



Sermon Outline: Tithing – The Purpose and Blessings of Tithing
February 02, 2025

We bring this message on tithing as a reminder to all of us, and perhaps for some of us it may be new. Our intent is NOT to do a “funding raising drive”. We are grateful to the Lord and to each of you for giving faithfully and generously - APC is doing well financially. But tithing is part of our spiritual walk of faith.

To tithe is to give to God a tenth, 10%. In Bible times people earned or had wealth in terms of livestock, grain (produce of their crops), etc. So, they gave a tenth of that to the Lord by presenting it to those in the service of the Lord (the priests and the levites). These were used by the people in the service of the Lord for their own needs so that the work of the Lord could go on.

ABRAHAM

Genesis 14:20

And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

Abraham, referred to as the father of faith, was the first recorded person to tithe. He gave his tithe of the things he had gained from battle to Melchizedek, whom the Scriptures refer to as the priest of the Most High God.

JACOB

Genesis 28:22

And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.

We also read about Jacob, Abraham’s grandson, who promised to give God his tithe, as God would prosper him. It is safe to assume that Isaac also practiced tithing.

THE TITHE IS HOLY - IT IS THE LORD'S

Leviticus 27:30,32

30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's. It is holy to the LORD.

32 And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, of whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the LORD.



Under the Old Covenant, the people were taught that “all the tithe” (not part of it) – of their produce and livestock – belonged to God (“is the LORD’s”), and it was “holy to the LORD”.

The tithe is the Lord’s. It is His. It is the Lord’s portion, so to speak.
The tithe is holy (set apart, consecrated) to God.

THE PRACTICE OF TITHING UNDER THE OLD COVENANT

We do a quick summary of some key observations in the Old Testament in relation to tithing.

People in the Old Testament practiced tithing as an act of worship, obedience, and acknowledgment of God’s provision in their lives. Tithing was a way for the Israelites to honor God and support the Levites, the priesthood, and the needy.

Numbers 18:21-26

The tithe was given to the Levites, who were responsible for the service of the tabernacle and had no inheritance of land. The tithe was primarily used to support the Levites, who were the priestly tribe and did not inherit land like the other tribes. The tithe was their inheritance and provided for their needs. Even the Levites were required to give a tenth of the tithe they received.

Deuteronomy 12:17; 14:22-23,28-29; 26:12-13

The tithe was to be brought to the place God designated, and it was also a time of celebration and worship. The tithe was also used to support the tabernacle and later the temple, as well as to care for the poor and needy in the community. Every third year, the tithe was to be stored locally to support the Levites, strangers, orphans, and widows.

2 Chronicles 31:4-10

In 2 Chronicles 31:4-10, under the reign of king Hezekiah there was great spiritual revival. Part of this spiritual revival was people bringing in their tithes and offerings to the Temple, so that there was abundance to support the priests and Levites, and for the work of the Temple.

Nehemiah 13:10-13



In Nehemiah 13:10-13, we observe a similar revival under Nehemiah. The Levites and singers who served in the Temple had gone to work in the fields and left the work in the house of God. Nehemiah, brought the Levites and singers back into the Temple, and the people brought their tithes, and the work of the Temple could be resumed.

THE PURPOSE AND BLESSINGS OF TITHING

Malachi 3:8-12

8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation.

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

11 "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;

12 And all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land," Says the LORD of hosts.

This is a key passage regarding tithing in the Old Testament.

Leviticus, along with the other books of Moses was written about 1450 BC.

Malachi was written about 450 BC.

So, Malachi is written about 1000 years since the instruction to tithe was first given to the people of Israel.

The consequences of withholding the tithe:

1, Holding back tithes and offerings was holding back what belonged to God. God referred to it as robbing God.

2, It resulted in the people and the nation coming under a curse. A curse is the absence of the blessing that could otherwise have been experienced.

The instructions:

1, Bring the tithes to the storehouse – the place in the temple where they stored the tithes and offerings.

2, So that there can be food in the house of God – for the priests and Levites, so they can do their work in the house of God, and to take care of the poor and needy.

3, Try me now in this – or test me out in this! God is inviting His people to put this to the test and see what God can do for them if they did obey!



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The blessings:

- 1, God will pour out such abundance of blessings (in all areas of life) they will not be able to contain it all
- 2, God Himself will deal with the destroyer, so that the fruit of their labor (in the field) will not be destroyed. They will enjoy multiplied fruit.
- 3, They will be so blessed as a nation that other nations will call them blessed. People will see the overflow of the blessing of the Lord.

All of these are still relevant in relation to tithes and offerings.

THE NEW TESTAMENT ON TITHING

In the New Testament, while the instruction to tithe is not explicitly given, it is also not explicitly revoked.

For example, we see the use of instruments in worship in the Old Testament.

In the New Testament, we have no mention of the use of instruments in worship (other than in Revelation 5:8).

Yet, we continue with the practice of using instruments in worship, knowing that it is acceptable to the Lord.

The Lord Jesus did mention about the tithe, when rebuking the Pharisees:

Matthew 23:23

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.

He was clear that tithing was to be practiced.

