

Does God Expect Us (Christians) To Tithe?

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Do you know that in the New Testament there is no command, decree, dictate, directive of obligation for tithing? It's true! We are under no such obligation. But there those that force their members to tithe mostly in the multiple cups, this shows how people have misread the passages of the Bible. Tithing was part of the Old Testament and is no longer in force under the New Testament. Jesus fulfilled the Old Law by blotting it and replaced it with the New Law. "*Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*" (Col.2:14-15). Tithing was part of that Old Law which was taken out of the way. And you find that denominational groups still insist that people must tithe!

In the New Testament we are to:

- Give as we have been prospered. "*Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come.*" (1 Cor. 16:2). We don't find tithing in the New Testament.
- Give as we have purposed in our heart. "*Every man according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*" (2 Cor. 9:7). "*God loveth a cheerful giver*" Not a cheerful tither.
- We are not to give grudgingly. (2 Cor. 9:7).
- Nor are we to give because we must. (2 Cor. 9:7).

God has left it up to individual to decide what his contribution will be and has given NO mandate based on percentage. It's our call. We are to give an amount that we choose and are comfortable with.

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

Jesus said this about our giving:

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal at shall be measured to you again." (Luke 2:38). The same principle held true under the Old Testament when God told the Israelites:

“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 blessings, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” (Mal. 3:10).

Again, the formal act of tithing is not in force under the New Testament, however the principal remains the same; the more we give to God, the more He gives to us; *“good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over.”* Our friends and neighboring churches must go back to the Bible and study by digging what God command His people to do concerning giving. Not forcing members to tithe. However we are not disciples of Moses but of Christ.

May God help His people with understanding of His word.

Katoro – Geita, church of Christ,

Alex S. Silvester

