

envelope).

Designated monies must be used as designated (i.e. building fund for building, mission fund for mission, piano (other) fund for a piano)

However, the church can decide to take money out of the general fund to meet a special need in any other above areas.

Money cannot be taken from the mission fund and used for building or visa versa.

A detailed financial report must be prepared and posted in a public place each month.

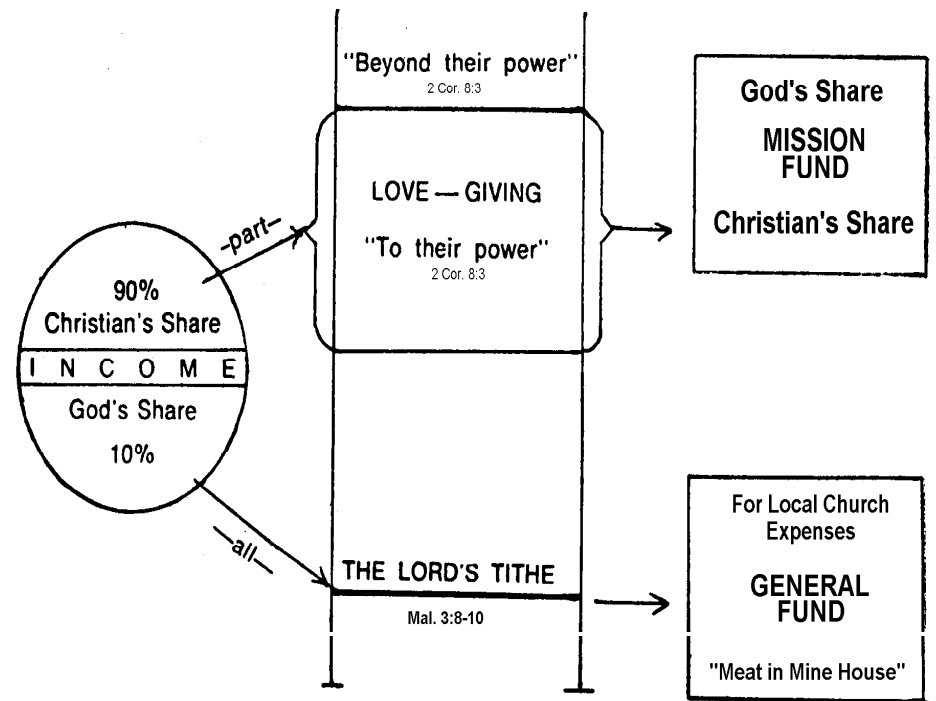
Romans 12:17 Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

If your church is still young, your pastor may be supported by other churches as part of their mission program (all BAMA churches start this way). Your goal is to take over the support of your pastor as soon as possible.

The goal of BAMA is to cut your pastor's support by a percentage each year as you are able to take responsibility for the amount. This will "free up" these funds so new churches can be started in other needy locations.

I believe God can take good God's children love God enough to obey Him and; "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Mal. 3:10



"MEAT IN MY HOUSE"



Malachi 3:10 "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Every local Church is God's storehouse. To be kept in store are God's tithes of all, brought in by God's people every Lord's Day. **1 Corinthians 16:1-2** Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week (Sunday) let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

These funds the Lord calls, "Meat in Mine House."

God has called Pastors as overseers over His Church. They are to watch over the flock so that grievous wolves do not come and steal and destroy the lambs. They are to feed the Church of God which He has purchased with His own blood, so that, believers would normally grow toward maturity in their Christian lives for effective Christian service. They are to evangelize and win souls.

As God's servants, called by Him for this very important and glorious service, it is God's responsibility to feed, clothe and care for them. He must provide for their needs. He made it plain in His Word that His tithes are His provisions for His servants, that is, "meat in Mine house". In the Old Testament, God's servants, the Priests and the Levites had the Lord's tithes as their portion and inheritance. The same is true of God's servants in the New Testament.

Herein is a very vital truth many of God's people have long missed: that Pastors and Workers in His Churches are supported by the Lord Himself, out of His own share - the tithes of all - and not by the members themselves. In other words, Pastors and Workers are not paid from the 90% share of the believers, but from the Lord's share, the tithes of all, kept in God's storehouse.

We often hear members of local churches say, "We support our Pastors and Workers..." No! This is not true. Church members do not support Pastors and Workers. It is the Lord who supports them out of His share, the tithes of all.

THE GENERAL FUND

The Lord's tithes kept in store are commonly spoken of as the General Fund. The church is entrusted with the responsibility of budgeting wisely this fund. First and foremost to be considered in the budgeting of this fund is the Pastor's salary, travel expenses, house rent (when there is no parsonage), payment of light and water bills, etc. It must be reasonable and sufficient based upon

the average income of the church members. The treasurers of the church must remove from their minds the wrong understanding that the General Fund is their own money, or that it is Church money. What must saturate their minds is that before them is the Lord's money. After the Pastor has been sufficiently provided for, the balance shall be budgeted for other church needs.

1 Timothy 5:18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

1 Corinthians 9:11, 13-14 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? ...13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? 14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Other church needs would include: rent of church building, maintenance of the grounds, utilities, church furnishings, supplies and etc.

When the church decides to purchase land and build; money may be designated for the building fund (see envelope). This money is not taken from a person's tithe but is an extra offering from his 90% share. All "special projects" (piano, church vehicle, etc.) will be paid for this way - from gifts and offerings - not from the tithe (see "other" on the envelope).

When the church begins a mission program (and it should have one very soon after starting), the amount is pledged by the members once a year at a faith-promise conference. This amount comes from the 90% share as members pray and ask the Lord what He would have them give (see "missions" on the offering