

GIVING TO THE LORD:
A STUDY OF THE TITHE & OFFERINGS

A Study of the Tithe & Offerings

Introduction

- ▣ This lesson is going to show you how very important it is to be obedient in your giving to the Lord in both the Tithe and in your love offerings to Him.
- ▣ Why is this important to God? Because He wants to BLESS you! He is a GIVING God and He expects His children to be GIVERS too.
- ▣ Giving is selfless, it's generous, it's compassionate. Giving shows love. It is better to GIVE than to receive.
- ▣ Get your pens, highlighters out along with your notebooks because there are a LOT of scriptures to write down! Let's go!

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Cain & Abel

- ❑ The first recorded instance of tithes and offerings is of Cain and Abel. Let's go to Genesis 4:1-12 and read the account.
- ❑ Cain's offering: "And in the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground." (Gen. 4:3)
- ❑ Abel's offering: "And Abel brought of the firstborn of his flock and of the fat portions." (Gen. 4:4)
- ❑ Both men brought their offerings from their occupations. Cain was a farmer and Abel was a shepherd.
- ❑ Why was Abel's offering accepted and Cain's rejected? The key is found in verse 7 where the Lord tells Cain "IF you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not well, sin crouches at your door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."
- ❑ Abel brought THE FIRSTBORN, the first fruits of his flock and he gave God the FAT PORTIONS. Abel brought the tithe of his flock AND an offering of fat portions.
- ❑ Cain may have brought some beautiful produce to the Lord, but it was an offering ONLY. Cain did not bring the first fruits of his garden.

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Abraham's Tithes

- ▣ Abraham gave God his tithes after the victory over the kings of Shinar when they robbed Sodom & Gomorrah and took Lot's wealth.
- ▣ The account is found in Genesis 14, but we will only be reading 16-20.
- ▣ The key verse is 20 "And blessed, praised and glorified be God Most High, Who has given your foes into your hand! And [Abram] gave him a tenth of all [he had taken]."
- ▣ Before Abraham did anything else with the treasures, he gave God the tithe, or one-tenth of the entire lot.

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Moses & The Children of Israel

- ▣ The Lord instructed Moses to institute tithing in the nation of Israel early on.
- ▣ Leviticus 27:30 says “And all the TITHE of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord’s; it is HOLY to the Lord.”
- ▣ Leviticus 27:32 says “All the TITHE of the herd or of the flock, whatever passes under the herdsman’s staff [by means of which each tenth animal as it passes through a small door is selected and marked], the tenth shall be HOLY to the Lord.”
- ▣ Leveticus 27:34 “These are the commandments which the Lord commanded Moses on Mount Sinai for the Israelites.”

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Moses & The Children of Israel

- ❑ The Israelites probably still hold the world's record in giving to the Lord over and above the requirement.
- ❑ Exodus 35:4-5 says "And Moses said to all the congregation of the Israelites. This is what the Lord commanded: Take from among you an offering to the Lord. Whoever is of a willing and generous heart, let him bring the Lord's offering: gold, silver, and bronze; blue, purple, and scarlet, fine linen; goats' hair..."
- ❑ This was not a commandment from God to the people to give all this stuff, but His commandment was to Moses to ask them.
- ❑ They left Moses and went back to their tents. Moses didn't know if anyone would bring anything since it was voluntary.
- ❑ What they did next was incredible. Let's read the account in Exodus 35:21-35 & 36:1-6.

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Moses & The Children of Israel

- ▣ Moses actually had to tell the people to STOP giving! I would say it is safe to say that hasn't happened since!
- ▣ By giving of their possessions like this, they literally poured their lives into that temple in the wilderness. They became bonded with it because it was done out of LOVE for God.

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Elkanah & Hannah

- ▣ Elkanah, Hannah's husband was faithful to the Lord in his worship of Him. In those days, it was an annual event in Shiloh.
- ▣ I Samuel 1:3 says "This man went from his city year by year to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of hosts at Shiloh, where Hophni & Phinehas, the two sons of Eli were the Lord's priests."
- ▣ After Hannah had Samuel, that year Elkanah went again to Shiloh in verse 21 "And Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and to PAY HIS VOW."

