

44
Reasons
To
Tithe!

by David Whitehead Jr.

Copyright 1997, 2017
David Whitehead Jr. and Prevailing Publications.
All rights reserved.
Prevailing Publications
P. O. Box 141873
Austin, TX 78714-1873
www.precinctpowersolutions.com

All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise stated. Other Scripture quotations are taken from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Copyright 1946, 1952, and 1971, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission.

This book provides information regarding tithing as covered in the Holy Scriptures. It is offered with the understanding that neither the author nor the publishers are rendering legal or professional service. It is not the purpose of this book to give financial advice or counsel. There are no guarantees concerning any of the subjects covered herein. Every effort has been made to make this book as accurate as possible. However, there could be mistakes, both typographical, and in content. Therefore this book should only be used as a general guide, and not as an ultimate source of information. The author and publisher shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused or alleged to be caused, directly or indirectly, by the information contained in this book. If you do not wish to be bound by the above, you may return this book to the publisher for a full refund.

Table of Contents

- Introduction - 6
- 1. Jesus, Our High Priest, Still Receives Tithes - 8
- 2. The Tithe is God's Practical Expectation - 9
- 3. Abraham Tithed - 10
- 4. ...And He became Rich - 11
- 5. Jacob Tithed - 12
- 6. ...And He became Rich -13
- 7. Jesus Said We Should Tithe -14
- 8. God will Open the Windows of Heaven over You - 15
- 9. You Will Succeed at Your Job - 16
- 10. God Will Run the Devil Off of Your Finances - 17
- 11. So Your Pockets Won't Have Holes - 18
- 12. To Stop the Drought in Your Life - 19
- 13. To Increase Your Ability to Give to Others - 20
- 14. The Israelites Tithed - 21
- 15. ...And They became Rich - 23
- 16. Where You Invest Your Money is Where Your True Loyalty Lies - 25
- 17. The Tithe is Beyond Old Testament Law - 26
- 18. To Support Your Pastor and His Family - 28
- 19. To Support Your Church's Ministries - 30
- 20. To Help Win Your City for Jesus - 31
- 21. Paul Received Tithes - 32
- 22. To Help Missionaries All Over the World - 33
- 23. You Could Be Robbing God When You Don't Tithe - 34
- 24. When Others See the Effects of Your Tithe, They'll Tithe - 35
- 25. Paul said it Pleases God - 36
- 26. It's the Only Time We Are Supposed to Test God - 37
- 27. So You and Your Family Will Always be Clothed and Fed - 39
- 28. Hezekiah Tithed - 40
- 29. ...And He became Rich - 41
- 30. You Will Have More Peace When You Tithe - 42
- 31. Paul Said that God Meets a Tither's Needs - 43
- 32. God Will Bless All the Work of Your Hands - 44
- 33. It Could Free Your Pastor from Working a Secular Job - 45

- 34. You Might be on the Receiving End of Those Tithes One Day - 46**
- 35. God Can Stretch Your Money When You Tithe - 47**
- 36. God Can Stretch Your Tithe too - 48**
- 37. Your Things Will Last Longer and Break Down Less - 49**
- 38. God Will Bring You Business When You Tithe - 50**
- 39. Your Tithes Will Cause Others to Give Thanks to God - 51**
- 40. You Shall Reap What You Sow - 52**
- 41. Only a Fool Turns his Back on so Many of God's Promises - 53**
- 42. By God's Own Rules the Doctrine of Tithing has been Established - 54**
- 43. Everything Belongs to God Anyway - 55**
- 44. It's the Best Investment in America - 56**
- Authors Page - 57**

Introduction

*Twenty years ago, in 1997, I wrote a book called, “44 Reasons to Tithe.” It was confrontational and hard hitting to say the least. Never one to back down from a theological or doctrinal fight, I made my case for tithing ruthlessly and without fear. I stood my ground and fought the good fight. Unfortunately, it turned out to be the **wrong** fight.*

Oh, the book was accurate enough, yes. It was successful in strengthening those who agreed with it, and even won over a few naysayers. But it was devoid of kindness and mercy. It wasn’t written the way Jesus would have written it.

Therefore I have produced a kinder gentler edition; rewritten, revised and updated. I pray that as you read it, you will not find condemnation, but will find inspiration and the gentle conviction of the Holy Spirit, ever revealing His heart and His will concerning tithing.

David Whitehead Jr.

There is a great deal of controversy concerning the Tithe in the Body of Christ today. Many feel the Tithe was strictly part of the Old Covenant Law, and the practice of tithing should have passed away with it. Others believe the Tithe is above the Law and has continued on into our New Covenant relationship with Christ. Some feel the Tithe is legalistic, a practice of dead works; and still others say our giving should not be limited to ten percent.

I believe we can end all this controversy with two words – *mandatory* and *voluntary*.

The Tithe has always existed. The **MANDATORY** Tithe was enforced under the Law during Old Testament times, and has passed away. The **VOLUNTARY** Tithe continues through the New Testament and the Church age of Grace, and will continue forever.

It should also be clearly understood that tithing is not giving. Though God certainly wishes for us to do both, Scripture clearly explains very different reasons for tithing and giving, and enforces very different promises for the Tither than for the giver.

What is the difference between the *mandatory* Tithe, and the *voluntary* Tithe, you might ask. Well, under the Law there were consequences for those who withheld their Tithe. They were cursed. When Christ died on the cross though, He became a curse for us, so that the curse of the Law is passed away. There is no longer a curse or any direct consequence from God if you do not Tithe. However, if you do not Tithe, you will miss out on some wonderful and very specific blessings.

In this book we will unravel and discuss these blessings and the promises of God, and we will even go to those places in Scripture that prove that God still expects us to Tithe. We will also cover the more practical aspects of tithing, and the need for it in the Church today. I pray you will find it to be a blessing in your life, the lives of your family and friends, and the lives of your Pastor and fellow Church members.

Reason #1

Jesus, Our High Priest, Still Receives Tithes

*“And without all contradiction, the less 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. As I may so say, Levi also, who received Tithes, paid Tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him.”*

Hebrews 7:7-10

I can understand when a Christian tells me he thinks the Tithe is passed away because the Levitical Priesthood has passed away with the Law. That is a very common misconception among those who don't know the Book of Hebrews as well as they might. The part they seemed to have missed is Hebrews chapters six through nine where the Priesthood that is above the Levitical Priesthood is discussed – that of the Order of Melchizedek.

The writer goes out of his way to establish the fact that the Order of Melchizedek existed before the Law, that it continues to exist after the Law, and that it will continue to exist forever, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hebrews goes on to tell us that Jesus Himself now receives (**present tense**) our Tithes, and it is witnessed of Him that He lives.

The difference between the Tithe under the Law and the Tithe under Grace is that one was *mandatory*, and the other is *voluntary*. There is no penalty for withholding the Tithe now, but considering the mighty things our High Priest has done for us, I cannot imagine missing out on the wonderful experience of joyfully laying our Tithes at His feet. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #2

The Tithe is God's Practical Expectation

Malachi 3:10 says, "*Bring the full Tithes into the store-house, that there may be meat in mine house.*"

Since before the Law, God has been very serious about providing for His work on this earth, and the Tithe is the practical vehicle with which He chose to underwrite this work. Indeed, it could be that He chose ten percent instead of nine percent or eleven percent or any other arbitrary number, because it is in fact, practical...and simple.

