

TITHING GOD'S BLESSING OR CURSE

1. PRAYER

2. Introduction

HEB 4:12 *The word of God is powerful, sharper than the sharpest knife cutting deep into our soul and spirit, and exposing us for whom we really are.*

ISAIAH 40:7-8 – *The grass withers and the flowers fade beneath the breath of the Lord. The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word on my God stands for ever*

My subject today is TITHING GOD'S BLESSING OR CURSE

3. STORY

(The Baboon and the Mielie) DO NOT GO THROUGH LIFE AND END UP WITH ONE MIELIE.

4. Reading : Malachi 3:7-12

⁷*Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?*

⁸*Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.*

⁹*Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.*

¹⁰*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.*

¹¹*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*

Is it not sad that we can serve God in most ways except the way He wants to bless us the most.

From this scripture

- We are either blessed, when we give our tithes or cursed, when we do not. verse 9
- We are either doing God will or robing Him. verse 8
- We are preventing or Hindering Gods work because this money is needed to come into the storehouse our church is not there. Verse 10
- We are loosing out on blessings, because God promises us a blessing, See Matt 6:33
- The devil has right to destroy our fruits but God can return what the locusts have eaten. See Joel 2:25

Where does Tithing come from?

- Tithing came before the law even before the covenant with Abraham. Abram gave a tenth of all he had to Melchisedec.
See Genesis 14:18-20 Hebrews 7:1, 2, 6
Gen. 28:22
- Jacob was prepared to give God a tithe of all the God gave him. See Genesis 28:22
It was instituted in the law. See Leviticus. 27:30–33 and Deuteronomy 14:22–29

Infact the bible is full of verse about tithes and offerings, in both the New and Old testaments. (223 Verses)

TITHING GOD'S BLESSING OR CURSE

Why Tithe?

- Why not? God commanded it in Lev 27:30-34. If I offered you a car today, you would still need to pay for the petrol.
- God promises to rebuke the devourer ,See Malachi 3:11
- He invites us to test Him in this? See Malachi 3:10

Where to Tithe?

- **The Store House** – Malachi 3:10
- **The Temple**, Taken to Temple Deut. 12:5-19
- **The Priests** ,Given to Levites Num. 18:21-24

Who must tithe?

- **Everyone must tithe** - It is so important that we do not miss the benefit of tithing. Each person in the church structure must tithe, including the church, pastor and every member. So often mission organizations, churches or pastors do not tithe because they think that they are exempted from tithing. But infact the opposite is true, tithing is for all of God's children and institutions into other that the work of God will continue to flourish. Just thing do you want your mission organization, church or your personal life blessed by the blessings in Malachi? If not you are welcome to not tithe but if you want to receive the blessings mentioned in Malachi chapter 3, then tithe faithfully and see God's blessing in your life. Num. 18:25-28 Levites gave to Priests
- **Children** – As parents we often neglect to teach our children from a young age to tithe. This is the main reason so many of us have hassles understanding and implementing tithing in our own lives. The bible says *"...train up your children in the way of God and when they are older they will not depart from it..."*

How much must we tithe?

- The bible is clear 10% of your earnings. Abram, Joseph both gave 10% and the Law of Moses required 10%.
- We also need to tithe in other areas such as our time and talents.

What is the difference between Tithes, Offerings or Seed

- Tithes are the 10% of your earnings that are required by God. This is normally a once a month donation of 10% of your earnings. Remember to give this money as soon as possible to the church or you might use it for other things.
- Offerings are the amounts that you give over and beyond your tithe. Normally given on a weekly basis at church

SEED

- When you give money to a Ministry, Church, mission or people over and above your tithe you are planting seed. These include offerings, money given to the needy, faith promises, building projects.
- You also plant seed by your attitudes and dealings with people. Bad attitudes corrupt good seed just as weed kill the young plants.

TITHING GOD'S BLESSING OR CURSE

What are the benefits of seeds?

1. They never die and never lose their power to germinate.
2. They can be planted into any good soil ten years from now and they will produce a crop.
3. Seed, Good or Bad always produces a harvest
4. Many good seeds have the power to make you rich
5. Seeds have the ability to produce more seed.
6. Any one can sow seeds, you need no qualifications to sow them.
7. Never eat up all your seed.
8. The seed you sow today will be tomorrow's provision.

Ecclesiastes 11:1 say *"Cast your bread upon the waters and you will find it after many days."*

What must I do?

- Repent before God of robbing Him and stealing the tithe from Him.
- Determine in your own heart that you will tithe.
- At the end of the month set the money aside and bring to the church as soon as possible.
- Give with a cheerful heart. 2 Cor 9:7

Remember: IT IS NOT THAT GOD NEEDS YOUR MONEY. TITHES WERE INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE INWARD ATTITUDES AND OUTWARD ACTIONS.