Tithing Down Through the Ages

Conclusion

- ▣ Almost from the beginning, the tithe and offerings have been offered to God by the people who loved Him.
- ▣ And that is the common thread among all the people shown here. **THEY LOVED GOD** and they demonstrated that love by obeying His will in the tithe and giving freewill offerings to Him.
- ▣ I encourage everyone to do a Bible Study on the history of tithing and giving to the Lord. It's really amazing what people did by simple faith.

Basic Principles of Tithing

The First Fruits

- ▣ In every instance mentioned in the history of tithing and offerings, the very best was given (except Cain).
- ▣ The very act of bringing the tithe into the storehouse is an act of obedience and worship to the Lord.
- ▣ These people put God as Number One when they harvested and began seeing offspring of their flocks.
- ▣ The first fruits is “the cream of the crop.” Before their debts were paid, they put aside the very best for the Lord. They could have made a lot of money by keeping the best for themselves, but they chose to give the very best to Him. **AND HE REWARDED THEM.**
- ▣ The first fruits for us is 10% of the GROSS amount of our pay check. Yes, the GROSS amount.

Basic Principles of Tithing

God Instituted It

- ▣ Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law and became the once and for all sacrifice. However, the institution of tithing did not pass away but it remains and will always remain until we go home.
- ▣ With the tithe we are acknowledging that God is in control of our lives and especially our finances. We are honoring Him as our Provider and our God. He is our Partner. The Tithe or the tenth belongs to Him. He **STILL** considers it **HOLY** unto Him.
- ▣ Whether we give Him our tithe or we pocket it and pay a bill...He **STILL OWNS A TENTH OF YOUR MONEY**. That's why He said in Malachi that He was "robbed."

Basic Principles of Tithing

Bring the Tithe to the Storehouse

- ▣ The Bible is clear about WHERE we bring our tithe. We are to bring it to the storehouse so God can have “meat in His house.”
- ▣ Where is the storehouse? The place you receive spiritual food: your local church. The tithe is to be brought to God’s local church where He has placed you.
- ▣ The tithes are used for the day to day operations of the local church. Offerings are used to advance the Kingdom of God.

Basic Principles of Tithing

A Matter of Obedience

- ▣ Tithing boils down to a matter of obedience to the known will of God. We all have a choice each pay day: to give to God the first fruits of our check or pay a bill.
- ▣ As you have seen in this teaching so far, it is the KNOWN WILL of God that all people pay their tithe to Him. How is it considered “known?”
- ▣ Because it is written over and over again in the Bible. The Bible is the KNOWN will of God for mankind.

Basic Principles of Tithing

A Matter of Obedience

- ▣ Obedience in EVERY area of our lives is God's top priority for us. Why is it so important to Him that we obey Him?
- ▣ Obedience shows reverence, it shows respect for who He is, it shows love and it shows trust.
 - Reverence because we acknowledge that a Holy God commands our obedience.
 - Respect because He is the GREAT I AM. The Creator of the Universe, our All in All.
 - Love because if we LOVE Him, we will obey His commandments.
 - Trust because when we obey and put our will down, we are trusting that His will is much better for us than ours.

Basic Principles of Tithing

A Matter of Obedience

- ▣ We should approach tithing as a matter of obedience to our Father God.
 - Reverently we take our tithe right off the top to show Him reverence as getting the very top priority before anything else.
 - Respectfully we prepare our tithe presentation beforehand. It shows how much we are holding His money in regard.
 - Lovingly we lift our tithe up to Him in submission as we ask for Him to receive it as Holy unto Him.
 - Trustingly we give the tithe to Him trusting that He will open the windows of heaven and pour out blessings we won't be able to receive.

