law. In Genesis, Abram met Melchizedek and gave him a tenth of all the plunder.

Genesis 14:19-20

“And he blessed him and said, ‘Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

And blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.’ And he gave him a tenth of all.”

God specifically designated the tithe as a proper sacrifice to be given to Him, as well as offerings above and beyond the tithe.

Malachi 3:8-10

“Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed Thee?’ In tithes and offerings.

You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation {of you}

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test 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 a blessing until it overflows.”

With the tithe, we acknowledge the Lord as our provider and give Him the honor due Him.

Proverbs 3:9-10

“Honor the LORD from your wealth, and from the first of all your produce; So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.”

Some feel that tithing, as well as other Old Testament principles, is outmoded and no longer applicable since there is little emphasis on it in the New Testament. However, once God establishes something, it is only undone or changed when God does it. Just like praise and worship, tithing is still a requirement, though hardly referenced.

Matthew 23:23

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.”

Hebrews 7:4-5

“And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham.”