

A WORTHY BRIDE – TITHING: Part Two



We want to be worthy of rising to meet our Lord, Jesus Christ in the air!!

I want to share something with you guys. I am not called to be your friend, I am called to speak God's truth. It is His truth, that sets us free. Sometimes people don't like what I say and they leave the ministry or want to argue. As my last Pastor used to say, don't get mad at me, take it up with God. It's not easy for someone to tell you that you aren't hearing from God or that something you heard was not God speaking but the devil trying to deceive you. We have to study God's Word to discern His voice from the many voices coming from the world.

Something I did not bring out and make real clear last week is that when you pay your tithes, it is the first 10% that goes to God.



That first slice, or tenth belongs to God. He gets served first.

FIRST FRUITS, means you honor God by giving this to HIM first. He knows that the government and our employers take their portion before we ever get our paychecks. We can't help that. But once we get it, we immediately set His portion out to be given to Him before we pay bills or spend any of it. In so doing, you show your obedience and love for Him. We are not to compromise God's Word and decide that since we are not bringing the gross amount home that we should only tithe off of the net that we receive. No. That is lifting the government and your employer higher than God. You pay your tithe off of the full amount which is the gross. You may not like hearing that, but I'm not preaching

anything that I myself am not also doing. Pastors are to pay tithes **CORRECTLY** just like everyone else. We are to give offerings just like everyone else too. The church is God's institution to spread the gospel and to help those in need. If we don't support the church God's way, how can His Kingdom work get done? Everyone likes to just think well God can just do miracles. He can, but He wants to work in and through us to reach others for His glory. We are to be His hands and feet and the work is not only spiritual things but natural things that are needed to be done as well.

DEREK PRINCE TEACHING

There were many types of offerings: (Deut. 12:6) Burnt offerings, sacrifices, special gifts, what you have vowed, freewill offerings, and the first offerings of your herds and flocks etc.

Matt.6:1-4 – Read out

Alms – charity - this is what is given to the poor, to men who are in need.

Where you put your money is where your heart is. Give to the poor and in so doing you lay up treasure for yourself in heaven.

Prov.19:17 – He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.

Eccl.11:1-2 – Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.



Give and you are laying up insurance with God. Give portions to seven and to eight – give a little more. When you give to the poor, then you are laying up insurance with God. When the disaster comes or bad times, God will take care of you. Giving is insurance for bad times.

****We have been approached by different people in need and have not been able to help. This is not God's way and I know it hurts His heart when people are truly in need but His house has not been supported to be able to help.****

Testimony of Oswald J. Smith: When people approached in need (100's of men in need). He always checked to see if they had been faithful in tithing when they had an income and found that no man that was in need had ever been faithful in tithing.

Tithing is only the foundation, upon that foundation we build with various kinds of offerings. We are to help the poor with our alms/giving.

The only kind of giving that is truly acceptable to God comes through Grace. In the New Testament, our giving comes out of Grace.

2 Cor.8:7 – Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

Also excel in the grace of giving. Grace motivates giving. Law and Grace. Law is external, written on tablets of stone, do this and don't do that. The rebel nature resists what is written on the tablets outside. Grace is internal, works from within, not without. Written on our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

John 1:17 – For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Grace and Truth came through Jesus Christ. Grace only comes through Jesus, and only through the cross. This is true in the area of finance as well. What Jesus did on the cross made way for our prosperity.

2 Cor.8:9 – For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich.

We can't do anything to deserve the grace of God.

Gal.5:6 – For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

The spiritual key to right giving is grace received through Jesus and through the cross, by faith that works through love. **You can only apprehend the Bible's principles of finance by faith.**

Faith means we act, we do something. We give, we give before we receive. Natural says I can't afford to give, but faith says give and you will receive.

Luke 6:38 – Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Give first.

Whatever measure you deal out to others determines how it is given to you.

Pressed down and running over. You can determine the proportion you expect to receive by the proportion you give.

Paul speaking about the church of Macedonia which was poor.

2 Cor.8:2-5 – How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; praying us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.



The poor and needy know what it is like not to have enough and yet they are usually the most generous even with what little they receive.

The poor are still generous. I always feel sorry for people who share what hard times they are having and have told them God understands and have told them to ask Him to help them to pay their tithes, to work up to paying the 10%. He expects the poor person to give just as He expects the rich person to give. We should give proportionately as we receive. No one is exempt from tithing and offerings. He does not understand or have sympathy when you do not have a heart to honor Him. If you are newly come to Him and are in debt and have financial trouble and don't see how you can tithe, pray and get Him into the middle of your situation. He will show you and make a way. You are cutting off your blessings when you are not obedient.