Basic Principles of Tithing

A Key to Abundance

- ▣ It's like opening a safety deposit box with a key that only you have, so is obeying the Lord in faithful, diligent and cheerful tithing.
- ▣ Like everything else in the Kingdom of God, tithing **MUST** be done in faith. You have to put your **FAITH** behind every act of obedience to God.
- ▣ What are the components of this "key?"
 - Making the decision to **OBEY** God and tithe.
 - Giving God the first fruits of your money.
 - Paying the tithe faithfully, week after week regardless of what the financial situation looks like in the natural.
 - Bringing the tithe to the storehouse of God, in an act of worship.
- ▣ **THIS** is putting your faith into tithing and it will be the key for God to open the windows of Heaven and begin pouring out more than you can contain.

Basic Principles of Tithing

Where is Your Treasure?

- ▣ Money is not what your treasure should be. It is the things of God; the transactions of faith that we deposit in Heaven that is where the true treasure is.
- ▣ Jesus said it in Matthew 6:19-21 “Do not gather and heap up and store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust and worm consume and destroy, and where thieves break through and steal. But gather and heap up and store for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust nor worm consume and destroy and where thieves do not break through and steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Basic Principles of Tithing

Where is Your Treasure?

- ▣ In God's Kingdom, money is a tool. It is needed to advance the kingdom. It is not to be desired the way the world does.
- ▣ What "treasures" can we heap up and store up in heaven that is more valuable than money?
 - Souls led to Jesus Christ
 - Changed lives by the power of Jesus Christ through our ministry
 - Acts of love and kindness to strangers
 - Giving of time, energy, love and yes, money to people in need to show them the love of God
 - Time spent in intercessory prayer for the lost
 - Laying hands on the sick and seeing them recover
 - Casting out devils and seeing people delivered from Satan's grip into the loving Hands of God.

Basic Principles of Tithing

Where is Your Treasure?

- ▣ What do we do here at BWC to store up treasures in Heaven?
 - We train believers to go out and minister to the lost.
 - We faithfully attend these training sessions
 - We bring friends who are hurting to receive healing
 - We pray for one another
 - We support the ministry in unseen ways....that God sees.
 - We worship Him in spirit and in truth.
 - We give money to help those in need.
- ▣ This body of believers give and give and give. The Lord sees it all. Every act, every dollar, every prayer is received into His Heart with joy.

Memorial Giving

God Notices Our Giving

- ▣ Did you know that God notices and records our acts of giving, whether it be deeds or money? He does.
- ▣ Let's look at what the Word of God says about this.
 - Malachi 3:16 says "Then those who feared the Lord talked often one to another; and the Lord LISTENED and HEARD it, and a BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE was written before Him of those who revered and worshipfully feared the Lord and who thought on His Name."
- ▣ When we come in and testify of how the Lord has blessed us and what He is doing in our lives, this is what is happening in Heaven.

Memorial Giving

God Notices Our Giving

- Acts 10:31 “ And he said, Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and harkened to, and your donations to the poor have been known and preserved before God [so that He needs and is about the help you].”
- Cornelius was lost, Jesus was not his savior, but he LOVED God! He prayed to God the Father. Acts 10:1 says “Now [living] at Caesarea there was a man whose name was Cornelius, a centurion (captain) of what was known as the Italian Regiment, a devout man who venerated God and treated Him with reverential obedience, as did all his household; and he gave much alms to the people and prayed continually to God.”
- Notice Cornelius was a gentile! A Roman soldier! But His LOVE for God, his REVERENTIAL OBEDIENCE and his GIVING came up as a memorial before God. IT was a sweet smelling aroma to God.
- Because of this, God gave him the best gift of all: Salvation through Jesus Christ for him and his entire household!
- He did open the windows of heaven and He did pour out a blessing that Cornelius could NOT contain! Salvation had come to the gentiles and he was the first one!