So simple that the most ignorant and unlearned of people in Bible times had only to look at their fingers to see what one in ten was.

It's a shame that some of God's doctrines are labeled "unspiritual" because they are simple, or "legalistic", because they happen to be practical. Being spiritual doesn't have to be difficult. Besides, God isn't interested in how spiritual you are. He's interested in how **obedient** you are. And obedience when it comes to the Tithe is very easy...and inexpensive. Though tithing is *voluntary* in the age of Grace, it is still one of the most inexpensive things you will ever do. Remember, obedience to God's Word is always inexpensive; His blessings for a Tither far outweigh any monetary loss or gain. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #3

Abraham Tithed

“And Melchizedek, King of Salem, brought forth oil and wine: and he was priest of the Most High God. And he blessed him and said, Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, Possessor of heaven and earth: and blessed be the Most High God, Which hath delivered thine enemies into thine hand. And he, (Abram), gave him, (Melchizedek), Tithes of all.” Genesis 14:20

One of the most wonderful things about God’s Word is His use of personal examples. As He revealed His Covenants to the generations, He provided us with dozens of testimonies of the men and women of God who proved faithful. Abraham was one of these. With nothing but a promise from God, he left his family, his country, and everything he knew. By faith in God he had a son - when he was a hundred years old. Abraham was also a man of obedience. He was so obedient he was even ready to kill his own son if God commanded it.

In James chapter two verse twenty three it says that Abraham was called the “Friend of God.” A friend is a person attached to another by affection, regard and esteem. God had affection for Abraham. He held him in high regard. Abraham was God’s buddy. He was God’s pal. Abraham would do anything for God. In this particular context it also means that Abraham was God’s Covenant Partner; God had made a covenant with Abraham.

So what did Abraham, God’s friend do, when he met God’s High Priest Melchizedek? He gave him Tithes of all. What did faithful, obedient, Abraham do when he met God’s High Priest? He gave him Tithes of all. What did God’s buddy do? He gave him Tithes of all. A “Friend of God” could do no less. Abraham saw the importance of tithing to God’s work. Do you? When the plate passes your way on Sunday morning, are you a friend of God? *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #4

...And He Became Rich

“And he said, I am Abraham’s servant. And the Lord hath blessed my Master greatly; and he is become great: and He hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses.”

Genesis 24: 34, 35

Tithing is not a get rich quick scheme. It’s not even a get rich slow scheme. If you’re tithing for the purpose of getting rich and hoarding wealth, you can forget it. What God blesses is an obedient heart. Tithing is not a guarantee you’ll be a millionaire. It’s a guarantee you won’t have lack.

The Tithe is not a guarantee you won’t have financial battles. But it is a guarantee you’ll win them.

But let’s take another look at Abraham. God gave him all the desires of his heart. Why? God searched the earth for someone He could make His covenant with. He needed someone who would believe Him. He needed someone who would be obedient to even the most outrageous command at the drop of a hat. He found these things in Abraham. And He made Abraham rich. Some people feel it’s unfair when God makes someone like Abraham rich, while they still suffer lack. Well, Abraham was ready to kill his own son if God desired it, while those who suffer lack won’t even trust God with ten percent of their income. Which one are you most like? If God searched the earth today for someone to make His covenant with, would He choose you? *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #5 Jacob Tithed

Jacob was no Abraham. He was a liar, a cheat, and a thief. He cheated his brother out of his birthright, he stole his brother's blessing, and he deceived his own Father. He wasn't exactly the kind of man God was looking for. But God had a covenant with Jacob's Grandfather, Abraham. He promised to make a mighty nation of his descendants.

But when Jacob is finally visited by God, it's no surprise to find he's on the run for his life. God came to him in a dream and reaffirmed His promise to Abraham, by extending that same promise to Jacob. Jacob responds to God, for the first time it seems, with these words: *"If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my Father's house in peace, then shall the Lord be my God: and this stone which I have set for a pillar; shall be God's house: and of all that Thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto thee."* Genesis 28:20-22

Jacob's response to God's overture may have been a little less than Abraham's, especially when we realize that with Abraham, God made the demands, and Jacob had the gall to make the demands himself, but at least, he knew the Tithe was important to God. If a liar, a cheat, and a thief, can mend his ways and meet God on the field of tithing, then anyone can. It was the only specific thing this young scoundrel promised God he would do. But it was enough to please God. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #6

...And He Became Rich

“And I have oxen, and asses, flocks, and menservants and womenservants: and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find grace in thy sight.” Genesis 32:5

What? That lying, cheating, scoundrel got rich too? That’s not fair! I don’t lie, I don’t cheat, I go to church regularly, and I even sing in the choir. But God didn’t make me rich! Yes, but that lying, cheating scoundrel was tithing! Besides, he didn’t remain a lying cheating scoundrel. Through the years God changed him into a reverent, God fearing individual.

God was able to bless Jacob because Jacob made a decision. He decided to turn his back on a life of disobedience to God, and live God’s way. He didn’t have to look far to find something to prove that decision. He knew what would please God. He had seen his Grandpa Abraham Tithed. He saw his Dad Isaac Tithed. In fact, it may well have been that in Jacob’s mind, tithing was **the** way to please God.

Have you felt like God seemed absent when you needed financial blessing? Maybe you could take a lesson from a lying cheating scoundrel. Learn what pleases God. Learn how to turn your financial situation around. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #7

Jesus Said We Should Tithe

*“Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay Tithe of mint and dill and cumin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith: **these ought ye to have done**, and not to leave the other undone.”* Matthew 23:23

Sadly enough, this verse is used time and time again to support the belief that the Tithe is no longer important to God under the New Covenant, and that Jesus considered the Tithe to be Pharisaic, and a practice for hypocrites. How sad that anyone can believe that Jesus is against the Tithe. Jesus is not against the Tithe.

What He is against is putting the Tithe ahead of things like love, faith, and mercy. It’s like if Jesus came to your house and found you never trusting God and holding unforgiveness against practically everyone, but regularly measuring out a tenth of every spice and condiment you keep in your pantry to give to the church.

Jesus is simply making the point that the condition of your heart is more important to Him than how exacting you can be over the letter of the law.

If you really believe Jesus is against the Tithe, take another look at that verse. He said, *“These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”* Don’t leave faith, mercy, and judgment undone in your life. But at the same time, follow the instructions of your Lord and Savior. When it came to tithing, He said, *“These ought ye to have done.”* Are you tithing yet?

Reason #8

God Will Open the Windows of Heaven Over You

“Bring ye all the Tithes into the storehouse, 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.” Malachi 3:10

I’m reminded of the time when I was nine years old, and was invited to a friend’s birthday party. There was cake and ice cream and all the traditional games, but there was also something I had never seen before. It was a Mexican Piñata. It was made of paper maché and crepe paper, and hung six or seven foot in the air.

One by one we children were blindfolded, and were given turns at whacking the Piñata with a long stick. I didn’t quite understand why we were doing this, until finally someone whacked it really hard, and it came apart and showered candy and other goodies all over. I don’t have to tell you that we children went wild, and jumped in and gathered all we could hold.

That’s what the windows of heaven are like. God has a great store of blessings for you hanging just overhead like a giant Piñata. He’s also given you a giant club called: “the Tithes” to break it open with. And the best part about it is, with God, there’s no blindfold.

