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Personal Messages on Tithing

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My Reasons for Tithing

HIGHT C. MOORE, D.D.
Nashville, Tennessee



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BOARD
Nashville, Tennessee

Why I Tithe

J. E. DILLARD

Pastor Southside Baptist Church
Birmingham, Alabama

1. Because the Bible teaches it. (Lev. 27: 30, Mal. 3: 10, Luke 11: 42, etc.) I have no right to accept the teachings of the Bible concerning salvation and claim the blessings of God and then reject the teachings concerning tithing and expect God to bless me.

2. I tithe because it is businesslike. It removes doubt and enables me to know whether or not I have given the Lord's work a reasonable part of my income.

3. I tithe because every person I know who has practiced tithing consistently for any length of time is pleased with it and says it brought a blessing.

4. I tithe because I know the needs of our church and denomination, and nothing less than this can begin to be my part in meeting these needs.

5. I tithe because God has promised a blessing to me in doing so, and I believe his word. I have tried it and know it to be true.

6. I tithe because it is a joy to feel that I am in partnership with the Lord, to have a part in the work of the Kingdom, and because it has proved a most satisfactory way of expressing my gratitude to God and to the church for the blessings I have received.

7. I tithe, and am glad to tithe, because I love Christ and long to see his cause extended in the earth. "The love of Christ constraineth us."

8. In tithing and making offerings, I find myself in direct succession to the patriarchs and saints of old. I thus measure up to a worthy standard which from the beginning of recorded history has received both divine and human approval.

9. I am happy to tithe because I thus set a definite and worthy example to my people and to all who may be influenced by my examples.

10. I do not stop with tithing. I tithe my salary before I set apart any of it for other purposes, and then I give free-will offerings as occasion demands and as I feel able.

I feel that no one is doing his duty unless he gives at least one-tenth of his income to the Lord's work as an expression of his stewardship and of his gratitude. I believe many of us ought to give more than the tithe, and as we give, we will prosper in spiritual and eternal things.

Why I Ask My People To Tithe

M. E. DODD

Pastor First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana

For years I have been asking my people to tithe. For the last three years I have been asking them to make a sure covenant that they would tithe, and to write it.

And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it. Neh. 9: 38.

There are now around thirteen hundred of our members who have pledged themselves to give at least one-tenth of their income to kingdom enterprises.

I ask my people to tithe:

1. **BECAUSE** the tithe is holy unto the Lord.

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. Lev. 27: 30.

2. **BECAUSE** God commanded that the tithe be brought into the storehouse, which is the church.

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. Mal. 3: 10.

And we ought to obey God rather than man.

3. **BECAUSE** God promises a special spiritual blessing to those who bring the tithe into the storehouse.

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. Mal. 3: 11.

4. **BECAUSE** the tithe from all our people would abundantly supply the needs of all kingdom causes.

5. **BECAUSE** those who have become conscientious tithers get so much satisfaction out of it that they never want to return to haphazard methods.

6. **BECAUSE** a tither never gets irritated at pulpit appeals for money. If he has something in his tithe he determines how to distribute it, and how much of it, if any, shall go in response to this special appeal.

7. **BECAUSE** so many who have responded to my request to tithe have thanked me for laying it upon their hearts, and have given abundant testimony of having prospered in business, of having enjoyed their church relationships more, and of having been blessed spiritually since beginning to tithe.
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Why I Believe In Tithing

JOHN L. HILL

Book Editor, Baptist Sunday School Board,
Nashville, Tennessee

1. I believe in tithing because I love Jesus, appreciate in some measure what he has done for me, and realize that I could not make adequate return even if I should put all my income into his treasury.

2. I believe in tithing because I like to have a definite minimum expression of my love for my Master. Such minimum expression relieves me of anxiety and concern which might otherwise be inevitable.

3. I believe in tithing because the practice of it challenges love gifts above the tithe and brings some of the satisfactions of joyous service.

4. I believe in tithing because the tithe affords a convenient, sensible, practical basis of cooperation in kingdom work.

5. Loving the Master and delighting to work with my brethren for his glory, I am happy to covenant with them to put regularly into the treasury of the local church one-tenth of my gross income.

Why I Advocate Tithing

T. CLAGETT SKINNER

Pastor First Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia

I advocate tithing because:

1. The Scripture suggests this percentage. The people of the Lord practiced it under his direction through long centuries of Bible history.

2. I have found it practical in my own life. Along with the multitudes of believers I can testify to the blessings which it brings.

3. Whenever a large percentage of the members of a church follow this method **THAT CHURCH HAS NO DIFFICULTY IN FINANCING ITS PART** of the Kingdom.

4. It is something definite and tangible. It is a tested scriptural standard. It does not leave the matter to pious twaddle or superciliousness.

5. I have never found any other method so workable. This method becomes increasingly easy. All other methods become increasingly difficult.

Love the Law of the Tithe

ARCH C. CREE
Executive Secretary
Georgia State Baptist Convention
Atlanta, Georgia

To the Christian the tithe should be an expression of love, not law. There are many thoroughly conscientious people who believe that the tithe is not a binding obligation on the Christian today. These should study the tithe in the light of love.

Such an one contends: "I am not under the law. I am free from the law. I am under grace. I am redeemed from the law. No man can put a legal yoke around my neck. My contributions to the work of the kingdom of God are based on love, and not on law."

To such an one the advocate of the tithe replies: "Give me your hand. You and I stand in perfect harmony on the same platform. I also am not under the law. I am redeemed from the law. I am under grace. No man can put a legal yoke around my neck. My contributions to the work of the kingdom of God are based on love, and not on law," and adds:

"Therefore, beloved, because we are not under the law but under grace, because we are redeemed from the law and our motive is love, we will be ashamed to do less under grace than the Jew did under the goad. Yes, indeed, we will be ashamed to offer God a smaller contribution under love than the Jew gave God under the law."

And so the tithe of the substance with which God blesses the Christian should be the minimum of his giving to the work of our Lord as an expression of our love.

"Love never faileth."

My Reasons for Tithing

HIGHT C. MOORE

Editorial Secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board,
Nashville, Tennessee

1. It is spiritual, first of all; for it is based on the dedication of self to God.

2. It is stewardly, for it involves the dedication of substance to God.

3. It is scriptural, being as I understand not forced but free, and indeed liberated from law to be more liberal under grace, thus centering in Calvary rather than Sinai.

4. It is systematic, for the tithe is easily computed, a benevolence fund is always available, and the personal account is left and kept in better shape.

5. It is symmetrical not only as to the amount that is set apart, but also in its implication of proper and proportionate distribution to the several objects of benevolence.

6. It is sufficient to meet most of my financial obligations as a church member (the whole tithe going regularly into the church treasury), though of course it is a pleasure to make extra offerings both for emergency calls and regular objects.

7. It is sacrificial in spirit in that it is a part of worship which utilizes the fruit of my daily work, and in turn inspires my work with a view to worship, so that a sacrificial gift calls for a sacrificial life.

8. It is sound in principle; for I am not kept down to the tithe when I am able and ought to give more; nor am I coldly to keep up to the tithe my neighbor who with his larger family has less income and more expense including children to educate; infirm loved ones to support and hospital bills to pay.

9. It is satisfying in effect in that it helps discharge a duty in the face of evident, if not crying need, and shares with kindred spirits a royal fellowship in human uplift through winning the world to God.

10. It is successful in practice, for in addition to the help it may have given others, it has afforded me great personal pleasure and profit for many years and I expect to continue it as long as I live.

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