

**Outlines**

**From**

**Financing the Lord's Church**

**by**

**A. J. Wall**

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## WHAT THE TITHER PROVES

Malachi 3:10

**INTRODUCTION:** One should preach on tithing with as great enthusiasm as any other Bible subject. It is God's Word, and Paul said, "Preach the Word."

### **I. The Tither Proves He Believes God's Book.**

- A. From Genesis to Revelation the Bible teaches tithing, II Tim. 3:16, 17.
  - 1. Abraham commenced it, Gen. 14:20.
  - 2. Jacob vowed it, Gen. 28:20.
  - 3. The Law commanded it, Lev. 27:30-34.
  - 4. Jesus endorsed it, Matt. 23:23.
  - 5. The Apostles taught it, I Cor. 9:13-15; Heb. 7:8.
- B. The TITHE is the Lord's, Lev. 27:30. No Person was to be exempted of tithe payments, Lev. 27:31.

### **II. The Tither Proves He Believes God's Promises.**

- A. "I will pour you out a blessing," Mal. 3:10.
- B. "Honour the Lord...so shall thy barns be filled with plenty," Prov. 3:9, 10.
- C. "Give, and it shall be given unto you," Luke 6:38.
- D. "He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully," II Cor. 9:6.

### **III. The Tither Proves He Loves God's Church.**

- A. The message of the church is important, Matt. 28:19, 20; Eph. 3:20, 21.
- B. The tithe is to be brought to the church, Gen. 28:22.
  - 1. Note the text, Mal. 3:10.
  - 2. Read and apply I Corinthians 9:13, 14.

### **IV. The Tither Proves He Loves God More Than Himself.**

- A. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," Matt. 6:33.
- B. Where a man's heart is there will his money be also, Matt. 6:21.

### **V. The Tither Proves He Loves Lost Souls.**

- A. "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins," James 5:19, 20.
- B. A compassion for lost souls will make a person die to self and obey God with his tithes. "If ye love me keep my commandments."

—A. J. Wall

## THE ROBBERY OF ALL ROBBERIES

Malachi 3:8

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Robbery is taking that which belongs to another.
- B. Some have even robbed a blind person.
- C. Sometimes church treasuries are looted.
- D. But surely no one would rob God!
- E. "Yet ye have robbed me," Mal. 3:8.
- F. When did this crime occur?
  - 1. After God had delivered Israel from Egypt to a "land flowing with milk and honey."
  - 2. Though they sinned, God had delivered them time and time again.
- G. God's own people robbed Him.
- H. Israel is a type of the church, and it is true that people are still robbing God, I Cor. 10:6.

### I. **How can a Man Rob God?** By withholding that due Him.

- A. Gifts and offerings. Israel offered what they could not use for themselves. Many Christians are doing the same today.
- B. Time and worship, Heb. 4:14-16.
- C. Service and good works.
- D. Many fail to surrender their life to God.
- E. Glory that is due Him, Phil. 2:13.
- F. A confession that is due Him.
- G. Thanksgiving for blessings, James 1:17; Phil. 4:6.

### II. **The Awful Guilt of Robbing God.**

- A. It is infinitely worse than to rob man.
  - 1. God's rights are supreme.
  - 2. In robbing God, man, the creature, places his rights above those of the Creator.
- B. The awfulness of the guilt is seen when one considers the love and grace by which God has dealt with man.

### III. **The Consequence of Robbing God.**

- A. "Ye are cursed with a curse," Mal. 3:9.
  - 1. For disobedience some of His children are sick; some dead, I Cor. 11:30.
  - 2. Churches may suffer, Rev. 2:5, 13, 16, 23; 3:3, 19.
- B. The result of robbing God.
  - 1. The land may be cursed with war, strikes, pestilences, drought, hail, flood, diseases of man and cattle.
  - 2. Because man robs Him, God withholds the fulness of His blessings.

**CONCLUSION:** May we view this sin in the light of God's Word and the warnings contained therein. May we see the enormity of it, and then...

- A. Repent of the sin of robbing God.
- B. Confess the sin or robbing God.
- C. Today and henceforward render God the full measure due Him.
- D. Then God will open the windows of heaven to bless.

