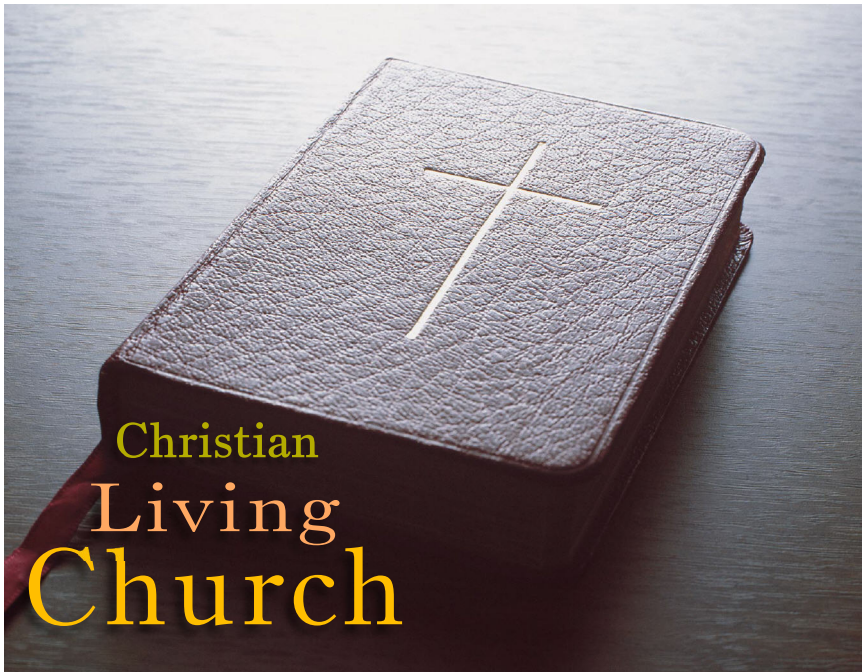


Tithing

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, 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.”



Christian
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This series of lessons has been designed for private study or classroom presentation. The purpose of this foreword is to explain certain conventions utilized throughout the program. The overall concept is to begin with the basic concepts necessary for the new convert to understand and progress toward more complex doctrine. The lessons are numbered in order to maintain the proper sequence of study.

When Scripture references are encountered in the text, various actions are recommended. When in parenthetical bold (**Genesis 1:1**) the verse is to be looked up and read right away. Frequently, the next textual statement will comment on that verse. Reading verse and text in proper order will enhance one's understanding of the verse. Direct quotes from Scripture will be "*bold italicized and contained in quotation marks*" and, unless otherwise noted, will be from the King James Bible. When the reference is in parenthetical non-bold (Genesis 1:1) it is to provide the Scriptural basis for the statement if confirmation is desired. References in blue [Genesis 1:1](#) will be listed in the lesson section entitled **FURTHER STUDY**.

FURTHER STUDY is the "homework" section. Its purpose is to encourage Bible study at home. The referenced verses have a short summation to assist the student desiring more knowledge about a subject to find what they are looking for.

The **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** section is primarily for classroom use. Open discussion with the exchange of ideas produces growth for all involved. Most of the time the answer is contained in the referenced Scripture but sometimes the question is offered for open discussion. Even in private Bible study, analysis of the question and the search for its answer can be rewarding.

This work is offered to anyone with a desire to better understand God's Word. It is our hope and prayer that the person studying these lessons will come away with a better understanding of God's will and a closer walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With Loving Concern for all those seeking God's Message
The Church of God Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount, Virginia

Key Verse: Matthew 23:23



“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, 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.”

Discussion Question:

What does this Key Verse mean to you?

If there were no other scripture regarding tithing except this, we would know we are supposed to tithe.

Before the Temple and before the Levitical Priesthood, we have two godly men tithing. ***“And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.”*** (Genesis 14:20). Melchizedek was King of Salem and Priest of the Most High God. He met Abraham and blessed him when Abraham was returning from defeating the kings. Abraham gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything he had cap-

tured. Melchizedek’s name means king of righteousness. He is also called King of Salem (which means king of peace) ([Hebrews 7:1-2](#)). ***“And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, 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, whose name was changed to Israel, had twelve sons known later as the twelve tribes of Israel. The third son was Levi. God set apart a

Tithing



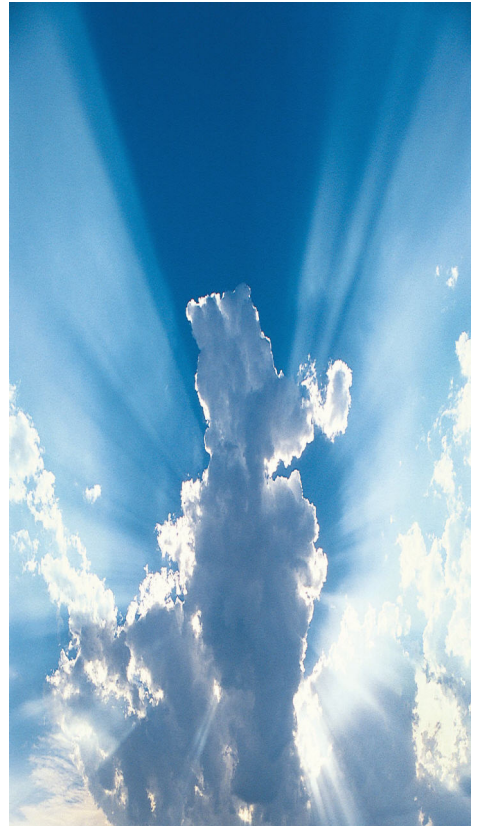
ministry to do His work. This ministry was composed of the descendants of Levi.

When God divided the land of Canaan and gave a portion to all the other tribes, He gave none to Levi. Instead of an inheritance, God gave Levi the tithe (**Numbers 18:24**). Verse 26 tells us, *“Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the LORD, even a tenth part of the tithe.”* This tithe was for the Levites service in the tabernacle (**Deuteronomy 18:1, 3-4**).

There are three basic concepts that we need to remember about tithing. One, tithing reveals the condition of the heart (**2 Corinthians 9:6-7**). Two, failure to tithe is robbing God (**Malachi 3:8**). Three, failure to tithe or honor God can cause

serious economic consequences (**Haggai 1:7-9**).

Every three years, a tithe was put in the storehouse for widows and orphans. *“When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the*



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fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;” (Deuteronomy 26:12).

The Levitical Priesthood was temporary. It was to be superseded by the priesthood of Jesus Christ which is of the order of Melchizedek. Christ’s Priesthood having replaced Levi has every right to receive tithes.

At Christ’s death the veil of the temple was split in two, showing that we go directly to Christ, not to the priest. So tithing today goes to Christ’s work of fulfilling the great commission to preach the gospel to every person. In conclusion, tithing is an act of gratitude that says to God, “Thank You” for everything He has given to us. I’ve never known anyone who tithed willingly who was not blessed.



Tithing



Discussion Questions:

1. What is the tithe? **Leviticus 27:32**

2. To whom do we tithe? **Leviticus 27:30**

Tithing



FOR FURTHER STUDY:

Hebrews Chapter 7 The history of the tithe
 The reason for the tithe
 To whom the tithe belongs

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