Memorial Giving

The Widow's Mite

- ▣ Let's look at Jesus' observation of the widow in the temple in Luke 21:1-4.
 - "Looking up, [Jesus] saw the rich people putting their gifts into the treasury. And He also saw a poor widow putting in two mites (copper coins). And He said, truly I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for they all gave out of their abundance (their surplus); but she has contributed out of her lack and her want putting in all that she had on which to live."
- ▣ Now THAT is trusting God! This act of faith got God's attention. Jesus spoke of her and she has been talked about ever since! She is still remembered today as the woman who gave it all to Him.

Memorial Giving Conclusion

- ▣ Memorial giving happens when the following conditions are met:
 - It's done faithfully
 - It's done in faith
 - It's done generously
 - IT's done in obedience and reverence
 - It's done cheerfully and willingly
- ▣ The Lord LOVES a cheerful giver. Think about it, if someone owed you money and they came and paid you begrudgingly by tossing it in your lap, how would that make you feel?
- ▣ People who come to Him with the first fruits of their labors because they love Him are much loved by Him.

Tithes and Offerings

What's the Difference?

- ▣ Isn't it all the same? What is the difference between a tithe and an offering? No it's not all the same. There is a big difference between the tithe and offerings.
- ▣ In order to fully comprehend how important tithing is for a Christian, a solid understanding of the differences between the tithe and offerings and the conditions of both of these things needs to be understood.
- ▣ Let's look closer at these differences.

Tithes and Offerings

The Tithe

- ▣ The tithe or tenth is your money. It's one-tenth of your paycheck however big or small that is.
 - The tithe is OWNED by God. It's His whether you give it or not.
 - The tithe is the first fruits or the "gross" amount.
 - ▣ Leviticus 27:30 says "And all the TITHE of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is HOLY to the Lord."
 - ▣ Leviticus 27:32 says "All all the TITHE of the herd or of the flock, whatever passes under the herdsman's staff [by means of which each tenth animal as it passes through a small door is selected and marked], the tenth shall be HOLY to the Lord."
 - The tithe is holy or set apart for God's use. This means that one tenth of your paycheck does NOT belong to you, it belongs to God.

Tithes and Offerings

The Tithe

- ▣ Psalm 24:1 says “The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness of it, the world and they who dwell in it.”
- ▣ The Lord created the earth and the Lord OWNS the earth. Satan may be the prince of the power of the air, but he does NOT own anything!
- ▣ The Lord owns ALL souls, those who love Him and those who hate Him.
- ▣ Because of this principle, everyone’s paycheck has a tenth or tithe that is OWNED by God. Saved or lost the tenth, the tithe is owned by God. It is His property.

Tithes and Offerings

The Tithe

- ❑ Tithing is not optional. It is a choice you don't have the right to make. Why? Because the tithe belongs to the Lord. Because He owns all the earth and everything in it.
- ❑ God considers it robbery of Him to NOT pay your tithe. Malachi 3:8 says "Will a man rob or defraud God? Yet you rob and defraud Me. But you say, In what way do we rob or defraud You? You have withheld your tithes and offerings. You are cursed with the curse, for you are robbing Me..."
- ❑ Whoa...wait a minute! A Curse? Yes refusing to pay the tithe results in a curse over your finances that spreads to every area of your life.
- ❑ Satan has legal ground to decimate anything he wants to in your life. God said "THE CURSE" not "a" curse.

The Tithe Protocol

- ▣ The State Department has “protocols” that must be followed when they go into another country to meet with dignitaries there.
- ▣ Modes of dress, mannerisms, words to say or not to say etc. These are what make up the protocols.
- ▣ Because the tithe belongs to the Creator of the Universe, there is a protocol to follow when paying and submitting the tithe to Him. I call it the Tithe Protocol.

The Tithe Protocol

- ▣ Since God has established the spiritual law of tithing, it has to be done the way He says to do it.
- ▣ This is where the tithe protocol comes in. What exactly does the tithe protocol entail?
 - The first 10% of the GROSS amount of your paycheck is taken off FIRST. Before anything else is paid. It can't be anything LESS than 10% and it can't be 10% of the NET. The gross is the first fruits.
 - The ATTITUDE must be right to pay the tithe. It cannot be given begrudgingly or if it is haphazardly done without reverence to God Almighty. God appreciates a cheerful giver.
 - The tithe must be taken to the storehouse of God, which is where you get your spiritual "meat." Giving it to an individual is not the storehouse. Wherever God has planted you in the harvest fields, THAT is the storehouse you bring your tithes to.