1st thing to give to the Lord is yourself. He wants you, your heart first of all. It is for your benefit that God requires you to give. But He has an order, yourself first.

Romans 12:1-2 – I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

My mom paid tithes even though my dad had no knowledge of it. If you don't have control of your money, then pray and let God know that you want to be obedient. Pour out your heart to Him and let Him know your situation that you are unequally yoked. Ask for His help.

Psalms 112:3-4 – Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever. Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

Even in darkness light dawns. God rains on the just and the unjust. When God blessed my mother, my father who did not serve Him also benefitted from those blessings.

Matt.6:19-21 – 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 nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Where you invest is where your concern is.

Scott and I learned about tithing through a new Christian class we were taking at church. We were tithing before we really even understood it or all that God promised to do because we tithed. We just knew it was something we were supposed to do.



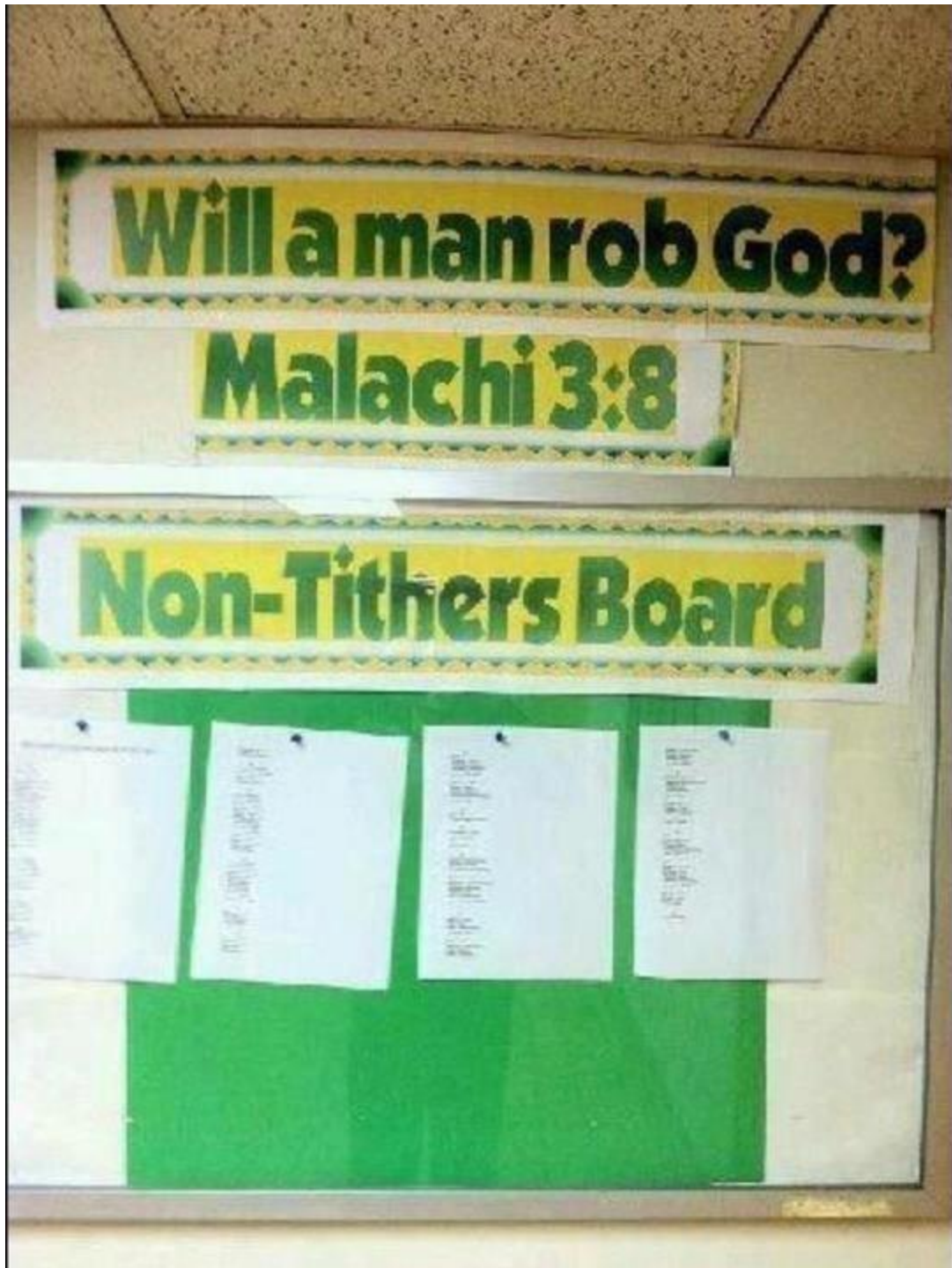
Teach your children to tithe.