When you Tithes, it’s like taking that big club, and breaking that seal that holds back your blessings, and they come raining down upon you - more than you can gather by yourself. What’s truly a shame though, is that so many Christians live their entire life with a giant Piñata of blessings hanging just overhead, and they never even take a swing. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason # 9

You Will Succeed at Your Job

“And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of Hosts.” Malachi 3: 11

You spend a third or more of your time earning a living. Your Heavenly Father is very aware of this fact, and in His compassion for you, has made a way for your work to be blessed. Notice the part of this verse that says: *“neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field.”*

God was speaking to people that understood farming. Farming was their work. It was their livelihood. God was telling them if they would Tithe, their work would be blessed. The fruit of their labor would be large, not small. Do you sometimes feel that the fruit of your labor is too small? Do you feel like you work very hard for small wages? Then take God at His Word. Allow God to bless your work. Open the door for Him to promote you or get you a raise. Whatever you need to make a living, God will provide it; for the Tither. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #10

God Will Run the Devil Off of Your Finances

Have you ever had one of those years? You know what kind of year I mean. You work super hard, and work lots of overtime. But does all that extra money get you ahead? Why not? Because the car kept breaking down though it was brand new, the family kept getting sick; every repairman known to man had to make visits to the house...several times, and on top of that, everything you bought from appliances to clothes to hairpins seemed to wear out in a matter of weeks.

I had one of those years once. The year I wasn't tithing. The problem isn't just bad luck. It's the Devourer. The Devourer gets to wreak havoc on your financial situation when you don't Tithe. When you withhold your Tithe, your finances are placed within the bounds of the Devourer's domain. The Devourer is of course, the Devil. Now you can try to rebuke the Devil from your finances all you want, but remember, by withholding the Tithe, you've placed your money in his hands. There is only one thing you can do:

"Bring ye all the Tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open ye the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the Devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground." Malachi 3: 10, 11

Again, God was talking to people who understood farming. Here the term "Devourer" was referring to insects that eat away the harvest. That's what the Devil is trying to do to you. He's trying to eat away your harvest. But listen; when you Tithe, you don't even have to try to take on the Devil, because **God said for a Tither, He will rebuke the Devourer!** How about that? When you Tithe, the Devourer of your money has Almighty God in his face, commanding him to get his hands off your finances!

In everything else it's your responsibility to rebuke the Devil, but if you Tithe, God says He will do it for you! *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #11

So Your Pockets Won't Have Holes

“Now therefore thus saith the Lord of Hosts; consider your ways. Ye have sown much and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages, earneth wages to put it in a bag with holes. Thus saith the Lord of Hosts; consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord of Hosts.” Haggai 1: 5-8

Have you ever wondered where your money seems to disappear to sometimes? You bring home a good paycheck, but before the month is over, the money is gone, the bills are unpaid, and the refrigerator is bare. Where did the money go? It went into a bag with holes.

What can you do about it?

Consider your ways. Stop taking your money home and letting God's house go to waste. Stop letting God's work go undone. Wouldn't it be great to get your money home, and it's all still there in your pocket without holes? Wouldn't it be great to get through the month, have all the bills paid, the refrigerator full, money left over, and God's blessing on it too? *Aren't you tithing yet?*

Reason #12

To Stop the Drought in Your Life

Pretend you are a farmer. No, really, pretend you're a farmer - in Bible times. Pretend that you go out with your ox every day and work hard in the hot sun plowing your fields in hope of a good harvest. Pretend that, as a farmer, your very life, and the lives of your family, depend on just the right weather conditions - like plenty of rain. With a good harvest, maybe you can finally get ahead. Maybe you will have enough to sell to others, so that you can buy more land or better farming equipment. And then again, maybe there will be a drought, and you will lose everything.

Now let's look again at Malachi 3:10-12, but this time, remember to read it through the eyes of a farmer:

“Bring ye all the Tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the Devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of Hosts. And all the Nations shall call you blessed; for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of Hosts.”

The people of those times understood this passage well. They knew that if God promised to “open the windows of heaven over them” it meant He would send rain for their thirsty crops. They knew the blessing He promised meant a harvest so big it would be more than their barns could hold. Their land would become so rich in crops, that even other nations would call them blessed; **if** they Tithed.

What about you? Stop pretending you're a farmer in Bible times, and take a look at yourself. Has there been a drought in your life? God wants to open the windows of heaven over you, and quench the thirst of your crops. He wants to fill the barns in your life to overflowing, and He wants others to look at you and call you blessed! *Might you be tithing yet?*

Reason #13

To Increase Your Ability to Give to Others

God is simply not in the business of helping Christians to hoard wealth and heap up riches to themselves. When He promises the Tither a bigger blessing than he can contain in Malachi chapter three, it's so the Tither will then turn around and give his overflow to others.

Have you ever seen others in need, and you felt a genuine wave of compassion sweep over you, but you were unable to give simply because you didn't have enough? Have you ever wanted to contribute to a cause or ministry, but you couldn't be a part because of the lack you were suffering? One of the worst things a true, active Christian can suffer is the inability to help. But the inability to help was never God's plan for you. He made a plan that will empower you to help others when you have needs.

God made a plan that will bring action to your compassion.

If you will Tithe, He will bless your ability to give to others, and you will experience the fulfillment for one of God's greatest reasons for instituting the Tithe - **helping others**. *Are you tithing yet?* If you won't Tithe for yourself, will you Tithe for those who need your overflow?

Reason #14 The Israelites Tithed

“And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the Children of Israel brought in abundance the first fruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the Tithe of all things brought they in abundantly And concerning the Children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the Tithe of oxen and sheep, and the Tithe of holy things which were consecrated to the Lord their God, and they lay them in heaps.”

II Chronicles 31: 5, 6

Why would Almighty God, Creator of the Universe, choose a nation of people to be His people? Because from the beginning He wanted a people who would choose Him. That’s why He gave man free choice, so that man could have the opportunity to accept or reject Him. All along God has wanted only one thing from man: **obedience**. And obedience of the heart first requires the power of choice. So out of Abraham He made a great nation, showed them miracle after miracle, and delivered them out of bondage. But again, His desire was obedience.

So He gave them the Law, of which the Tithe was part. Unfortunately, the vast majority of this nation was neither obedient nor thankful. God was taking them to a place flowing with milk and honey, the Promised Land, where they could rest from their weary labors of slavery; where they no longer had to sweat to produce for others, but could keep the abundant fruit of the ground for themselves.

But what about you? Listen as God speaks to you in Hebrews 3:7-12. Listen as He asks you if you are going to be like that evil generation:

“Wherefore as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your heart as in the provocation, in the days of temptation in the wilderness when your fathers tempted Me, proved Me, and saw My works for forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation and said they do always err in their heart; and they have not known My ways. So I swear in My wrath they shall not enter into My rest. Take heed brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the Living God.”

God has a place for you to rest too, now, on this earth. It's waiting for the obedient of heart. It's waiting for the Tither. Will you enter into the Promised Land, or will you wander in a desert for forty years? *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #15

...And They Became Rich

“And the king made silver and gold at Jerusalem as plenteous as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycamore trees that are in the vale for abundance.”

