

HOW TO GET MORE MONEY FROM GOD

The 5th. STEP TO FINANCIAL PROSPERITY is to
GIVE BEYOND THE TITHE.

Here is the reason why:

We said in our last lesson that in an equal partnership, the profits usually are divided 50/50. However, God claims only 10% of the profits, or a tithe. The tithe is 10% of your gross income (before taxes). That is all the money that comes to you from any source.

SHARING, THE PRINCIPLE OF TITHE-GIVING:

It is not hard to see the principle that governs tithing, and that is **SHARING**. This is a generally accepted principle. When two parties are involved in any endeavor, both share in the fruit of their labours. Likewise, when a Christian and God labour together, whatever blessings may result from such joint-effort, must be shared by both God and the Christian. When the Christian, therefore, fails to give to God His due share, he is indeed robbing God. And God is justified in cursing with a curse those who rob Him. **Malachi 3:8-9**
Proverbs 3:9 "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits (give to God first) of all thine increase:" (also see Matt. 6:33)

THE CHRISTIAN'S ATTITUDE IN GIVING

The right Christian attitude in tithe-giving should be:
1 Chronicles 29:9-14 "Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord:...."

The result was great rejoicing with thanksgiving, praises and prayers to God.

TITHING DURING THE AGE OF GRACE

In the Age of Grace, or the Church Age, Christians are taught the three upward steps in giving.

We illustrate here with the use of a three-step ladder.

1. The Bottom Rung on the ladder is **TITHING** or **GIVING BY EQUALITY**. **2 Corinthians 8:12-15**

Paul said that there must be first a willing mind, **verse 12**. They were to start giving (tithing) as soon as God gave them something. Paul emphasized that in the first step, everyone must take part; that there must be an equal sharing of the burden. He did not want some eased and others burdened (**vs. 13**).

He desired that EQUALITY in giving be practised at the start.

<i>3rd.</i> SACRIFICIAL LOVE-GIVING
<i>II Cor. 8:1-9</i>
<i>2nd.</i> LOVE-OFFERING
<i>II Cor. 9:16-15</i>
<i>1st.</i> TITHING
<i>Mal. 3:18-12 II Cor. 8:13-14 Luke 16:12 Matt. 23:23</i>

2. The Second Rung is: **THE GIVING OF LOVE OFFERINGS. 2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

At this point Christians are now experiencing God's abundant blessings due to their tithe-giving. They see God's love in their daily lives, God is faithfully keeping His promises to them in Malachi 3:9-12. The love of God grows in their hearts. And out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh: "My Jesus I love you."

2 Corinthians 8:8 "...and to prove the sincerity of your love."

Since the tithe is His, we do not give Him anything until we give beyond the tithe, a love-offering.

A Christian, who does not give his love-offering after saying, "I love you, Lord," deprives God of what is due Him. This offering must be taken from the 90% which is the Christian's share. Paul said:

2 Corinthians 9:7 "Every man according as he purposeth (purpose or decide) in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

3. The Top Rung is **THE SACRIFICIAL LOVE GIVING.** **2 Corinthians 8:1-8**

Christians are expected by the Lord to reach this third rung upward in giving to Him. This is also called Sacrificial Love-Offering.

This giving beyond one's power to give is sacrificial giving. This is also taken from the Christian's 90% share. Sacrificial giving can best be seen among the early Christians. **Acts 2:44-45; Acts 4:34-35**

The secret of this, Paul said, was their truly surrendered lives; "but first gave their own selves to the Lord."

The Bible says "we are not our own..." (**1 Cor. 6:19-20**) when we give ourselves to God, we only give Him what is already His. It is the same with the tithe, it is already His. We are not really giving God a gift until we give above the tithe.

Today's Lesson: **GIVING BEYOND THE TITHE:**

Rung #1 Tithing
Rung #2 Love offering
Rung #3 Sacrificial
love giving

Remember this: we cannot out-give God. God's shovel is larger than ours.
God will be no man's debtor.