–C. E. Farrar

## **FREELY GIVE**

Matthew 10:8

### **I. What Had the Apostles Received?**

- A. Salvation by grace, Acts. 15:11.
- B. A challenge, Matt. 9:37, 38; John 4:35-37.
- C. Power, Matt. 10:1.
- D. A command, Matt. 10:5, 6.

### **II. What Did the Apostles Give?**

- A. Themselves.
- B. Their service.
- C. They gave up:
  - 1. Pleasures of home, Luke 14:33.
  - 2. Jobs, Matt. 4:19, 20.

### **III. What Have We Received From the Lord?**

- A. Salvation by grace, John 1:16, Eph. 2:8, 9.
- B. Prosperity, Acts 14:17; Deut. 8:18; James 1:17.
- C. A great challenge as did the Apostles.
- D. A great call from the Lord, Isaiah 6; I Chron. 29:5.
- E. A command, Matt. 28:19, 20.

### **IV. What Are We to Give in Return for All the Lord Has Given Us?**

- A. Our service, Rom. 12:1.
- B. Ourselves, II Cor. 8:5.
- C. Our time, Eph. 5:16.
- D. Our means, I Cor. 16:2; Psalm 96:8; Prov. 3:9, 10; II Cor. 9:7; Luke 6:38.

—A. J. Wall

## EVERY MEMBER SHOULD SUPPORT THE CHURCH

I Corinthians 9:7-14; 16:1, 2

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Man is steward of the possessions God has entrusted to his care, Luke 19:11-26.
- B. Stewards are required to be faithful, I Cor. 4:2.

### I. Because of the Many Obligations of the Church.

- A. Fulfillment of the commission demands it, Matt. 28:19, 20.
- B. An efficient ministry demands it, I Cor. 9:7-14.
- C. The spiritual progress of the church demands it, Phil. 4:15-17.
- D. The material welfare of the members demands it, II Cor. 9:6; Prov. 11:24-26; Mal. 3:10, 11; Luke 6:38.
- E. The needs of the poor demand it, Rom. 15:26; 12:20; James 1:27.
- F. The necessity to build, furnish, and maintain a place of worship demands it.

### II. Because of the Blessings of Giving.

- A. Shall be given again in an increased amount, Luke 6:38.
- B. It is more blessed to give, Acts 20:35; II Cor. 8:7.
- C. Giving is an aid to prosperity, II Cor. 9:6, 10; Prov. 11:24-26; Mal. 3:10, 11.
- D. The gifts are credited to one's account in Heaven, Phil. 4:15-17; Matt. 6:19-21.

### III. When Should One Give?

- A. Upon the first day of the week, I Cor. 16:2.
- B. When necessity arises and opportunity presents itself.

### IV. How Should One Give?

- A. He must first give self, II Cor. 8:5, as a bride gives herself to her husband.
- B. Willingly, II Cor. 8:12; 9:7.
- C. Cheerfully, II Cor. 9:7.

Give as you would if an angel  
Awaited your gift at the door.  
Give as you would if tomorrow  
Found you where giving is o'er.

Give as you would to the Master  
If you met his loving look.  
Give as you would of your substance  
If his hand the offering took.  
—Anonymous.

**V. How Much Should One give?**

- A. Christ gave all for us, II Cor. 8:9.
- B. A poor widow gave all her living, Mark 12:41-44.
- C. Many of the Jerusalem church members sold land and gave the proceeds to the church, Acts 2:44, 45; 4:34, 35.
- D. A tithe.
  - 1. Abraham thus worshipped God and was blessed, Gen. 14:17-24.
  - 2. Jacob pledged to tithe, Gen. 28:20-22.
  - 3. Israel thus supported the Levites, Num. 18:21, 24.
  - 4. In like manner the ministry is to be supported, I Cor. 9:7-14.
- E. Tithing and the New Testament.
  - 1. The principle is ordained of God, I Cor. 9:13, 14.
  - 2. The scribes and Pharisees were commended for tithing, Matt. 23:23; Luke 11:42.
  - 3. Paul taught proportionate giving, I Cor. 16:2; II Cor. 8:12-15.
  - 4. Jesus receives our tithes now, Heb. 7:8.
- F. "Give according to your income lest God make your income according to your giving." – Peter Marshall.

–O. H. Griffith.

**STEWARDSHIP**  
I Corinthians 4:1, 2

**INTRODUCTION:** Stewards are not judged on giving, for they have nothing to give. They are judged on how they handle the Master's property.

