

Bringing Our Tithes into the Storehouse

Introduction

Steward (dictionary.com) = “a person who _____ another's property or financial affairs; one who administers anything as the agent of another or others”

We are stewards of God, and the requirement is _____ (1 Cor. 4:2).

This requirement applies to _____ stewardship in particular (Lk. 16:10-12).

- That which is least = unrighteous mammon = that which is another man’s (Christ’s).

One important area of faithful financial stewardship is tithing, a timeless principle of God’s Word and timeless _____ of God for His people.

- Abel brought the “_____” of his flock as an offering to God (Gen. 4:4).
- _____ paid tithes to God through Melchizedec (Gen. 14:18-20).
- Jacob promised tithes to God at Bethel.
- In the Law, God made tithing mandatory for all Israelites.
- In Proverbs, we are commanded to _____ God with our firstfruits (Prov. 3:9-10).
- In the gospels, Jesus approved of tithing but especially commended the widow’s sacrifice.
- In the epistles, Paul taught the Gentile churches to give regularly, _____, and sacrificially (1 Cor. 16:2-3).

Text: Malachi 3:8-11.

I. The _____ and _____ of Not Tithing Faithfully (vs. 8-9)

Not tithing is the same as _____ God (vs. 8).

Application: Some believers are blissfully or willingly ignorant that not tithing robs God of His rightful due as well as the _____. He should receive through faithful stewardship.

Instead of honoring God with their firstfruits, the Israelites were dishonoring Him by their selfishness and unconcern, a tell-tale sign of their _____ condition.

Illustration: During the revival of tithing under Hezekiah, the revived people of Israel gave in “heaps” (2 Chron. 31:4-10).

Not tithing will cost us some of God’s _____ (vs. 9).

In the financial/material realm in particular, and possibly other blessings as well, because God will not _____ disobedience to His Word.

Vs. 9, “curse” = the judgment promised in Law for failing to honor their covenant with God (a particular consequence);

Application: Any time we disobey or dishonor God, there will be _____ of some kind.

II. The _____ and _____ of Tithing Faithfully (vs. 10-11)

- We should bring our tithes into God’s _____.

In Malachi’s day, the Temple; and today, the local _____ (1 Cor. 16:2):

- “First day” = lay it by on _____, when you gather w/ God’s people.
- “In store” = like in a storehouse.

We should bring _____ our tithes into the storehouse.

Vs. 10, “all the tithes” = “the firstfruits of all your increase” (Prov. 3:9-10).

We should bring all our tithes into the storehouse for three reasons:

- To provide _____ to maintain the work of God.
 - “That there may be meat in mine house.”
 - Both in past and still today, God intends His work to be provided for through the giving of His _____.
- To glorify God by _____ Him through tithing.

- “Prove Me now herewith” = put Me to the _____.
- The right way to put God to test = by faithful _____ to Word.
- To receive God’s _____ on faithful obedience.
 - Not the primary reason to tithe or give sacrificially above tithe, but a reason just the same.
 - God usually pairs His commands and encouragement to give with promises of _____ for those who will step out by faith and give (Prov. 3:9-10, 11:24-25; 2 Cor. 9:6, Philip. 4:19).

Conclusion

Two application questions:

- Have you been _____ God by not tithing?
- Will you prove God and practice proper _____ through faithful tithing?

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