

THE BLESSING OF TITHING

INTRO

Our covenant with God states that He will bless us and make us a blessing. We have a covenant of blessing or blessing covenant. If we are to enjoy it, what is important to God must be important to us. That means tithing must be important to us.

I. Tithing Foundations.

- A. Tithing began in the Garden Genesis 2:11, 17. The fruit of the tree is holy Genesis 3:3; Leviticus 27:30.
- B. Jericho – the first city of conquest was a tithe Joshua 6:19,24.
- C. 1 Kings 17 – Elijah used the 'give me first' principle to open Heaven for the window.
- D. Tithing was:
 - 1. Before the Law Genesis 14:20; 28:22.
 - 2. During the Law Leviticus 27:30-33.
 - 3. After the Law Matthew 23:23; Hebrews 7:8.

II. The Blessings of Tithing - Why Tithe?

- A. That spiritual food will be in God's house Malachi 3:9-10.
 - 1. No lack of resources to carry on God's work.
 - 2. Money means ministry to people.
 - 3. Failure to tithe costs the saints not God.
- B. It opens the windows of Heaven for God to pour out a blessing Malachi 3:9,10.
 - 1. Everything that makes Christianity valuable comes from Heaven James 1:17.
 - 2. God wants to bless us not curse us.
 - 3. If you lived next to a thief, you would not keep your windows open.
- C. The devourer is rebuked Malachi 3:11.
 - 1. Things that devour were a part of the curse Deuteronomy 28:38-42.
 - 2. The untimely destructive events of life are stopped.
 - 3. God puts a restraining order on the devil and backs him off your financial affairs.
- D. It gets your Heavenly High Priest involved representing you in your financial affairs in Heaven Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 3:1; 7:8; Matthew 10:32,33.
 - 1. Physical – here – earthly priests receive the monetary part.
 - 2. Spiritual – there – Heavenly High Priest receives the spiritual part.
 - 3. Your profession of faith is represented in Heaven by your High Priest Hebrews 3:1; 10:23.
- E. It activates the majority of the spirit realm (angels) to go to work on your behalf financially Genesis 28:12,13,22; Psalm 103:20; Hebrews 1:14.
- F. It honors God and guarantees the rest of your income is going to increase and be harvested Deuteronomy 26:2,10,11; Proverbs 3:9,10.
 - 1. The honor of a father Malachi 1:6.
 - 2. Deuteronomy 14: 23 teaches us to fear God.
 - 3. Firstfruits guaranteed future harvests would be good Proverbs 3:9,10. The priests would wave the firstfruits offering before the Lord.
- G. It causes God to bless your work Deuteronomy 14:29.
 - 1. God gives us the power, means, and ability to get wealth Deuteronomy 8:18.
 - 2. Livelihood produces its full potential Malachi 3:11.
 - 3. Recognition by others of God's blessing on you Malachi 3:12.

III. You Can Hurt Your Blessing.

- A. Not tithing and giving offerings robs God Malachi 3:8.
- B. Wrong priorities hurt your blessing Haggai 1:3-11.

1. Economic slow down due to neglecting God's house Haggai 1:10,11.
 2. Work, work, work, and never get ahead. Putting money in a bag with holes Haggai 1:9.
 3. Everything you do becomes harder and more difficult to accomplish Haggai 1:11.
 4. No oil or dew Haggai 1:10,11 – this was part of the commanded blessing Psalm 133.
- C. Failure to release your faith and profession Genesis 14:18-23; Hebrews 7:8.
- D. Hurting your tithe by:
1. Consuming it in your down time Deuteronomy 26:14.
 2. Using it for an unclean use Deuteronomy 26:14.
 3. Giving it to a dead work Deuteronomy 26:14.
- E. Pouting and mourning over the release of your tithe Malachi 3:13,14.
- F. Doubting the worth and value of God's economic system Malachi 3:14.