1 Corinthians 9:8-14

In 1 Corinthians 9:8-14 the apostle Paul reference back to two instances in the Old Testament to support the fact that New Testament believers must give to support the work of the Gospel, and those who preach the Gospel. He draws a parallel between the Old Testament tithe and offerings (things offered at the temple and the altar) and the support of those who preach the gospel. So, although the word “tithe” is not used in this context, the inference to tithes and offerings as practiced in the Old Testament is very clear.

THE ONE WHO LIVES, STILL RECEIVES TITHES



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One of the most convincing passages in the New Testament in relation to tithing is in Hebrews 7.

Hebrews 7:1-10

1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

2 to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace,"

3 without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

4 Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.

5 And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

6 but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

7 Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.

8 Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

9 Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak,

10 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

Verse 8, indicates that the priesthood of Melchizedek continues, and so the Lord Jesus who is after the unending priesthood of Melchizedek continues to receive our tithes and offerings.

SHOULD NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVERS TITHE?

Abraham practiced two things: tithing and circumcision.

Under Moses both tithing and circumcision were made part of the Law.

In the New Covenant, physical circumcision is explicitly revoked and done away with.

The New Covenant does not explicitly revoke tithing and hence using the logic of "inference from silence", it is right to state that the practice of tithing is still in effect for us believers.



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We also consider the purpose of tithes and offerings, to support the work of the temple, which Paul refers to in addressing New Testament believers to support the work of New Testament ministry.

[The section below need not be covered during the sermon. It is placed here for those interested to refer to as required.]

SEVERAL RELATED QUESTIONS

While the Scriptures do not explicitly address these questions, we provide answers that we think would reflect the heart and mind of God on these matters. These are only guidance statements and each one is welcome to make their own decision, prayerfully, as the Lord leads.

Where should I give my tithe?

We typically recommend each one to give their tithe to the local church where they are currently part of, where they are being nurtured and edified. If the Lord leads you otherwise, please follow the Lord's leading.

Can I divide up my tithe and give to different churches/ministries?

We typically recommend giving your tithe to your local church. However, if the Lord leads you to do otherwise, follow His leading.

Should I tithe of my gross income (total income before tax + deductions) or net income (take-home income after tax)?

We typically recommend calculating your tithe on your gross income, as taxes and deductions are payments to be made. However, if the Lord leads you to do otherwise, follow His leading.

What if I am in financial debt and am practically unable to tithe?

While getting out of financial debt should be priority if possible, reorder your expenses, so that you give your tithe, make payments towards your debt and other essentials. If this is entirely not possible, start giving what you can, and trust God to bring you to a place where you can obey Him with your tithes and offerings.

What if I am just starting to tithe now, should I tithe on all my past income?

You are responsible for the truth you have heard. If you have only learnt about tithing now, you start obeying God now, and do not worry about the past years. Do as the Lord leads even in this matter.



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If I had purchased a property and then sell it, should I tithe on the full sale amount or tithe on just the profit?

Since you would have already tithed on your income, when the purchase of the property was made, on its re-sale, you tithe only on the profit.

SUMMARY

GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



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LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 1.5 to 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

Life Group Leader: To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon or review the Sunday Sermon notes. **Please do not make your life group read through the complete sermon notes during the life group.** All you need to do is have individuals read the Scriptures listed below and then open for a time of discussion, sharing and learning using the questions given below. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture references: *Leviticus 27:30,32; Malachi 3:8-12; Hebrews 7:1-10*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Life Group is a discussion-based, participatory meeting with everyone given the opportunity to share their learning. Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

#1, Reflect on the words that the tithe is holy to the Lord and it is the Lord's, as stated in Leviticus 27:30,32. How should the believer view the tithe in the light of this Scripture.

#2, Discuss the purpose and blessings of tithing as outlined in Malachi 3:8-12.



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#3, Review Hebrews 7:1-10, and discuss the role of the Lord Jesus having a priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, receiving tithes from us today, in the same manner as Melchizedek receiving tithes from Abraham, in Bible times.

Each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key insights and how they see themselves applying it to their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow, bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for all details to go well as we plan and build our Bible college and church facilities to serve the Lord and people.*

Close by thanking God together.



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USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>

SERMON OUTLINE

In this sermon we address the topic tithing. We review the practice of tithing in the Old Testament. We also look at the blessings promised to the tither. We consider if New Testament believers are to practice tithing.

While not part of the sermon, the sermon notes contain brief guidance to some common questions that people ask in relation to tithing:

Where should I give my tithe?

Can I divide up my tithe and give to different churches/ministries?

Should I tithe of my gross income (total income before tax + deductions) or net income (take-home income after tax)?

What if I am in financial debt and am practically unable to tithe?

What if I am just starting to tithe now, should I tithe on all my past income?

If I had purchased a property and then sell it, should I tithe on the full sale amount or tithe on just the profit?

This sermon includes free audio (mp3) and video of this powerful, motivational, expository teaching, free printable PDF sermon outlines, sermon notes and small group



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study guide with discussion questions and presentation slides. All resources (sermon PDF, sermon MP3, sermon video, sermon presentation) are free for use in personal study, small groups, Bible study prayer groups, local churches, conferences, Bible colleges, etc.

KEYWORDS

tithe, tithing, tithes and offerings, blessings of tithing, purpose of tithing, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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