

To Tithe or Not?

Message Study Notes for 8th August 2021

What does tithing mean to you?

Tithing is the Old Testament instruction to give 10% of your income.

What is your response to the following statements all recorded as messages from some churches?

- You can't be healed unless you tithe.
- You can't be blessed unless you tithe.
- If you don't give 10% you are robbing God.

How would those statements affect people who need healing, or want God's blessing, or have little money?

Christians must look at everything - including tithing - in the light of the cross and resurrection.

If a church says 'Tithe to us, and God will pay you back threefold,' what do you think is the motivation behind either giving money or teaching that message?

In the Old Testament, people tithed spices and grain offerings, and tithed a portion of their income to support the Temple priests - the Levites.

Read Matthew 23 verse 23

What did Jesus say was more important than tithing? Why?

Jesus isn't telling Christians to tithe. He's chastising certain Jewish people in their interpretation of the LAW. But Christians are not under Law.

Read Luke 18 verses 9 to 14.

Is Jesus saying that God is pleased with their tithing? If not, why not?

None of the epistles tell Christians to tithe.

If the Old Covenant says 'give 10%' should Christians always give more? Any reasons why not?

The gospel is that we are to give freely, from the heart, not compelled.

Read 2nd Corinthians 9, verse 7.

How can Christians find a motivation to give that comes not from pressure OR through reluctance?