The Tithe: Conclusion

- ▣ So many Christians are under a curse because of this one area.
- ▣ God wants so much to open those windows of heaven and begin to pour out those blessings. But the adversary is always there with his legal grounds trying to block every blessing he can from reaching us.
- ▣ I encourage everyone to consider these things the next time you get a pay check. You will get in one line or another: the line of blessings or the line of curses.

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings to the Lord

- ▣ What are offerings to the Lord? Offerings are given over and above your tithes. Offerings are expressions of love between mankind and Father God.
- ▣ When we bring an offering over and above our tithe, it blesses the Lord. When we give money to help the poor or support a missionary or go and fix someone's porch, we are blessing the Lord's work.
- ▣ Let's look closer at the offerings to the Lord.

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings to the Lord

- ▣ Unlike the tithe, offerings are voluntary although the Bible puts tithes AND offerings together. Offerings bless the Lord so much because He DOESN'T require your offerings and what you give as an offering comes from your heart of love. THAT is what really blesses Him.
- ▣ God loves a cheerful giver! It blesses His socks off to see His children come to give Him freewill offerings of prayer, worship, helping others and yes money.

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings to the Lord

- ▣ We read about the Children of Israel having to stop giving into the temple because they gave too much.
- ▣ The more you give into the Kingdom of God, the more He can bless you. I'm not talking about just money.
- ▣ Offerings can be anything: time, talent, prayer and money. Offerings advance the kingdom of God. Tithes help run the day to day operations of the church, but offerings are the drivers for advancement of the Kingdom.

Tithes and Offerings

Offerings to the Lord

- ▣ Here are some examples of giving offerings to the Lord:
 - You give \$20 to a missionary's ministry
 - You bring groceries to an elderly woman who has no one to help her.
 - You pray for your neighbor's daughter who is away from God in a sinful lifestyle.
 - You bring your neighbor to church because he/she doesn't have a way to go.
 - You give \$100 to a person God tells you to give to.
 - You take time every day to pray for the lost around you.

Tithes and Offerings

Planting Your Harvest Field

- ❑ Offerings are plantings in your harvest field. They are separate from the tithe of the Lord. They are the “seeds” you plant through extra money given, time and energy sown into the Body of Christ or into the lives of people you are trying to win for Jesus.
- ❑ The Bible says in Ecclesiastes 11:1 “Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.” Verse 2 says “Give a portion to seven, yes, even [divide it] to eight, for you know not what evil may come upon the earth.”
- ❑ Sow “offering seeds” as often as you can. Ask the Lord for “offering assignments” so that you can have the opportunity to give. Look for opportunities to give!

Tithes and Offerings

Conclusion

- ▣ As you can see, there are many, many ways to give offerings to the Lord.
- ▣ Begin to ask the Lord what you can do to give offerings unto Him that will bless His Heart.
- ▣ Tithes AND Offerings, the kingdom of God needs both. If all Christians everywhere obeyed this one commandment, we would have been at the marriage supper of the Lamb eons ago.

Types of Giving

▣ Sacrificial Giving

- Sacrificial giving is the same thing the widow did. It is giving to God when it is going to take from our portion of money.
- For example, you make \$500 for the week. \$50 of that belongs to the Lord. It is HOLY to Him. You have \$450 left to pay your bills, buy your groceries and other needs. Your bills for the week total \$400. If you give the Lord the final \$50, THAT is sacrificial giving. You are saying to God "I trust YOU to send food for my house this week. I trust YOU to give me gas money. I trust YOU to fix my car.

▣ Love Offerings

- Giving love offerings unto the Lord is one way to show the Lord how much you love Him. It is also a way to show the love of God to OTHERS.
- Giving love offerings to the Lord is one way for Him to show His love to the lost to bring them into His kingdom.