II Chronicles 1: 15

The Israelites that trusted God entered into the Promised Land. Those that didn't perished in the desert. Soon Israel was the richest, most prosperous nation on earth. But understand that those who entered into the land flowing with milk and honey, who built a nation where silver and gold became as common as the rocks on the ground, did it because they believed God's promises and were therefore obedient to His Word.

Faith begets obedience. Unbelief on the other hand, leads to disobedience.

The main reason therefore that most Christians don't Tithe is that when they hear God's promises to a Tither, they simply don't believe them. They don't really believe God will prosper them; not really. Therefore they are disobedient to the command, and they withhold their Tithe. Then they wander in a financial desert all their life and wonder where God is.

Remember when you receive God's command and then don't follow it, you are hardening your heart to His Word, as it tells us in Hebrews 3:15-19:

“While it is said, Today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation. For some when they had heard, did provoke; howbeit, not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was He grieved forty years? Was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware He that they should not enter into His rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in, because of unbelief.”

I have known Christians who seemed mystified at the attitude of those Israelites. They said things like, “If I had seen the great miracles that God showed them, I would have believed, I would have been obedient.” But do you know what? Most of them that said it weren't even tithing. Have you looked at those

Israelites with scorn? Have you wondered at their unbelief? Maybe you should take a look at yourself with those same eyes. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #16

Where You Invest Your Money is Where Your True Loyalty Lies

Have a problem with this one? Then look at Matthew 6:21: *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”* Jesus said it, and surely He knew what He was talking about. It might sound sacrilegious to give money such a high place in spiritual matters, but I’m afraid that your money represents a larger part of your life than you might think, in fact it could be said that your treasure represents your life period. Now that doesn’t make you evil; your treasures are simply those things that you “treasure” the most, and Jesus said that is where your heart can be found. So if you want to know where your heart is, just look at where your treasure is.

Some people put their hearts in the strangest of places. One man I know works hard all day, just to spend his earnings on beer all night. His heart is in a beer can. How do I know? I know because that’s where his money goes. That beer is his treasure.

Some people’s hearts are in their hobby, up on shelves with collections of expensive books, or in garages with antique cars. Some people’s hearts are in their business or in partying, or in drugs, or even in money itself. So ask yourself where your treasure is. Is it in vain worldly pursuits, is it in worldly goods and possessions, or is it invested in the Gospel, in your local church, and in the hands of ministers and missionaries?

If your Master came back today to see what you have done with what He has given you, would He find a wise and faithful servant who had furthered His cause, or would He find a wicked and worldly servant, serving his own selfish purposes?

Where your treasure is there will your heart be also. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #17

The Tithe is Beyond Old Testament Law

I hear it all the time. “The Tithe was Old Testament; it’s passed away!” That is far and away the most often used excuse I hear when I talk to those who don’t Tithe.

Yes, the Tithe was covered in the Old Testament. Yes, it was incorporated into the Law. But it was instituted before the Old Covenant, was then carried into the Old Covenant, was later made a part of the Law, then continued into the New Covenant, and shall continue forever!

Those things that have passed away or have been done away with are clearly dealt with in the Word. Then why isn’t there a passage of Scripture that clearly tells us that the Tithe has passed away? Why doesn’t It say that God no longer wants us to Tithe? Because the Tithe hasn’t passed away! **God's promises concerning the Tithe are still in force! They are still in force because there is still a High Priest to receive those Tithes! His Name is Jesus!**

It would be a great idea if you could read Hebrews chapter seven in its entirety some time, but for now, let’s zero in on verses seven through ten:

“And without all contradiction, the less 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. As I may so say, Levi also, who received Tithes, paid Tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him.”

I know of no better proof, than the New Testament verse here that tells us that Jesus still receives (present tense), our Tithes, because He still lives. In fact, the writer of the Book of Hebrews goes out of his way to establish that there is still a priesthood, one that existed before the Law, still exists after it, and will always exist.

Jesus is your High Priest, He went to the Cross to deliver you from Hell. He ascended into Heaven, and He now sits at the Right Hand of the Father, and according to Hebrews seven verse eight, **“There He receiveth Tithes, of Whom it**

is witnessed that He liveth.” Yes, your High Priest lives. *Are you going to Him with your Tithes yet?*

Reason #18

To Support Your Pastor and His Family

“Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? Who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? Or who feedeth a flock and eateth not of the milk of the flock? Say I these things as a man? Or saith not the Law also? For it is written in the Law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? Or saith He it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes no doubt this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?”

I Corinthians 9:7-11

Could you possibly imagine a New Testament where you found the Twelve Disciples starving to death one by one? Or the Apostle Paul going from town to town naked, and begging for clothes as he preached the Gospel? Could you imagine Jesus standing before crowds and having fainting spells in the middle of his sermons because He was so hungry? What would you have done had you found the Disciples starving or the Apostle Paul naked?

Then why do you withhold your Tithe and allow your Pastor and his family to go without? God said in Malachi chapter three that when you don't Tithe you are robbing Him. Well, when you withhold your Tithe you are also robbing your Pastor and his family, because they must go without.

Doubtless, in the integrity of your Pastors heart, he refuses to blame anyone when he must work a secular job to make ends meet, but when the Pastor of a large church must work a secular job just to provide his family with food, that church ought to be ashamed. That church is muzzling the ox as he treads out the grain and God says that is wrong.

Have you considered all your Pastor does? Your Pastor is a called and chosen vessel of God - just like the Apostles were. He is your spiritual covering in the Body, to be treated with dignity and respect. He's the one you call in the middle of the night to pray over your head cold. He's the one who visits you in the hospital and prays for your healing. He's the one who brings you a steady, weekly diet of God's Word.

In the Book of Haggai God tells His people to take care of His house before their own. Was He concerned about a building only? No. His concern is always for people, and today He is telling you to take care of your Pastor and his family. Do you really think the office of Pastor is not such a high calling? Do you think Pastors don't deserve as much as the rest of us? Do you believe Pastors should wear twenty year old clothes, drive old beat up cars, and live on the brink of starvation? If your answer is yes, then I sincerely hope God calls **you** to be a Pastor! *Tithing yet?*

Reason #19

To Support Your Church's Various Ministries

Sunday School. Youth and Children's Church. Bus Ministry. Seniors Outreach. Missions, Evangelism, Prison Ministry, Clothes Closet, and Food Bank. Nursing Home Visitation and Hospital Ministry. Without your Tithes, these things are lessened in your church. Indeed, in many churches they don't even exist for lack of faithful Tithers.

Do you feel that maybe some of your church's ministries are not all that important? What about Sunday School, Youth, and Children's Church? Jesus said, *"Suffer little children and forbid them not to come unto Me; for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."* Matthew 19:14.

What about Bus Ministry? Jesus said, *"Go ye therefore into the highways."* Well... He *did* say that, sort of.

What about the Food Bank, Clothes Closet, Prison Ministry, and Hospital Visitation? *"Then shall the righteous answer Him saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungered, and fed Thee? Or thirsty and gave Thee drink? When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? Or naked and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee sick or in prison and came unto Thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, in as much, as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."* Matthew 25:37-40

Still not convinced? Do you still think these ministries are unimportant? If your answer is yes, let's read the rest of that passage: *"Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the Devil and his angels: For I was hungered and ye gave Me no meat. I was thirsty and ye gave Me no drink: I was a stranger and ye took Me not in: Naked, and ye clothed Me not: Sick and in prison, and ye visited Me not. Then shall they answer Him, saying Lord, When saw we Thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee? Then shall He answer them saying, Verily I say unto you, in as much as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me."* Are you tithing yet?

