



## Scriptures and Doctrine :: Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law?

### Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law? - posted by Etuna, on: 2012/11/4 19:27

Hi,

Great to be back on here... It's been a while.

A video series of The Blessed Life sparked a debate of sorts in my house since about two weeks ago and it seems to be never ending, but today really got me wondering and so i thought i could ask you guys.

I've always believed in tithing through faith as taught in Malachi 3, Genesis 28 and Mathew 23:23. And also because that what has been preached to me for the longest time.

My cousin strongly despises any preachings calling non-tithers sinners however, because he believes it is the law and it s a false teaching to keep people under bondage, and below are his convictions.

- 1) Malachi is an old testament prophet,
- 2) Abraham (in Genesis 28) tithed once off, and he did so off his own free will
- 3) Mathew 23:23, Jesus was talking to the Pharisees and not to the gentiles, and that at the time, they still had to practice the law because they were not yet redeemed by Jesus's death on the cross.

For the first time ever, i thought today that he may be right.

I believe that my local church is doing a great job at reaching the lost and spreading the gospel to the community so if anything, i've just been encouraged to give more than 10% so that more people can be reached.

But does this than mean that the Malachi 3 type of tithing is bondage?

Should we call it offerings rather and no longer preach that people tithe?

Please share your thoughts?

Links to similar discussions from the previous posts are also welcome. I'd just like to read comments really, not engage in further debate.

Thank you much:-)

Tina

### Re: Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law?, on: 2012/11/4 20:51

Tina read and pray through 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. I think a lot of your questions will be answered in those two chapters . I will not give you my opinion on the tithe. But would rather have the Spirit give you his opinion out of those chapters. After you read them you still want to dialogue, fine. But feel this is a truth God would rather speak into your heart.

Dear sister will pray God give you his revelation.

Bearnaster.

**Re: Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law? - posted by Questor, on: 2012/11/4 20:55**

Tithing is a much misunderstood concept.

Under the 'Torah', the teachings, it is a necessity as it was in support of a Temple based rescue system for the poor and the aged, as well as a livelihood for the Levite Priests that were not given a land inheritance in Israel.

Under those conditions, it was a great idea, and if it was used properly, and given as sharing with those who tilled the Word, rather than tilling fields, it was a wise distribution to the family of Israel, and one I hope to see in the Kingdom under Yeshua as King of Kings.

The distaste that many of us feel for the assemblies asking for support for a building, and a ministry that we may not agree with is about being guilted into giving.

The fact remains, however, that one is rarely blessed financially by YHVH without being of a giving nature. In this, 'the children of disobedience' are wiser than the Children of God, for many faiths that we are wary of mandate charitable acts, and giving, and do receive blessings for simply giving as a practical matter.

'Being blessed financially', however is not wealth scattered by YHVH to those who give simply because they wished to be blessed, although the Universe does seem to be designed to benefit those sharing the overage above their own needs. One finds many people who do not have Yeshua in their lives that tithe as a social custom doing quite well financially, because they also follow other Biblically mandated advice on how to live well. Those that are walking the walk without any idea of obedience, are blessed and honored by YHVH in this life because of what they do in this life.

Without Yeshua, this still means they have only this life, but it may indeed be a lush life.

Tithing, however, as being exemplified by Abraham, was to give one tenth of the overage above one's increase to a suitable purpose, or to bless those that were blessings in other ways, because it was a blessing to give to them, a thing that gratified both the giver and the recipient.

In Abraham's case he was giving a tithe to Melchizedek presumably because he thought it would be pleasing to YHVH. Abraham was not under the Laws of Moses that we, as Messianic Gentiles, are not to follow lest we be condemned by not following all 613 of the Torah's commandments.

As Yeshua was Jewish, I am positive that He kept that law, since He kept them all perfectly. I want to follow in His footsteps, so I do give as I feel led to do by the Ruach haKodesh. I am not an official member of any formal church, so have no one blessing me that I feel I need to support financially so he/they can continue to minister to me. If someone is a good teacher, I buy their books and tapes, and know that they benefit thereby, and very wisely as well.

Yet I give here, there and everywhere, only to try and act as I think Yeshua would like me to act.

This 'tithing' I do is an attempt to be obedient to the heart of the Torah, the full teachings culminating in Yeshua's perfect life.

