



Christian Stewardship (Part 2)

In our last lesson we looked at Biblical principles which showed us our need to pay tithes, which means to give the first 10% of all our income back to the Lord in obedience to Him. Our stewardship as a Christian does not end with the tithe. The Bible speaks of different types of offerings we can give. We cannot give an offering until we have paid our tithe. Offerings are that which we give over and above our tithe. Let's look at what the Bible teaches us about these matters.

I. Offerings and Alms

- A. In Malachi 3:8-12, what does God mention along with the tithe as something He wants of us? **(Offerings)**
- B. In Matthew 6:2-4, what specific type of offering does Jesus speak about?
(Alms – Offerings to help the poor)
- C. What direction does 1 John 3:17-18 give us about this type of giving?
(When we see others in need we should respond in action, not just with words.)
- D. Another important type of offering is a missionary offering. What do we see as our responsibility in Matthew 28:18-20 & Mark 16:15? **(To share the gospel of Jesus and make disciples of all the nations of the world.) (This is the great commission)**

1. Since we obviously cannot all go around the world to preach the gospel, what is one way we can do our part? (See Romans 10:13-16) **(By participating in sending those who do go to bring the gospel to other nations)**

Note – Most churches have a missions program, supporting approved missionaries in foreign nations and in the United States. These missions programs provide opportunity for believers to participate in the great commission through giving to support missionaries.

II. Attitude in Giving

A. What kind of giver does God say He loves in 2 Corinthians 9:7?

(A cheerful giver)

B. We should also give with an attitude of **(thanksgiving)** (1 Thess. 5:18)

C. When giving what should our attitude be about our provisions. (Matthew 6:25-33)

(We should trust God to care for us and provide for our every need.)

D. What attitude about money does God want us to avoid? (1 Timothy 6:6-10)

(Giving with the motive of getting rich – We should be content)

E. Romans 1:17 says that “the righteous man shall live by faith” and Hebrews 11:6 says that “without faith it is impossible to please Him (God)”. How does a lifestyle of tithing and giving offerings fit with living by faith? **(When we pay our tithe unto the Lord and give offerings unto the Lord, believing that He will bless us and meet our needs, we are trusting in Him and therefore living by faith in a tangible way.)**

III. God’s Provisions

God’s Word to us about tithing and giving offerings is not meant to try and keep us poor and without needed provisions. God wants us to learn the blessings of being a cheerful giver and He wants us to see His great love for us as He supplies our needs time after time.

- A. What does God promise us in Proverbs 3:9-10? **(If we honor the Lord from our wealth and from our first fruits He will cause us to have more than enough in life.)**
- B. What does God promise us in Malachi 3:8-12? **(That He will rebuke the devourer and pour out blessings upon us when we honor Him with our tithes and offerings.)**
- C. What does God promise us in Luke 6:38? **(Give and it shall be given unto you, in overflowing amounts.)**
- D. What does God want to show us through financial provisions? (Matthew 6:25-33) **(That He knows us intimately and cares deeply about us, meeting all our needs.)**
- E. What does Luke 12:6-7 tell us about knowledge of us and His concern for us? **(God knows every detail about us. He even has the hairs on our head numbered.)**
- F. What principle does God give us in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8? **(If we sow sparingly we will reap sparingly. If we sow bountifully we will reap bountifully.)**

Conclusion: Many Christians are disobedient to the Lord in the area of money and it causes them difficulties throughout their lifetime. We cannot reject God's Word in this vital part of our lives and expect to live a productive Christian life. We are challenged to take God at His Word and obey His principles. Obedience in the stewardship of our finances will bring blessing and provision into our lives. This is the only thing that the Lord specifically challenges us to test Him in (Malachi 3:10).

Use this space to record any specific things the Lord may be revealing to you as you study this lesson - _____

