

## WORSHIPPING IN GIVING

- I. WHEN MOSES TRIED TO NEGOTIATE WITH PHARAOH CONCERNING TAKING THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL OUT OF BONDAGE, PHARAOH OFFERED SOME COMPROMISES.
- A. Don't leave Egypt to worship (Ex. 8:25)- *"Go ye, sacrifice to your God in the land."*
  - B. Don't go too far from Egypt (Ex. 8:28) - *"And Pharaoh said, I will let you go, that ye may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only ye shall not go very far away: intreat for me."*
  - C. Go into the wilderness to worship, but leave the children in Egypt (Ex. 10:8) - *"Go, serve the LORD your God: but who are they that shall go?...we will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we must hold a feast unto the LORD."*
  - D. Go into the wilderness to worship, but leave your wealth in Egypt (Ex. 10:24) - *"...Go ye, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be stayed: let your little ones also go with you. And Moses said, Thou must give us also sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice unto the LORD our God. Our cattle also shall go with us; there shall not an hoof be left behind; for theeof must we take to serve the LORD our God; and we know not with what we must serve the LORD, until we come thither."*
- II. WORSHIPPING GOD IN THE OT REQUIRED GIVING.
- III. GIVING WHAT IS DUE HIM.
- A. Give unto the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
  - B. Tithe is holy.
    - 1. Le. 27:30 - *"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."*
    - 2. Le. 27:32 - *"And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD."*
- IV. TITHING A PRINCIPLE OF GOD.
- A. Old Testament principle.
  - B. New Testament.
    - 1. Mt. 23:23 - *"...for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."*
    - 2. Heb. 7 - Abraham gave tithes to Melchisedec.
  - C. Giving is not a law, but a grace.

1. On 8 occasions Paul calls giving a grace.
2. Not a legalistic requirement for us, but an enlargement of the grace of God in our hearts.
3. Tithing is the grace of giving.

V. A PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MECHISEDEC - Heb. 7:1-10.

- A. Abraham gave a tenth of all spoils of victory over kings to Melchisedec.
  1. Customary to give tenth of spoils of war to object of worship.
  2. Abraham paid tithes to one he considered greater.
- B. Melchisedec type of Christ.
- C. Levi commanded to take tithe of the people.
- D. Abraham was a representative tithe payer for all his seed to come

VI. TITHING IS AN ETERNAL PRINCIPLE.

- A. Giving of tithes for religious purposes 400 years older than Jewish law.
- B. Heb. 7:8 - *"Here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witness that he liveth."*
- C. Still given to the priest - Jesus.

VII. TITHING IS A PERFECTED PRINCIPLE.

- A. Jesus came not to do away, but to perfect.
- B. Perfected by bringing in faith and love.
- C. We bring tithes to Him because we want and desire to please Him, and love Him.
- D. We want Him to know we are grateful for what he has done for us.
- E. We bring tithes, gifts, offerings not out of law but out of love.
- F. Tithing is an act of one who responds to the object of his worship out of love, reverence, and faith.
- G. When we bring tithes to our High Priest, we are saying, "I love You. I bow my knee to You. I bow my will to You. I gladly give my life to You."

VIII. TITHING IS A BLESSED PRINCIPLE.

- A. Abraham was blessed by the high priest of God when he brought his tithes to him.
- B. We as children of faith are blessed when we bring our tithes to our present day high priest--Jesus.
- C. When you give, you receive.
- D. Prove me or try me. (Mal. 3:10) - *"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."*
  1. Really don't know whether God will keep His Word or not because we haven't tried it.
  2. Real tragedy when we withhold from God.

3. People stumble because they rebel against the principles of God.

IX. TITHING JUST THE BEGINNING OF OUR GIVING.

- A. Just what already belongs to God.
- B. Jews gave second and third tithe.
- C. Freewill offerings built the house of God.
- D. If not willing to give tithe, need not pretend we are going to serve him in all His commands.
  1. Can't say he is Lord of our lives.
  2. Can't say we have submitted ourselves to Him if not meet bare minimum.

X. DIFFERENT FORMS OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- A. God specified seventeen ways to give.
- B. Represented more than 30% of the average Israelite's income during the year.
- C. Tithe on all increase - Lev. 27:30.
- D. Third year tithe for Levites, strangers, fatherless, and widows - Deut. 14:28-29.
- E. Special offerings.
  1. Set feasts of Israel.
  2. Monthly or "new moon" offerings.
  3. Offering every Sabbath.
  4. Paying a vow usually involved an offering.
  5. Portions sent for whom nothing was prepared, Neh. 8:10 - *"Go your way eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy unto our Lord."*
  6. Freewill offerings

HOW WE WORSHIP THE LORD WITH OUR TITHE - Deut. 26:1-11

- A. When come into land, take first of all fruit of the earth.
- B. Go unto the place the Lord shall choose to place his name there.
- C. Profess that I am come unto the country the Lord gave us.  
Profess we have been delivered from bondage of Egypt.  
Profess we have been brought into land that flows with milk and honey.  
Set the basket before the Lord and worship before the Lord.  
Rejoice in every good thing the Lord has given us and our household.

PRESENT-DAY KINGDOM CONFESSON WHEN GIVING

Heavenly Father, we profess this day to You that we have come into the inheritance which You swore to give us. We are in the land which You have provided for us in Jesus Christ.

We were sinners serving Satan; he was our God. But we called upon the Name of Jesus, and You heard our cry. You delivered us from the power and authority of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of Your dear Son.

Jesus, as our Lord and High Priest, we bring to You the firstfruits of our income that You may worship the Lord our God with them.

Father, we rejoice in all the good which You have given to us and to our household. We have heard Your voice and have done according to all You have commanded us.

Now, Father, look down from Your holy habitation in heaven and bless us as You said in Your Word. Father, we believe that we now receive Your blessings according to Your Word. This is our confession of faith, in Jesus' Name.