Reason #20

To Help Win Your City to Jesus

No matter what you are called to do, you have a job to do at home, and that job begins by tithing to your local church home. Like it or not, you have a responsibility to your city. Everyone on this earth is responsible for their little piece of it, and you are no different. In fact, it's no accident you live where you do.

Believe it or not, you are tailor made for the ground God has planted you in, and the soil there is just right for your Tithe. Have you taken a look at your city lately? Is the crime rate spiraling out of control? Does the Devil seem to be taking over? Guess what! It's your responsibility! When God looks at a city, He sees His people, and He looks at what they are doing in their city that He has planted them in. I'm not talking about liberal community programs. I'm not talking about political reform. I'm talking about you and your church winning your city to Jesus. I'm talking about winning the souls of your neighborhood and community.

Surely there's no better way to fight the crime and drug problem than to convert the entire city. I submit to you, that a city where the crime is high, a city where sin runs rampant and fear for safety is a daily concern, and a city where the Devil seems to be taking over, is a city where the church's hands are tied; tied by the cords of covetous Christians who refuse to Tithe. *If I've just described your city, why aren't you tithing yet?*

Reason #21

Paul Received Tithes

“Now ye Philippians know also that in the beginning of the Gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again to my necessity. Not because I desire a gift, but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.” Philippians 4:15-18

I don't think Paul received Tithes directly from individual Philippians, nor do I think he would have solicited their Tithes. I do think the Philippians Tithed at their local gatherings, and as a church they supported Paul's ministry, and in that manner he received Tithes.

It may be that some Christians refrain from tithing because they feel bombarded with solicitations for their Tithe and they become defensive. They receive monthly newsletters from various ministries begging them for their Tithe and when they turn on the television or radio they get hit with the same thing. No wonder some Christians throw up their hands and give up.

Yes, “non-church” ministries should receive Tithes...through the local church!

In fact, if all believers attended a local church and Tithed there like they should, there would be no problem. The local churches would have enough to support the non-church ministries, and all would be cared for. Then if an individual wished to support a ministry over and above his Tithe, he would be free to.

Are you not convinced? Do you wish to Tithe to a television ministry that badly? Then send ten percent to your local church and another ten percent to the television ministry of your choice. Can't lose with that plan! *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #22

To Help Missionaries All Over the World

“Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” Matthew 28:19

There is a very special kind of person in the Body of Christ. The kind that will leave civilization and all the comforts of life it brings, and will go spend their entire lives in jungles and deserts. They will suffer great heat or cold day after day, live in archaic conditions, and be forced to live with primitive technology. They will spend years and years with African Tribes or South American Villages just learning their language, and translating the Bible into that language. They will live with few personal belongings and no comforts for their entire existence, just to bring the Word of God to a small secluded tribe, or an out of the way village.

I’m talking about the few, the proud, the missionaries.

They do what most of us are unwilling to do. But that’s okay, God doesn’t require all of us to go overseas and live with the natives. What God does require of us, is to help support these few dedicated individuals who have given their very lives. And we do that by tithing to our church, which in turn supports these worthy apostles in their work. When all the accounts are totaled up in heaven, and the millions upon millions who have been saved because of the work of God’s missionaries stand up, wouldn’t you like to have been a part? What if your Tithe was responsible for the salvation of millions? *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #23

You Could Be Robbing God When You Don't Tithe

"Will a man rob God? Yet you 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: 18, 19

This falls under the mandatory Tithe of the Law of course, but the **principle** still applies to our lives today under Grace. Under the Law, the first ten percent of a person's income didn't even belong to them in God's eyes, it belonged to Him. He didn't consider their Tithe to be a gift. It already belonged to Him, and when His people withheld it, He called them "thieves."

It's sort of like this: Let's say you are a small Contractor, and from time to time you pay a friend a small fee for bringing you referrals. So you get a job through this friend and agree to pay that friend ten percent of your net earnings from that job. You complete the job, and the customer pays you the full amount. Now, you could keep all the money. But you owe ten percent to your friend who made a deal with you in good faith. You have the ability to keep that money. But you don't have the right. If you keep it all without turning over the ten percent to whom it is due, then you are a thief. It was the same way with God when it came to the Old Testament Law. He demanded ten percent as "His cut."

"But wait a minute", you might say, "God didn't help me in my business or on my job! He didn't do a thing!" Oh really? He only gave you life, He gave you the ability to perform the work, He gave you a mind, hands, legs, and feet, and everything you needed to perform the work and earn your increase, so that you can eat, be clothed, and have a place to live. Not to mention a green earth to live in, air to breathe and the very freedom you have to earn a living in the manner you see fit.

Under the New Covenant we are not thieves if we do not Tithe, but God has done His part; we should surely endeavor to do ours. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #24

When Others See the Effects of Your Tithe, They'll Tithe

"In all things show thyself an example of good works." Titus 2:7

I have known people who didn't Tithe and were proud of it. I have even known those who bragged about withholding their Tithe and actually tried to persuade others into taking that same path of error. This book isn't really for those people. Forty four million reasons would hardly convince them, much less forty four, and I seriously doubt they would read this book anyway. But you are not part of that group. You are reading this book, and you've even made it past the halfway point. You are someone who wants to know the truth, and you must be ready to Tithe if you are not already.

So let me plead another case and ask you this: What kind of example are you trying to set for those around you? Do you teach your children to Tithe, but hold on to yours when things get tight? What about those whom you have led to the Lord and bring to church with you? Are your actions an example for them?

In his letter to Titus, Paul said, *"In all things show thyself an example of good works."* But it doesn't stop there. Not only can those around you see what you do, they can see the *effects* of what you do, and the effect of tithing is a blessed financial situation; and that's what others will see. The fact is, a blessed life is apparent to all, no matter what your income is, or how much stuff you have.

If you will Tithe, God will come through for you, and others will see that He has come through for you, and they will want that kind of blessing on their life too. Soon they will be coming to you to get the answer to a blessed financial situation. Then you will be the one asking them that all important question...*Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #25

Paul said it pleases God.

Do you know what I've begun to notice recently? Some people smell. No really, I've begun to notice that some people smell.

Bad.

No matter how often they bathe, no matter how much deodorant and cologne they douse themselves with, no matter how much breath spray they use, they smell.

Have you noticed this too, or is it... just me?

I'm not talking about just anyone. I'm referring to the wicked, the disobedient, and the unfaithful. There's just something about them that smells. And I'm sorry to say, some of them are Christians. Do you know what it is that gives off that foul odor? It's the part of their lives they haven't yet turned over to Christ. It's the areas in which they are still unfaithful and disobedient.

A part of their Christianity is dead. And dead things smell.