Types of Giving

▣ Alms to the Poor

- God has ALWAYS considered the poor. Jesus said the poor would ALWAYS be with us.
- There are many reasons people are poor. It could be generational curses or, disabilities that prevent working and on and on.
- When we give to the poor. When we give to the battered women's shelter, the homeless shelters, orphanages, nursing home patients, church pantries and closets; God smells that aroma and smells REALLY good to Him.

Types of Giving

- ▣ Giving time, talents and energy
 - Many people are faithful to give their tithe, they try to give a little money over their tithe and they also give of their time, their talents and energy into the lives of people for the glory of God.
 - Giving offerings can take many forms; not just money. Some people are doing good to pay their tithe and their offerings ARE their time and their talents and energy.

The Malachi Principles

- There are three significant principles found in the book of Malachi chapter 3. If we can just get this in our spirits, our lives can make a turnaround and God can bless us!
 - **Robbing God**
 - “Will a man rob or defraud God? Yet you rob and defraud Me, but you say, In what way do we rob or defraud You? You have withheld your tithes and offerings. You are cursed with the curse, for you are robbing Me, even this whole nation.” (Malachi 3:8-9)
 - “But if you will not hearken to Me and will not do all these commandments, and if you spurn and despise My statutes, and if your soul despises and rejects My ordinances, so that you will not do all My commandments, but break My covenant, I will do this: I will appoint over you [sudden] terror (trembling, trouble), even consumption and fever consume and waste the eyes and make the physical life pine away. You shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.” (Leviticus 26:14-16)
 - GOD IS TRUSTING US TO BE FAITHFUL WITH THE MONEY HE GIVES US. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING TO HIM WHAT BELONGS TO HIM. IF WE FAIL TO DO THIS, WE ARE BREAKING COVENANT WITH HIM AND SATAN HAS FULL RIGHT TO ROB US IN RETURN. THAT IS THE BOTTOM LINE. THE TITHE IS SERIOUS TO GOD AND IT'S SERIOUS TO SATAN.
 - IF SATAN CAN DECEIVE YOU INTO ROBBING GOD OF THE TITHE, HE HAS A MAJOR DOORWAY INTO YOUR LIFE. HE CAN ATTACK NOT ONLY YOUR MONEY, BUT YOUR HEALTH, YOUR JOB, AND YOUR RELATIONSHIPS.

The Malachi Principles

■ Accusing God

- “Your words have been strong and hard against Me, says the Lord. Yet you say, What have we spoken against You? You have said, It is useless to serve God, and what profit is it if we keep His ordinances and walk gloomily and as if in mourning apparel before the Lord of hosts? And now we consider the proud and arrogant to be happy and favored; evildoers are exalted and prosper; yes, and when they test God, they escape unpunished.” (Malachi 3:13-14)
- WE’VE ALL DONE IT. WE’VE ALL GOTTEN MAD BECAUSE THE WORD DOESN’T SEEM TO BE WORKING IN OUR LIVES. WE’VE ALL SAID “WHERE’S THE POWER?” AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. WE’VE ALL GOTTEN MAD AND QUIT PAYING THE TITHE AND GIVING OFFERINGS ONLY TO FIND OUR MONEY DRIES UP VERY QUICKLY.
- IMAGINE, SHAKING OUR FIST AT THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE AND TELLING HIM HE DOESN’T HAVE THE WANT TO OR THE POWER TO BE FAITHFUL TO HIS WORD!
- IT HURTS TO HAVE YOUR MOTIVES QUESTIONED ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU KNOW HOW MUCH LOVE IS IN YOUR HEART AND HOW BAD YOU WANT TO BLESS PEOPLE.

