



“Why Does God Want My Money?”



The question often arises, from people who go to church, about why they have to give money when it's time for the offering and they don't have enough money to pay their own bills.

A common question is, “Do I have to pay a tithe, or is it o.k. to just give what I have left over after my bills are paid?”

People who ask this question do not have a clear understanding about tithing and giving according to the Bible.



In the Old Testament of the Bible, God gave many commandments for His people to follow for their own good, to make their life better. Most of us are familiar with the “10 Commandments,” or we have heard of them. But God gave many more than just these 10 for the health and well-being of His people.

The Bible Dictionary definition of a commandment is; “an authoritative prescription.” We all know that a prescription is a direction in writing given by a doctor to a pharmacist for a prescription of medicine for the physical or mental health of a patient.

That is exactly what a commandment is, a written prescription from God to His people for the physical and mental health of their spiritual life.

Some of those commandments are about tithing and giving. The first one we see instructing God's people to give a tithe is in Leviticus 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 to the Lord.*”

The word “tithe” means “a tenth.” A tithe was a tenth of everything they owned or worked for. It was usually in the form of animals, grains, or fruit in those very early days.



The people gave their tithes to the priest of God in the sanctuary (church) as an offering unto God to thank Him for all His blessings that made it possible for them to give a tithe.

The priests were to use the tithes for their needs; for the needs of the sanctuary; for the strangers who had no food; for the widows and for the fatherless.

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Basic to giving a tithe, was the recognition in the heart of the giver, that everything in the world is given by God and is owned by God, and anything they had was given to them by God and belonged to Him.



But, after 4,000 years it became clear to God that His people were not going to be obedient and follow all the commandments He had given. In fact, they became so sinful and so disobedient that in order to save the world from eternal death, He would have to send them a Savior. He loved His people and wanted them to live with Him forever in heaven.

The Bible tells us what God did in John 3:16,17 *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (17) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”*

Tithing had become an empty expression of obedience, but the heart of the givers was not honoring God.

Jesus taught the people the deeper meaning of all the commandments, and He replaced the emptiness of tithing with the commandment of giving from the heart with love to God in Luke 6:38 when He said: *“Give and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”*

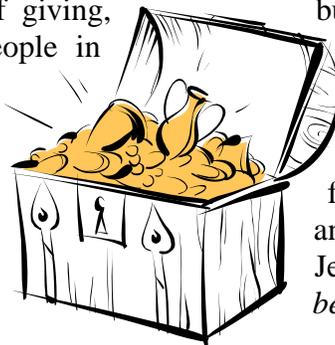
Jesus made giving from a loving heart to God for other people in need, the basis for receiving our own needs met in abundance by God.

The answer to the question, “How much should I give?” is, “How much do you want to be blessed?”

Tithing is the base of giving, love for God and people in

but giving over and above the tithes is the action.

God doesn't want love Him and to help widows, and the the gospel to a lost without a Savior. *there your heart will*



your money. He wants your heart to His people; the poor, the stranger, the fatherless, and to help churches give out and dying world who have no hope Jesus said, *“For where your treasure is, be also.”* Luke 12:34

We should be grateful that our holy God would even be willing to honor us by accepting our little gifts unto Him.



“Why Does God Want My Money?”

1. How did God teach His people in the Old Testament?

2. What is the Bible dictionary definition of a commandment?

3. What was God’s prescription regarding money?

4. What happens to our money when we give it to God?

5. What should our attitude be when we give it?

6. What did God do when His people became sinful and disobedient?

7. Did He send Jesus to condemn the world for their sin?

8. Did Jesus command the people to tithe in the New Testament?

9. When we ask ourselves how much we should give, what else should we ask ourselves?

10. If we wonder where our heart for God is, where did Jesus say to look? (Luke 12:34)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE _____

“Why Does God Want My Money?”

1. How did God teach His people in the Old Testament?

He gave them commandments to follow.

2. What is the Bible dictionary definition of a commandment?

It is an authoritative prescription.

3. What was God’s prescription regarding money?

Tithing a tenth of their income.

4. What happens to our money when we give it to God?

It becomes holy to Him.

5. What should our attitude be when we give it?

To recognize that everything we have is given by God and belongs to Him.

6. What did God do when His people became sinful and disobedient?

He sent His only Son Jesus into the world.

7. Did He send Jesus to condemn the world for their sin?

No. He sent Jesus to save the people, not to condemn them.

8. Did Jesus command the people to tithe in the New Testament?

He replaced the law of tithing with giving to God from a loving heart with thankfulness.

9. When we ask ourselves how much we should give, what else should we ask ourselves?

How much do I want to be blessed?

10. If we wonder where our heart for God is, where did Jesus say to look? (Luke 12:34)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”