Now I'm going to tie all this together in a moment, but first, let's look at the Church at Philippi. According to the Book of Philippians chapter four, the Church at Philippi was the only church supporting Paul in the early days of his ministry. On at least two occasions they sent him gifts. The gifts were probably some things to help him minister, possibly some money and personal comforts, but here's what he says about them in verse eighteen: *"But I have all things and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God."*

The Church at Philippi was able to send those gifts because of faithful, obedient, Tithers. Paul said those gifts were an odor of a sweet smell to God. God was well pleased that they had supported Paul. Indeed, God is always pleased with faithful and obedient Tithers. And you know what I've noticed about Tithers? No matter what they go through, no matter how hard the devil attacks, they come out smelling like roses. Tithers smell sweet to God. Tithers give off a sweet and pleasing aroma. *Are you tithing yet?* If not...would you mind...standing downwind?

Reason #26

It's the Only Time We Are Supposed to Test God

Let's look at Malachi 3:10 again, but this time, let's read it in the Revised Standard Version: *"Bring the full Tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house; and thereby put Me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you, and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."*

Notice God says, *"put Me to the test."* In the King James Version it reads, *"prove Me now herewith."* Why would the Tithe be the only thing God said to test Him over? Probably because His people have such a hard time obeying Him when it comes to the Tithe. Less than eighteen percent of all Christians Tithe at all, and less Tithe on a regular basis. But the problem didn't start with the church, God obviously had problems with the Israelites too, or He wouldn't have had to address the subject at all in Malachi chapter three.

I think the Tithers are the ones who really believe God. You see, it's easy to think we have faith when the demands of God are spiritual demands, and the promises are spiritual promises. It's easy to think we have great faith when the things we believe for are not immediately "provable."

But tithing is different. It requires a momentary sacrifice - turning over to God a real, substantial, physical part of your livelihood; right now. When it comes to believing God's Word, the Tithe is where the rubber meets the road. That's why God says we should prove Him on it; to put Him to the test. He is using the Tithe to see if you really believe Him. He is seeing if you are serious enough to make a personal investment in His Word.

The Tithe is literally God's way of putting His Word in your face and saying, "Go ahead, make My day!" God is actually daring you to Tithe. He's daring you!

It could be that He instituted the Tithe just to find out what you're made of. Well, what *are* you made of? I'm afraid I might have sad news for you. If you don't

believe His Word enough to Tithe, if you don't even have the faith to turn loose of ten percent of your income based on His promise, then your faith concerning the rest of His Word will be found just as bankrupt in the day of reckoning.

Dare to Tithe. Dare to take Almighty God, the Creator of the Universe at His Word. *Are you tithing yet?* No? Then go ahead, I dare you.

Reason #27

So Your Family Will Always Be Clothed and Fed

“Take no thought saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your Heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of these things, But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:31-33

Have you ever wondered What Jesus meant When He told us our most basic needs would be met if we sought His Kingdom *first*? I think that seeking His Kingdom first means to give the things of God *first* priority in our lives. In every area we should strive for his righteousness before we strive for other things. When we do that, He promises that all the basic needs of life will be added, so that we no longer have to strive for those things. Notice He said *added* unto us, and not *given*, unto us. He’s actually saying that when we put Him *first* all the other things in life just fall in line, automatically and perfectly, like tumblers in a lock. What’s more, I think He’s given us the key to that lock. You guessed it - that key is the Tithe.

How do you put God *first* place in your finances? Proverbs 319, 10 says: *“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.”* Your Tithe is the first ten percent of your increase. In the financial realm, the Tithe comes *first*.

Have you had trouble keeping food on the table? Have you had trouble clothing your children? Then Tithe, and watch the tumblers of your finances fall into place. Watch God make your situation His *first* priority. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #28

Hezekiah Tithed

“Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in the House of the Lord; and they prepared them, and brought in the offerings and Tithes and dedicated things faithfully.” II Chronicles 31: 11, 12

One of the silliest reasons I’ve ever heard anyone give for not tithing was, “My parents didn’t Tithe, and they did alright!” Some people seem to be interested in keeping up the status quo rather than doing what they know to be right; but every once in a while, God finds someone willing to go against the flow.

He found such a man in Hezekiah. Everything seemed to be against Hezekiah becoming a man of God. His father was such a wicked king that he shut down the Temple. His Grandfather didn’t please God altogether, and his Great Grandfather made God so angry that he was struck with leprosy.

Hezekiah didn’t exactly have what you would call a godly upbringing, at least not from his Father’s side. But guess what? When Hezekiah took the throne at the age of twenty-five, do you know what he did? He reopened the Temple, had it repaired, and he reinstated the Tithe. Not only did this worthy king Tithe himself, but he brought it back to the people after years of neglect.

Against all odds, against the flow, he broke the poverty that had descended on his people, and got the entire nation to follow his example as they brought their Tithes and offerings to the reopening of the Temple. Is the Tithe not practiced in your family? Is it not taught in your church, or even in your denomination? Maybe you could be another Hezekiah. Maybe you could bring the Tithe back to your family and your church. Maybe you could even do like he did, when he went to an entire nation and asked, *“Are you tithing yet?”*

Reason #29

...And He Became Rich

Duh! Of course he became rich. Have you realized yet that every single person the Bible names as a Tither became rich? Maybe God is trying to tell us something. But here is what He did for the man who brought the Tithe back to his people: *“And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honor; and he made himself treasuries for silver; and for gold and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels; storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil, and stalls for all manner of beasts, and cores for flocks. Moreover he provided him cities and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance, for God had given him substance very much.”* II Chronicles 32:27-29

It must be settled now and for all time that it is scriptural to believe that God blesses a Tither financially. He made every Tither named in the Bible super rich. But listen, money itself is not a blessing if it is just squandered or poured through the pockets without doing anyone any good. I know several people who make a great deal of money, but they always seem to experience lack anyway; and not one of them is happy - because they don't Tithe.

Riches acquired apart from God do not bring joy. In fact they will ultimately bring despair.

Your goal should not be to heap up great wealth for yourself. Your goal should be to have enough to help others and to fulfill God's call on your life. Besides, it's not the quantity that makes the blessing, it's the quality. And there is no quality of life apart from obedience to God. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #30

You Will Have More Peace When You Tithe

One of the greatest reasons some Christians withhold their Tithe is that anxious, fretful, uneasy, feeling the Devil brings them when they consider giving their Tithe.

Has this ever happened to you? When things got tight, you got that feeling in the pit of your stomach over what might happen to you financially if you gave your church a full ten percent of your income?

That uneasiness you feel comes from listening to the Devil when he tells you that tithing will hurt you. It comes when you take your eyes off God's promises and focus on your situation. It happens when you begin to imagine all the bad things that might happen to you and worry over all the things the Devil gladly shows you in his picture album.

You've been there. How often do those things you worry about actually occur? God's promises to a Tither are true, and when you Tithe, standing expectantly on God's Word, it shuts the Devil's mouth, that feeling in the pit of your stomach goes away, and God brings you peace. In Haggai 2:9, after God told the people to rebuild His House and to put their efforts into rebuilding the Temple instead of into their own homes and their own pursuits, He said this, *"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former saith the Lord of Hosts, and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts."*

There is no peace like the peace that comes from obedience to God.

It's a peace that transcends all circumstances, and every situation. It's a peace in spirit, but it's also a peace of mind. A peace of mind that brings us the absolute certainty, that even if tithing did bring on financial ruin, we would still rather be obedient to God. Add to that the knowledge that God will come through for you, and the Devil will never be able to torment you in that area again. Wouldn't you like to be at peace concerning your finances? *Then why aren't you tithing yet?*

Reason #31

Paul Said That God Meets a Tithers Needs

“I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19

Philippians 4:19 is one of the most quoted verses in the entire Bible. Unfortunately, it's also one of the most misused and misapplied verses in the Bible. Christians everywhere like to quote that, *“God will meet your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus”*, but the fact is that neither God nor the Apostle Paul promised all people everywhere that He would arbitrarily meet their needs.

