

# Church Directives

## (5) Giving, God's Way

### *Giving in the OT*

Where is the first mention of giving a tithe, that is a tenth? Gen.14:17-20

**Where Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of the spoils of his battle, verse 17.**

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What is another notable instance of "giving"? Gen.41:34-36 Comment?

**Egypt's government (Pharaoh) collected 20% in good years to supply in lean years.**

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Where is the first *required tithe* offering and what was its purpose? Num.18:21-24

**The Mosaic Law required all Israel to give a tithe. It was for the Levites (priests). Income**

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What was interesting about this income for the Levites? Num.18:25-28

**The Levites were required to 'tithe the tithe'! Everyone was to give to the Lord.**

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What other offerings were *required* of Israel? Deut.14:22; 28-29

**Another tithe, 10% yearly, plus another tithe every 3<sup>rd</sup> year. About 23% overall...**

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This was for the 'government'. What was above/beyond that? Deut.12:6; Prov.3:9-10; 11:24-25

**Above these "taxes" was the free-will offering to the Lord. The generous man...**

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What great principle is taught by David re offerings to the Lord? IISam.24:18-25

**A sacrifice offering to the Lord must cost you! Don't try to 'cheat the Lord'!**

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### *Giving in the NT*

What is a believers responsibility to their government? Rom.13:6-7 see Mt.17:24-27; 22:15-22

**We are to pay our taxes, tax to whom tax is due. Roughly equivalent to Mosaic Law.**

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Does the Lord ever *command* the believer to pay a *tithe* to the church?

**No. Tithe/tenth are only mentioned as relating to OT. Our 'tithe' is req'd, via taxes.**

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What then is the required amount of giving to the church? IICor.9:7

**Each gives out of heartfelt thanks, not grudgingly/compulsion. God loves a cheerful giver.**

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What is a beautiful promise of God re our giving? IICor.9:6; Lu.6:38

**God will give back to you by your standard! You decide. How would you like Him to give?**

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But beyond the financial, what else does our giving impact? IICor.9:8-9

**According to our giving, He makes grace abound to you! in abundance! I want it!!**

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How had the nation of Israel totally abused the grace of giving? Mal.3:8-12

**They robbed God of tithes and offerings! And they were cursed, vs.9! Principle for us!**

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What are some giving instructions from the Lord in the NT? ICor.16:1-2

**On 1<sup>st</sup> day (Sunday) each one sets aside money/income. Mostly went to the church, vs.1.**

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What other important principle on giving is taught in the NT? Lu.12:34

**Where your treasure is, your heart will follow! Do what's right. Your heart will catch up!**

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