Bondage under the law is keeping man's traditions carried over into the Gentile Church because they believed it was customary, and necessary. Yet Shaul, Kephas, John, and the other apostles no doubt followed what Yeshua had ordered, to take no scrip, or begging bowl as was customary for traveling teachers. The apostles were told to live on the bounty of those that were willing, in that hospitable age, to house and feed them. They were not paid salaries, and worked with their own hands as they had need.

Yet they all received gifts for their sustenance, and were blessed by YHVH through many people. However, there seems to be no basis in the New Covenant for Gentiles to Tithe.

I give when I have more than my needs require, and sometimes even when I have less than I need, and share what I have with others merely in the hope pleasing YHVH, and hence, building up treasure in heaven.

Oddly, though, I do not always give where I am asked, nor to anyone I know, unless there is sudden need. I give that people I do not know will be sent to Jews and to Gentiles who have not heard the Word of YHVH, that they may believe in Yeshua; to build wells in deserts, that people might have water; and to any other impulse that takes me.

Is this tithing? No. They are free will offerings, and alms, and I am glad to have them be so.

Q

**Re: , on: 2012/11/4 21:43**

Send me an email and I'll hook you up with the most balanced and Biblical teaching on tithing that I've ever heard.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/4 22:01**

hi, Jesus loves a cheerful giver... i have never been able to outgive God for He has always supplied my needs. He has amazed me on many occasions. i would never put anyone in bondage over tithing. in fact, if it came between feeding your family and giving at church, i would always tell you to feed your family. if you do not you are worse than an infidel. but if you have a stingy heart, maybe that is why you have to make that decision? jimp

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2012/11/5 0:15**

Brothers and sisters, the word "tithe" must be eradicated from the New Covenant believers mind and vocabulary. The act of tithing has a tendency to put God in a box. It also limits our thinking to a specific amount and puts scores of believers under bondage that do not have enough to even provide for the basic necessities of life. Let's get out of this mindset so we can become the church "without spot and wrinkle" that Jesus is returning very soon to collect. May God give you eyes to see and ears to hear what the Spirit of the Lord says.

**Re: - posted by Etuna, on: 2012/11/5 1:26**

Thank you for sharing Questor. It's not easy to give that 10% every month and so i'm going to be careful about rejoicing at the discovery of this new freedom, if i may call it that.

I am humbled to trusting God completely to be my provider when i give it and i give it in faith that he is greater than any amount I could ever give for his sake and that has really helped my journey of faith tremendously.

Money is such a bondage in it's self in this world today that i want to avoid thinking everything i have is all 100% mine, as i did the 90%, when in fact i should have a heart that understands that it is 100% God's and with or without it, Jesus alone would be sufficient as my provider.

Being exposed to this perspective is actually beginning to challenge me more as under grace, Jesus calls as to sacrifice even more than was asked of the people under the law. When the law said do not murder, grace says do not even get angry; where it was said to not commit adultery, grace asks that you not even think about it! How much more is asked of us under grace, where the law said give 10% to the spreading of the message of Christ?

Perhaps that to preach about tithing is wrong, but during this one night since posting this thread, i've come to resolve that we are really expected as disciplined followers of Christ, to give more of ourselves and our resources than I thought all this time.

But it still baffles me how i've never heard anyone preach this before, are our churches afraid on relying solely on God for provision? Are the preachers creating a safety net for them to assure they always have a salary? Why can't the message encourage people to give out of love for Christ and not out of the fear of a curse?

Tithing began way before Moses was, so is it still really the law? Who's law? am i wrong to even be asking these questions right now?

May God help.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 3:42**

hi, thank you etuna for such a beautiful post. it is all about love. a preacher once told me he could tell who or what my God was if he could look at my check book. at one time as a christian i was spending more money on golf than God. it is all about love. one of the greatest services i was ever in was when i was in bible col. it was a missions conference and the Holy Spirit fell heavily at the time of the offering which lasted 6 hilarious hours. people gave cars and boats and golf clubs and mink coats and jewelry and even shotguns. there was dancing and a celebration i will never forget. there was no begging ;just giving. in a poor city at a bible col. church. jimp

**Re - posted by Etuna, on: 2012/11/5 4:37**

Thank you jimp... Jesus is King above all and all.

**Re: Re - posted by beekpr, on: 2012/11/5 6:05**

Here is a tale I once heard that portrays the selfishness of the human heart.