The Malachi Principles

▣ Getting God's Attention

- ▣ "Then those who feared the Lord talked often one to another; and the Lord listened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him of those who revered and worshipfully feared the Lord and who thought on His Name. (Malachi 3:16)
- ▣ "And they shall be Mine, says the Lord of hosts, in that day when I publicly recognize and openly declare them to be My jewels (My special possession, My peculiar treasure). And I will spare them, as a man spares his own son who serves him. (Malachi 3:17)
- ▣ GIVING PRAISE REPORTS IS JUST THIS SCRIPTURE IN ACTION. TELLING EACH OTHER OF THE THINGS GOD IS DOING IN OUR LIVES GETS HIS ATTENTION AND HE GETS THE BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE OUT.
- ▣ HE VALUES GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION FOR WHAT HE DOES IN OUR LIVES. WE BECOME HIS JEWELS, HIS SPECIAL POSSESSIONS.
- ▣ ONE DAY HE WILL DECLARE BEFORE ALL OF HEAVEN HOW SPECIAL WE ARE BECAUSE WE ARE FAITHFUL TO OBEY HIS COMMANDMENTS AND BECAUSE WE LOVE HIM AND WE DECLARE HIS LOVING ACTS IN THE EARTH.

TITHING AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- ▣ Obedience and faithfulness in the tithe is an act; a powerful act of spiritual warfare.
- ▣ How is this possible? The ruling spirit of the world systems is Mammon. Mammon is a spirit that rests on money. It is a spirit of greed and selfishness. Mammon promises everything but gives nothing. The ultimate “con man”.
- ▣ All finances have either the spirit of Mammon or the Holy Spirit involved. At the crossroads of our pay check we either choose God’s way of the tithe or we choose Mammon’s way of greed and selfishness.

Tithing and Spiritual Warfare

- ▣ How is tithing tied to spiritual warfare?
Because money is tied to the world's system where Mammon reigns, the tithe is God's way of ensuring that Satan can't touch His provision for us.
- ▣ Tithing effectively "blocks" Satan's ability to activate the curse against us. This is where God prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemy! He has to stand by and watch us eat the bounty of God's provision and there isn't a thing he can do about it.

Tithing and Spiritual Warfare

Getting Back on Track

- ❑ But what if you have already messed up your money by not tithing and you can see how the enemy is robbing you? What do you do now?
- ❑ You REPENT for not tithing, for robbing God, for defrauding Him. You ask forgiveness and ask to be washed in the Blood of Jesus Christ for this sin.
- ❑ You make the decision and commitment to give God His tenth of any income you receive no matter how small it is.
- ❑ You break the curse over your life in the Name of Jesus and call it reversed! You tell Satan and Mammon to get their hands OFF your money.
- ❑ Ask the Lord to give you “offering assignments” to help you begin to plant your harvest field.

Tithing and Spiritual Warfare

- ▣ God is all about second, third and chance after chance to clean the slate and start back on the right foot. He is full of mercy and grace and He is waiting to begin to bless you once again.
- ▣ But you might say, but I do tithe faithfully and I give of my talents and money to help the poor and I am still suffering lack. Why isn't the Word of God working in my life?
- ▣ I don't know the inner workings of your life, but I do know this: The Word of God CANNOT FAIL. It is NEVER God's fault if the Word isn't working in your life.
- ▣ There has to be something you are missing and you have to seek God for the answer. It is a question that only He can answer.

Tithing and Spiritual Warfare

Conclusion

- ▣ The Lord has provided a whole arsenal of weapons to defeat Satan's onslaughts in our lives. Tithing is another, very powerful way to defeat his attacks against every area of life.
- ▣ When the enemy has overrun your finances and it seems like you are constantly in need, examine among other things, your giving of tithes and offerings.

CONCLUSION

- ❑ God established the tithe with mankind because it is a vehicle of His Grace. Remember this: God is LOVE. His every motivation is LOVE driven.
- ❑ God wants so very much to bless mankind. He wants to set us free from poverty and lack. The tithe and the offerings are the path OUT of poverty and lack.
- ❑ Tithing is part of our covenant relationship with God. I encourage everyone reading this to meet with the Lord and discuss your financial situations and your tithe and offering habits. Let Him direct your next steps.