- I. **God is the Maker and Owner of All Things**, Gen. 1:1; Psalm 24:1; Hag. 2:8.
- II. **Everything We Possess Comes From God**, Deut. 8:18; James 1:17; Acts 14:17.
- III. **We Must Give Account of How We Handle That Which Is Entrusted to Us**, I Cor. 6:19, 20; Matt. 25:14-30; I Cor. 16:2; Psalm 96:8.
- IV. **How Much Should One Return Unto God of That Which Is Entrusted to Him?**
  - A. Every dime we possess should be used for His glory.
  - B. A tenth is the least that has been required in any dispensation to be used to carry out His organized worship service, Gen. 14:20; 20:20-22; Mal. 3:8.
  - C. Jesus commended men for tithing, Matt. 23:23.
  - D. Jesus receives tithes now, Heb. 7:8.
  - E. God ordained it for today, I Cor. 9:13, 14.
- V. **How Should One Give?**
  - A. Through the church, Mal. 3:10; Eph. 3:21.
  - B. Cheerfully, II Cor. 9:7.
  - C. Liberally, Luke 6:38.
  - D. Sacrificially, II Cor. 8:1-3.
  - E. Regularly, I Cor. 16:1, 2.
- VI. **Rewards Promised Those Who Give Scripturally**, Prov. 3:9, 10; II Cor. 9:6.  
—A. J. Wall.

## **PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD**

I Corinthians 4:2; 6:19, 20

**INTRODUCTION:** Stewardship means:

- A. Sharing liberally, Luke 3:11.
- B. Investing wisely.
- C. Managing cautiously.

### **I. The Many Things Stewardship Includes.**

- A. It includes money, Mal. 3:10; II Cor. 9:7.
- B. It includes talent, Rom. 14:12.
- C. It includes influence, Rom. 14:7, 8.
- D. It includes our time, Eph. 5:16.
- E. It includes the gospel of salvation, I Peter 4:10.
  - 1. This includes the church doing mission work in all the world, Matt. 28:19, 20; II Cor. 4:3; Eph. 3:10.
  - 2. This includes individual, personal soul winning, Rev. 22:17.

### **II. Three Reasons for Being Faithful Stewards.**

- A. Honor, loyalty and a desire for equality, Prov. 3:9. God honored the church with the ministry of reconciliation by committing the preaching of the gospel unto them. My honor as a church member demands that I be faithful in stewardship.
- B. To gain personal reward, Matt. 19:29; II Cor. 9:6-8. The call is not to give ourselves poor, but to share ourselves rich. God will not be outdone by those who sacrifice to Him (or is it a sacrifice?). Would it be a sacrifice to increase an investment by 10,000 per cent?
- C. The Cross or the great sacrifice Christ has made for us. All other arguments fade away when we think of the Cross as a reason for faithful stewardship. In the Cross transaction God became our supreme example of stewardship.

—A. J. Wall

## **GOD'S PLAN**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. All things belong to God by right of creation, Gen. 1:1; 14:19; Exodus 19:5; Psalm 50, 11; I Cor. 6:20.
  - B. God has an eternal plan for everything.
    - 1. For creation, for redemption, for judgment, etc.
    - 2. He also has a plan for the support of His work.
- I. The Lord's Money, Hag. 2:8; Deut. 10:14; Psalm 24:1.**
- A. The tithe to be paid, Mal. 3:10; Matt. 23:23.
  - B. The offering to be given, Exodus 35:5; Ezra 8:28; I Chron. 16:29; Psalm 96:8.
- II. In the Lord's House.**
- A. The tabernacle, Exodus 25:8.
  - B. The first temple, I Kings 8:13.
  - C. The second temple, Ezra 6:16.
  - D. The third temple, Matt. 21:13.
  - E. The church, Matt. 16:18.
- III. On the Lord's Day, I Cor. 16:2.**
- IV. For the Lord's Work.**
- A. Local church expense—lights, fuel, literature, debts, etc.
  - B. Missions—local, state, interstate and foreign.
  - C. Christian education.
  - D. Benevolences.
- V. With the Lord's Promise.**
- A. Of spiritual blessings, Mal. 3:10; Prov. 11:25.
  - B. Of temporal blessings, Mal. 3:11; Psalm 41:1; Prov. 3:9, 10; Luke 6:38.

—J. G. Tharpe

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