Prov. 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

This reminds me of Kennedy. She finds money all the time and we teach her to set aside 10% for God's tithe and to give Him praise and thanksgiving for blessing her with it. She is already storing up treasures in heaven by doing this. And many times when she gives she has seen it come right back to her by finding more money even that same day.



If I were a new Christian and didn't know about tithing yet, that kind of church would probably turn me away. We have to realize that when new Christians come to Jesus their lives usually aren't perfect and they've been living a worldly life and it is a process to bring things in line with God's will. Paying tithes is no different, but the main thing is to learn and understand it and ask the Lord to help you to be obedient and to work up to paying the full 10%. Everyone has to start somewhere. When Scott and I first started attending church again we couldn't afford to tithe 10%. To be honest we weren't interested in doing that either. Any church that tells you that you can't enter if you don't tithe first is not a Godly place to be.



This is not necessary. I believe this kind of thing will drive people away from God. What happens when a new person comes to the church and sees this and doesn't understand about surrendering themselves fully to the Lord much less about obedience and has never even heard of tithing. What about people who are

praying and asking God to help them to be obedient and may not quite be there yet, how embarrassing is this? I don't think God wants to embarrass us to make us obey or shame us. No one needs to know if you are or are not tithing, it is between you and God.



We tithe the first 10% to God, we spend to meet our needs, give to help others and save some if you can.

TESTIMONY

Mr. David and Mrs. Pat who come here to this church have seen God at work in their lives for many years. I want to share what I have seen God do in the short time I have known them. Mr. David had gone through a major lay off at a company he'd been with for quite a while. He was looking for work for about 6 months and nothing suitable was available. They stayed faithful paying tithes and next thing you know the company gave Mr. David an opportunity to go back to work and they restored his seniority and vacation time and everything just as it was before. They even paid for him to relocate to their new plant. They also put his son back to work as well.

If you are not giving for the right reasons, you may as well have kept it because God doesn't even want it if you don't give with a cheerful heart and out of love and obedience to Him.



In the short time that we've been in ministry, I've seen faithful tithers that come to this church lose their jobs and so the ministry can't count on that money. *One of them was blessed to receive a new job that pays much better. The other one is taking some time off I believe. God is faithful.* I've had one lady that didn't like the counsel I gave her and so she withdrew from supporting this ministry. There have been so many people say they want to donate, or pay tithes and then they don't. In all of this God is showing me that worrying changes nothing and this is all in His control, there's nothing I can do about it. When He calls you to do something, He will make provision for it. We have to trust Him and not walk in the flesh, and try to make it happen by our own might. This is where faith and trusting Him comes in.

The other day I was watching a tv preacher and I heard him asking for donations to keep his ministry on the air. He mentioned some of the money that had been coming in and one of the donations was \$ 100,000.00. Immediately my mind

started racing about what this ministry could do with that kind of money. I thought, we could pay for Pastor Dalbeer and Pastor Erustus' land and we could finish the school up and build a caretakers house and dig water wells and get Pastor Erustus a car etc. Then a day or two later I heard someone say it was a sin to want someone else's offerings. To be covetous of them. Boy, you better believe I asked forgiveness and repented. I know that this ministry is right where God wants us and in His timing He will provide all the things that are needed. He will not fail us.

Here are some things that your support helps to do in this ministry:



These are shoes of the most recent villagers that Pastor Dalbeer has been ministering to in India. It is winter there and very cold and most of these shoes are summer shoes. Look at the wear and the holes in these shoes that go all the way through. He said many of the people didn't have warm clothes or blankets. He gave all he had to help these people.



These are boxes of shoes that Pastor Dalbeer was able to get to try and help some of the villagers. His heart was hurt because he knew he could not help them all, but he did what he could.



Praise the Lord to see the smile on this young boy's face from God's blessing and help being poured out to him.



Here's Pastor Erustus in Kenya under some shade trees at an old couple's house that used to walk 4 miles one way to church. Now Pastor is planting a church at their house because he hasn't been able to find a place to rent to have church there. This village has been under heavy witchcraft. But the older couple has provided a place to build a temporary church until we can find a place for a permanent one. We believe the witchcraft will be broken off of this town and more and more souls will come to Jesus Christ.