Like all of God's promises, this verse has a condition. The context here shows us that the Philippians had been supporting Paul's ministry out of their Tithes and offerings, and He made this promise to them based on this fact. You might think I'm trying to take away the meaning from this verse, or explain it away. No. I'm showing you why it's had no meaning in *your* life.

The Bible is not a spiritual grab bag.

God's promises have conditions, and it's up to you to meet those conditions. God's Word does have meaning. It wasn't Philippians 4:19 that was untrue when your bills went past due. It was your interpretation of it. But if you will meet the condition, if you will Tithe, you will find it is truer than you ever dreamed possible, and Philippians 4: 19 will mean more to you than it ever did before. Tithe, and I am here to tell you, that God will meet your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus! Isn't tithing fun? *Are we having fun yet?*

Reason #32

God Will Bless All the Work of Your Hands

“And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices and Tithes, and heave offerings of your hand and your vows, and your free will offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: and there shall ye eat before the Lord your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your household, wherein the Lord thy God hath blessed thee.” Deuteronomy 12: 6, 7

There are few promises as comforting to hard working Christians as this one. God is simply telling you that if you will Tithe, your work will never come to naught. If you will Tithe, your industry will always bring increase. This is an extraordinary promise, in that it goes beyond most of the others. We already know that when we Tithe, when we turn over our first ten percent, the other ninety will be blessed. But here God says that not only is the other ninety percent blessed, but the way in which you earn it is blessed; bringing an increase, and enlarging your income.

Have you ever worked so hard you could barely stand up, just to go further and further into the hole? There is a reason. Haggai 1:9-11 says, *“Ye looked for much, and lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of Hosts. Because of Mine House that is waste, and ye run every man to his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. And I called for a drought upon the land and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labor of the hands.”*

If you will put God’s house first, and add obedience to your industry, the work of your hands will flower and unfold into a great inheritance; so great, that everyone looking on will know better than to ever ask you that haunting question: *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #33

It Could Free Your Pastor from Working a Secular Job

“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor especially they who labor in the Word and in doctrine. For the Scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, the laborer is worthy of his reward.” | Timothy 5:17, 18

There may be many reasons a Pastor would work a secular job on top of his pastoral duties. For one thing the size of his congregation may be too small to support him, even if all its members are tithing. But it’s wrong when a Pastor must work another job because his congregation won’t Tithe. In fact, such a congregation doesn’t even deserve a Pastor. Of course, your Pastor has never told you this. Out of the pureness of his heart he works both jobs without complaining.

So let *me* tell you.

When you withhold your Tithe and your Pastor must work a second job, it undermines his effectiveness as Pastor. In many cases it takes most of his time, makes him tired, and therefore affects the people of the church. It cuts him off from his congregation and disrupts the role of a shepherd over his flock. Because of this, the flock can grow weak, sick, and even die. What should be a thriving church, growing, evangelizing, and spreading the Word, is brought to naught, which in turn affects the neighborhood, the community, and even the city. A great work that God meant to do could vanish. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #34

You Might Be on the Receiving End of Those Tithes One Day

In reason number eighteen I told you that if you really believed a Pastor should be poor, I hoped you would be called to Pastor. As funny as that might have sounded at the time, I truly know of no better remedy for a skeptic than to be put in the other persons shoes for a while. Besides, every time I've seen a non Tither in a situation where they believed they were being called into the Ministry, (as rare as that's been) they suddenly began looking at the Tithe in a whole new way!

Lo and behold! The doctrine of the Tithe began to make sense to them! Imagine that! Just by being put on the receiving end! If that doesn't point out the hypocrisy of man, nothing does. Now I'm not suggesting every Pastor believes in the Tithe because they benefit from it. What I'm attempting to point out is how all the twisted ideas and bent doctrines of those who withhold their Tithes melt into nothingness when they are personally confronted with the need for Tithes. But there are other ways you might be on the receiving end of those Tithes one day.

You might have children soon who will go to Sunday School. Do you want them to learn about Jesus in a cesspool, or in a fully equipped classroom? What about when you go into the hospital? Do you want your Pastor there with you or tied down to a secular job somewhere? What if disaster was to strike, and you needed financial help from the church? A church without Tithers will show empty pockets in the hour of your need. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #35

God Can Stretch Your Money When You Tithe

One of the most incredible things I have ever seen was when God would make my paycheck go the distance after I had Tithed. There were times when one hundred percent of the check couldn't cover the bills, but when I had Tithed, the ninety percent that was left, did cover the bills! Go figure! That's one of the most wonderful things about our Lord. When you are obedient to His Word, He will make things work out that just don't seem possible in the natural - especially for a Tither.

He will make less do what more couldn't do.

He will make a little do what a lot couldn't do. And He can do it in many areas, not just in your checkbook. He can make your car get better gas mileage. He can make a loaf of bread make twenty sandwiches, instead of twelve. He can make a light bulb last for a thousand hours instead of seven hundred and fifty. But maybe you don't believe God will make a little go a long way. Then you have forgotten about the feeding of the five thousand. And what about the bag of flour and vessel of oil that sustained Elijah, the Widow Woman, and her son? God even stretched an entire day for Joshua, and He will do the same for you if that's what it takes to meet your needs. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #36

God Can Stretch Your Tithe too

“What can I do? My Tithe would be so small it wouldn’t help my church anyway.” I’ve only heard this excuse once, but it’s the only one I had sympathy for, mostly because it was spoken with humility instead of contempt. It doesn’t matter how small your Tithe is. God can make it do a thousand times more for the church than it could do in the hands of the world. Your part is not insignificant. Besides, I’ve seen times when the church had a very pressing need, and watched the offering meet that need to the exact penny, with nothing left over, and I know full well that some of the Tithes in that offering were just a dollar or so. Without every cent, those offerings would have fallen short. Your part truly is significant. Your part is important. You can make the difference. You *are* the difference.

Friend, I challenge you to Tithe, and watch God do with your few dollars what He did with those few loaves and fishes when He fed the five thousand. Do you know of any government program or charity anywhere that can do that? With God the saying is true - A little goes a long way! *Are you tithing yet?* Remember the widow’s mite.

Reason #37

Your Things Will Last Longer and Break Down Less

It's great that God can stretch your consumables so far when you Tithe, but He can also keep your non-consumables working and lasting far beyond their warranties and life expectancies. He can even keep your clothes in good condition for years; even decades like He did for the Israelites in the wilderness. Remember in Malachi 3:11 God said He would rebuke the Devourer for your sakes? Has it ever occurred to you just how much that promise implies?

Think of all the devourers there are out there He is protecting you and your belongings from. A moth lies waiting in your closet to chew on your favorite sweater. But when he gets to it, he decides he doesn't like your clothes and goes elsewhere. God just rebuked a devourer for your sake. You just finished building a brand new house and an entire colony of termites sees all that fresh new wood and go to sharpening their teeth. But when they go to bite on it, they find it like rock and can't penetrate it. God just rebuked a devourer for your sake.

