

## BIBLICAL WISDOM #9 - SIMPLE GIVING

### 1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-18

God gave His only begotten Son without holding back. He calls us to be unstinting givers and cares about our attitude in giving.

#### I. TITHES ORDERED

- A. These are God's only financial plan for ministry
  - 1. Not bake, rummage, or BBQ plate sales
  - 2. Not by enrollment in a Christian School
- B. We are told (vs. 2):
  - 1. WHO: "every one of you"
  - 2. WHERE: "lay up in store" (i.e., the storehouse)
  - 3. WHEN: "upon the first day of the week"
  - 4. HOW: "as God hath prospered him" (proportionate)
- C. Proportional tithes give EQUALITY 2 COR. 8:12-15
  - 1. Not over burden for some and ease for others
  - 2. The Widow to the Wealthy - all the same

#### II. TYPICAL OBJECTIONS

- A. Some will object but will not be blessed
- B. "That was the Law"
  - 1. It is taught in the NT and OT (HEB. 7:5)
  - 2. Jesus confirms tithing (MATT. 23:23)
- C. "Don't let the left hand know what the right is doing"
  - 1. ALMS - charity given to the poor (MATT. 6:3-4)
  - 2. Don't do charity for personal glory / statues
- D. "Can't afford to give"
  - 1. Can't afford not to give. 90% is better!
  - 2. Honor God first MATT. 6:33

#### III. TRUSTING ONLY

- A. Biblical Examples
  - 1. Able gave firstling of the flock (GEN. 4:4)
  - 2. Abram gave tithes 430 prior to Law (GEN. 14:20)
  - 3. Jacob vowed tithes at Bethel (GEN. 28:20-22)
  - 4. Under Law, tithes were required (LEV. 27:30-32)
  - 5. Under Grace, Jesus RAISED the Standard
    - a. If one mile, go two. If coat, then cloak.
    - b. If looking upon a woman, adultery in heart
- B. God owns the cattle on a thousand hills PSA. 50:10
- C. It's HIS anyway - RETURN your tithes
- D. Never try to rob Him - He keeps good books (MAL.3:10)

HEB. 7:5 - "And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham:"

MATT. 23:23 - "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

MATT. 6:3-4 - "But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: (4) That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly."

GEN. 4:4 - "And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:"

GEN. 14:20 - "And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all."

GEN. 28:20-22 - "And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, (21) So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: (22) And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."

LEV. 27:30-32 - "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 unto the LORD. (31) And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof. (32) And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD."

PSA. 50:10 - "For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills."

MAL. 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."