Praise the Lord for every soul that is hungry to come and hear His Word. How humble they are there to meet under the trees.



This mud walled church is a temporary structure and what a blessing to see it going up. We are believing for land to come available for the church and for the needs of this church to be met in Jesus' name.



These materials were not given by Three Hearts Church. As God blesses we give and do what we can. Praise the Lord for others who give when they can to help meet the need as well. The need is great.

CLOSING

My concern is not about you tithing or giving to this ministry. It is my job as a teacher of God's Word to show you the truth. God wants your obedience. Don't lie to yourself and say God loves me no matter what. He always loves us, but He does expect us to obey. He is not going to let disobedient children into heaven. Disobedience is sin. My last Pastor said during the first service I attended, "I don't want your money, I don't need your money." This is true for us here too, I trust in God to bring the right people to this ministry to support His Kingdom work. He is faithful.

I am a giver, it is one of my gifts so it comes easy for me to give. The truth is that when we surrender fully to Jesus we are all to be like Him and He gave all for us. He is a giver and our example.

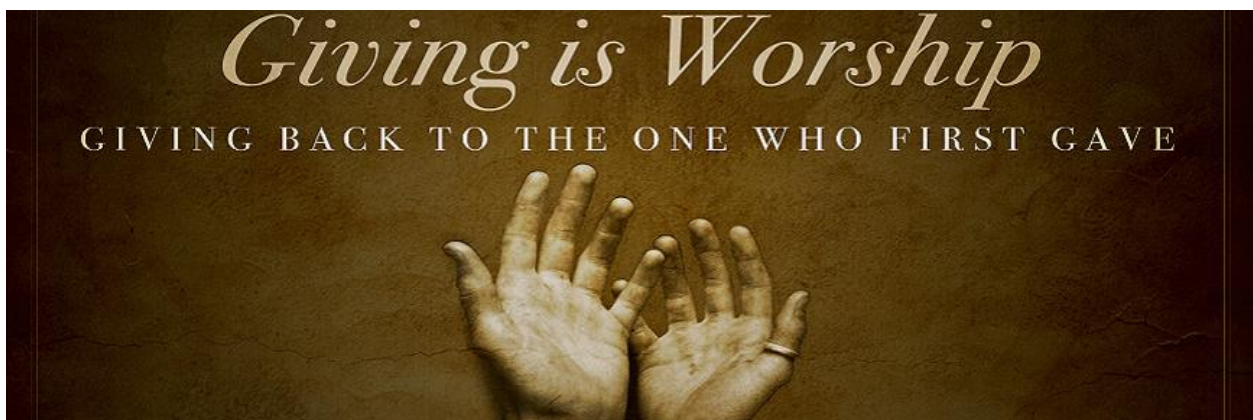
John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down His life for his friends. Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.



Jesus gave His life and He equated that giving with love. He showed His love for us by giving His life. He paid a high price for us. In return and in order to be His friends, He expects us to obey His commands.

Is God the Father a Giver?

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.



God GAVE His best in JESUS. We are to be like our Father and give also. God gave us life and He gives to us continually. We can't be considered His children if we don't like to give.

Luke 12:15-21 – Read out – “Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required”



This is Mr.Scrooge. He worked and worked and was so greedy and stingy and hoarded up all he could get. No one liked him and no one wanted to be around him. If you think being selfish and greedy and not wanting to give is a picture of Jesus – look at this picture again. I don't think so.

If you don't have a giving heart and a heart that wants to obey and please God and help others, then you do not have His Holy Spirit living inside of you. When you have His Holy Spirit inside of you, He will help you to change and be like Jesus.

PRAYER

Cherie Beltram on Tithes, Offerings and Giving

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6N4qKI_vwY

Laura Wanma's testimony of heaven and hell

<https://christiscoming777.com/2013/04/24/testimony-of-laura-wanma-when-the-lord-jesus-took-her-to-heaven-and-hell/>

Tithing teaching

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODfp4fMHDiQ&spfreload=1>

Short talk on tithing – not going in the rapture if you don't tithe.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tborp0N1x5Q>

****What God revealed to me on tithing and being worthy****

<https://christiscoming777.com/2012/03/02/tithing-is-it-required-and-are-there-eternal-consequences-for-non-tithing/>

Derek Prince teaching on tithing and honoring God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ON7qpqmX1-s>

Short message on tithing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Ci3rsnz6Zk>