Two men were good friends - one a Jew and the other a Christian. One Sabbath, the Christian accompanied his friend to the synagogue. As the Jew placed a huge packet of bills into the offering, his friend commented on his generosity. The Jew replied, "Our religion asks it of us to tithe."

The next day the Jew went along to church with his buddy. He was surprised to see the small offering the Christian gave. Upon being asked, the Christian said, "We are no longer under the law, but under grace - therefore we give from the heart. To that the Jew replied, "Almost thou persuadest me to become a Christian!"

May God have mercy on Christians and give us new hearts!

**Re: , on: 2012/11/5 7:52**

Tina I implore please, please, please read and pray through 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. This is the clearest teaching God gives through the Apostle Paul on New Testament giving. It is called 'the grace of giving'.

Dear sister you are going to get several opinions in this forum. Some will be good. But go to your New Testament. You have his Spirit. Let Jesus instruct you. For his view is much better than what can be offered in this forum.

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 8:17**

by jimp on 2012/11/5 0:42:14

hi, thank you etuna for such a beautiful post. it is all about love. a preacher once told me he could tell who or what my God was if he could look at my check book. at one time as a christian i was spending more money on golf than God. it is all about love. one of the greatest services i was ever in was when i was in bible col. it was a missions conference and the Holy Spirit fell heavily at the time of the offering which lasted 6 hilarious hours. people gave cars and boats and golf clubs and mink coats and jewelry and even shotguns. there was dancing and a celebration i will never forget. there was no begging ;just giving. in a poor city at a bible col. church. jimp

-----

Hi jimp! That sounds exciting! Can you share with us the name of that college??

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 8:29**

hi, i am so old and that was long ago.liberty bible col. pensacola fl.in the 1970s.jimp

**Re: Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law? - posted by ThyKingCome (), on: 2012/11/5 11:35**

Hi dear sister. As brother Blaine has encouraged you to read 2 Corinthians 8 & 9 I would also like to encourage you in that as well. Those two chapters are probably the most candid chapters in the new testament on "giving" and not only provide spirit led instruction and principle but truly open up the heart of God to us in it all: The riches of Jesus Christ.

Hope you are blessed sister by reading through those passages.

Also, there is a bit more on this subject in a prior thread below:

[https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic\\_id=46491&forum=48&11](https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=46491&forum=48&11)

Blessings on you sister for your question and sincerity!

Together in His Name.

**Re: , on: 2012/11/5 12:28**

Indeed brother. Great insight from those passages. Just listened to them this morning. Oh thanks be to God for his indescribable gift. That being Jesus himself. For surely he who did not spare his own beloved Son. How will he not, along with Him give us all things. Actually, graciously give us all things.

For sure the standard of giving is God himself who gives us all things. So let our hearts be as generous as our heavenly Father who is ever so rich to give us all things

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 12:37**

by jimp on 2012/11/5 5:29:58

hi, i am so old and that was long ago.liberty bible col. pensacola fl.in the 1970s.jimp

-----

Easy with that being "old" stuff, jimp.... )) Thanks!

Now, May I suggest that Liberty, being a baptist college is less inclined to move in the "Pentecostal" Spirit of ministry as a Pentecostal college would. I have often said that they left Jerusalem too soon.

Having said that, I invite you to read some of the accounts by those who witnessed the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in lands devoid of missionary influence of any kind until visited by those who were endued with power of the Holy Spirit.

I highly recommend the book "Bruchko", a book written by Bruce Olsen, a non credited Lutheran kid of 19 with a very strong call of God on his life and who, being refused by both the Lutheran and baptist foreign missions council's, set out on his own to find the Montalone Indians in S.A. It is quite a read that will revolutionize your thinking about who can be saved and what the baptism of the Holy Ghost is all about. Google the title to read more.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 13:23**

hi, liberty was not baptist, tho it stemmed from a baptist pastor who was full of the Holy Ghost...ken sumrall. it was indepe  
ndant.jimp

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 13:45**

I know of Ken. Ken was a Bapti-Costal along with Charles Simpson who came quickly to mind in replying to you, but the  
y were then\_\_not now. I might suggest you read C. Simpson's testimony as a good read.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 15:25**

hi, i knew charles as i went into the (cult)discipleship movement under him. i took umbrage against him and a year after i  
left the movement i ran into him in orlando and told him i was still angry with him and he told me that he had repented an  
d asked for my forgiveness. i learned a great lesson about talking badly and holding angry feelings over someone who h  
ad repented over what caused my anger.jimp

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 15:47**

by jimp on 2012/11/5 12:25:04

hi, i knew charles as i went into the . . . . "

-----

Seems like we have a bit in common, eh?