Insects, rodents, carcinogens, rust, ultra violet rays, humidity, time, age, and even neighbors - whatever is at work devouring your things, God will rebuke when you Tithe. *Is God rebuking devourers for you yet?*

Reason #38

God Will Bring You Business When You Tithe

“And He said unto them, cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fish.” John 21:6

In reason number nine I said that God would bless your job. But there’s more to it than God blessing what you do. Most of us either own a business or work for one, and whether that business produces a product or performs a service, it needs customers.

For a Tither, God is in the business of providing customers. Not only will He provide for the work of your hands, but He will guide you in *Where* to look for the business; He will guide you to cast your net in the right place. God will provide good customers for your boss too, so as to keep you employed; permanently if necessary. Remember, whether you own a business or work for one, to pray and ask God that the nets be cast where the fish are. Then when your competitors see all the business you’re getting, and they ask you how you’re getting it all, hand them a business card with these words printed on it: *“Are you tithing yet?”*

Reason #39

Your Tithes Will Cause Others to Give Thanks to God

One of the things God really likes is when people take a moment to thank Him. Many Bible verses command us to thank Him often, and He loves it when we remember that He is the One Who provides for us. But God also likes it when our actions cause others to give thanks. II Corinthians 9:10-13 says, *“Now He that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness, being enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the wants of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings to God.”*

These verses simply put, mean that your Tithes and offerings and generosity through Christ, cause their recipients to give thanks to God. Isn't it great, that not only does your Tithe bless others, but it provides God with something He wants as well. Thanksgivings. *Are you causing thanksgivings to God yet?*

Reason #40 You Reap What You Sow

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” Galatians 6:7

Though it is true if you Tithe you will reap God’s promises to a Tither, strictly speaking, tithing itself does not fall under the laws of sowing and reaping. When you give over and above your Tithe, it’s like planting a crop that can grow into a great harvest, but tithing itself, is more like buying farm insurance. The size of your harvest generally depends on the quantity you plant, but **the Tithe guarantees the quality of your harvest**. The Tithe is your financial insurance taken out with God to cover those things you would normally have no control over, but still affect your harvest.

But there is more to this verse. Notice Paul says, *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked.”* To *mock*, literally means to impersonate. When the disobedient sin, they are literally trying to mock God, meaning they set themselves up as God over their own lives, as if to say, I will be in charge of my own life, in God’s stead. But they are deceived. There is only one God. Be not deceived, God is not mocked. One way or the other He will show Himself to be God in your situation. *Are you tithing yet?*

Reason #41

Only a Fool Turns His Back On So Many of God's Promises

"Whose despiseth the Word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded." Proverbs 13:13

"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction." Proverbs 10:8

Sometimes it's hard to see the forest for the trees. Let's put God's promises in a nutshell, and see them all together. When you Tithe, God has promised:

- To open the windows of heaven over you - Malachi 3:10
- To pour you out a blessing - Malachi 3:10
- To rebuke the Devourer for you - Malachi 3:11
- That your harvest won't be destroyed - Malachi 3:10, 11
- That others shall call you blessed - Malachi 3:12
- That you will be a delight to others - Malachi 3:12
- That your harvest will not be small - Haggai 1:6
- That you will be filled with food and drink - Haggai 1:6
- That you will have warm clothes - Haggai 1:6
- That your pockets will have no holes - Haggai 1:6
- To bless the labor of your hands - Haggai 1:11
- That you will have peace - Haggai 2:9
- That your barns will be full - Proverbs 3: 9,10
- To supply all your need - Philippians 4:17-19
- To bless those of your household - Deuteronomy 6:7

God obviously thought these promises would be enough of an incentive to make you obedient concerning the Tithe. How could anyone be foolish enough to choose the alternative? *You know the drill.*

Reason #42

By God's Own Rules the Doctrine of Tithing has Been Established

"In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."

II Corinthians 13:1

The Bible says this several times, and God truly does prove what is established by using more than one voice. In His Law He let it be known that no accusation should be acted upon without a witness, and even when Joseph was interpreting a set of dreams for Pharaoh, he said, *"And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass."* Genesis 41:32.

With God, nothing is established without a witness. Well, let's see, I wonder if we can prove the doctrine of tithing has been established. There are at least forty seven verses in the Bible that deal with tithing, covered in at least twelve books of the Bible. Moses spoke about it. So did Jesus - quoted by both Matthew and Luke.

The Apostle Paul talked about it too. Add Malachi, Amos, Nehemiah, and Solomon, and I think we just might have a witness. What about those who Tithed or were associated with the Tithe? Abraham Tithed. He must have believed in it. And Melchizedek received it from him. He must have believed in it too; and Jacob, and Hezekiah. The whole nation of Israel Tithed. Based on these facts, I declare the doctrine of tithing established.

If you are a Tither, I submit that you are in good company. If you don't Tithe, and I haven't convinced you to by now, then I'm going to send Jesus, Moses, Matthew, Luke, Paul, Malachi, Amos, Nehemiah, Solomon, Hezekiah, Jacob, Melchizedek, and Abraham, over to your house, where they will all one by one ask you this question: *"Are you tithing yet?"*

Reason #43

Everything Belongs to God Anyway

“The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord of Hosts.” Haggai 2:8

Just thought I would take a moment and remind you just Who it is Who receives your Tithes...you know, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the One, the Only, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent, All Mighty, All Powerful God!

Everything you have belongs to Him. It's just on loan to you until you depart this earth. Maybe some people don't Tithe because they don't have enough respect for Who their Heavenly Father is. They forget that everything they have isn't really theirs. They see all their increase as their own, and when they consider tithing, they get selfish - over what was never really theirs in the first place.

We would all do well to remember we have nothing that's not on loan to us from our Heavenly Father. *Tithing yet?*

Reason #44

It's the Best Investment in America

It might sound like a cliché, a trite way to end the book, but it's absolutely true. There is no better place for you to invest your increase than the Kingdom of God. There is no stock or business where you could reap eternal reward for ten percent of your income. The Kingdom of God, the Work of God, is the safest place in the universe for your money.

Jesus said, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal." Matthew 6:19, 20

When you Tithe, you are not giving your money away. You're not throwing it away either. Your Tithe is an investment. A one hundred percent guaranteed investment.

Better than any insurance you can buy. Better than any stock, bond, debenture, C.D., Money Market Certificate, or I.R.A. Wall Street has nothing to compare. Not even close. Heaven's vaults are the best surety in the universe. You could never invest enough that Heaven couldn't cover it. Even the streets are made of gold there.

With my last plea, I urge you to Tithe. You will never be sorry you did. It will have a lasting effect, far beyond anything you can know, and will begin an infinite chain reaction of blessing that will span millennia. Invest in eternity, and I truly believe that in a trillion lifetimes from today, you and I will walk together on those streets of gold, and we will talk about those times when I pestered you with that one, all important, all too familiar question, "Are you tithing yet?"

Author's Page



David Whitehead Jr.

Senior Writer for Prevailing Publications, David Whitehead Jr. is an ordained minister and former Pastor of Missions Outreach Church. He is also a former Chairman of the Travis County Republican Party Training Committee.

Having received formal training by the American Majority in Washington D.C. to conduct training seminars and workshops, he has taught and trained many Republican Activists in Texas, and has authored fourteen books, training manuals, and booklets.