Were you also familiar with Bob Mumford?

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 15:57**

hi, yes and derek prince and many others. my pastor then was roy stockstill(bapticostal)at bethany in baker,la.who had a  
ll these guys come thru and minister.i esteem roy as the greatest of all of them.never a wisk of scandal in 3 generations  
of men. sarterd a church with 5 people and now a mega church that is a lamp on a hill with no memberships.he said whe  
n he was filled with the Holy Ghost he got out of the book of numbers and into the book of acts.jimp

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 16:05**

by jimp on 2012/11/5 12:57:21

hi, yes and derek prince and many others. my pastor then was roy stockstill(bapticostal)at bethany in baker,la.who had  
all these guys come thru and minister.i esteem roy as the greatest of all of them.never a wisk of scandal in 3 generations  
of men. sarterd a church with 5 people and now a mega church that is a lamp on a hill with no memberships.he said  
when he was filled with the Holy Ghost he got out of the book of numbers and into the book of acts.jimp

-----

Yes, we do have much in common. I am happy to know that. Makes communications easier.

I will take a guess and say you are also familiar with Elim fellowship of the sixties?

**Re: , on: 2012/11/5 16:34**

Brothers for the sane of our dear sister from Africa you may want to stick to the question she had posed about tithing. I don't think she would know about the ministries you are referencing. Just s suggestion out of courtesy for Tina who start ed this thread..

Bearmaster.

**Re: - posted by Croref, on: 2012/11/5 16:53**

by bearmaster on 2012/11/5 13:34:59

Brothers for the sane of our dear sister from Africa you may want to stick to the question she had posed about tithing. I don't think she would know about the ministries you are referencing. Just s suggestion out of courtesy for Tina who started this thread..

Bearmaster.

-----  
I heard that Bear however, may it be known to her that those ministries are probably responsible for most of the evangeli sm and church plantings in Africa that perhaps have been influential for her life in CHrist. They go way back with much anointing having been on them.

**Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2012/11/5 16:56**

hi, you are correct...thank you for your correction... give and it shall be given unto you,good messure, pressed down sha ken together and running over shall man give unto you. i have found this to be true and proven in my life as a christian.ji mp

**Re: Is the principle of tithing a bondage under the law?, on: 2012/11/7 20:19**

Hi Sister,

Under the New Covenant we are no longer under law but under grace! We have the Holy Spirit who leads us into all Trut h and so against this "there is no law". What this means is that if we have the Spirit and as we are led by the Spirit we wil l always fulfill the intention of the Law which was to love God and treat others with love.

Those under the Old Covenant did not have the Spirit and so were commanded to obey the letter of the Law. If however you in Christ, saved, born again, then you will have the Holy Spirit and He will lead you into all the Truth that you need to obey as it comes to your finances.

There is no law of tithing/giving for the New Covenant believer. It is simply this, "each one must do just as he has purpos ed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Some are able to give a little and others are able to give much. At various stages of life we may be able to give a lot mor e than at other stages. There should never be any compulsion or guilt about this.

Those who preach adherence to the old testament tithing laws are zealous for the Lord but they are compelling others in how they should give and are in error. The truth is that each man should be led by the Holy Spirit and purpose in his own heart how he should give.

Also, the new testament is full of admonition to give and give generously and cheerfully. It is also clear that we should fin ancially help some who commit themselves to full time preaching of the gospel. This is not a blanket ticket for anyone to expect to be paid for their service though.

I would also suggest that if a person enjoys the facilities of a church fellowship and those facilities cost money, then one should help bare those costs as they are able to.

I hope this helps.

In Him,

Mark

**Re: - posted by Etuna, on: 2012/11/8 14:24**

It does, and very much Mark - I appreciate you guys on here.

We've discussed it more calmly at home as well as I now understand it better. it's been a weird transition of the mind but one that Jesus is a part of.

Thank you very much siblings... You're always a great source of counsel.

May God keep you!

Love you;-)

Tina

**Re: - posted by Etuna, on: 2012/11/8 14:42**

ThyKingCome, I appreciate the testimony from MrBillPro's post in the link you posted. "Thank God, I am no longer a tither, i'm a giver."

Very powerful.