

All scriptures are from the
New king James Version unless otherwise stated.

Tithing A Must Not An Option

Atubo George

P. O. Box 11997

Garki, Abuja.

Nigeria.

Tel: 234-81-37173454.

Email: info@atubogeorge.org

Website: www.atubogeorge.org

ISBN: 978-978-08386-90

Copyright © 2008 Atubo George

Designed and printed by:

Gospel Warehouse Publications

+234 802 325 5362, +234 702 837 6165

All rights reserved, No portion of this book may be used without
the express written permission of the publisher.

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Chapter one	5
Will a man rob God?	
Chapter two	7
The genesis of tithing	
Chapter three	14
God's caretakers	
Chapter four	21
How to walk in the blessing of tithing	
Chapter five	42
How to pay your tithe	
Chapter six	58
So when will you start tithing?	

INTRODUCTION

It really gets me concerned that till this day, there are people that argue about the subject of tithing. Whatever their points of argument are, I believe the reason for their argument is; they don't understand the purpose of tithing. They think God or the Pastor telling them about tithing is doing so in order to take money from them so they feel they are losing when they tithe. They think they are sharing their goods or income with the church and it's amazing even some of God's children think like this.

One thing I know is what God said

*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.
Because you have rejected knowledge,
I also will reject you from being priest for Me;
Because you have forgotten the law of your God,
I also will forget your children.*

Hosea 4:6

The devil has no power over you, all he preys on is your ignorance and it is only an ignorant man that can be deceived.

This is why everyone especially God's children must seek knowledge from God's word for themselves on any subject and not just accept what they have been told. After hearing, go to God in prayer, ask Him to open your eyes more to the subject and He will by His Spirit through His word.

In this book, I endeavor to share my knowledge with you on this subject of tithing, according to the wisdom God has given to me and it is my utmost prayer that as you read, you will not only receive knowledge but be stirred up in the direction of this knowledge. My desire is that God's children will stand complete and perfect in all the will of God.

Don't just read this book, study it with your bible, pray over it and let the Holy Spirit who is the greatest teacher expound to you more on this truth so that you who didn't believe in tithing would come to understand that your life actually depends on it; and you who is already a tither would also see that there is great blessing in it and you will begin to enjoy it to the full.

Be blessed as you read.

Atubo George

CHAPTER ONE

WILL A MAN ROB GOD?

*“Will a man rob God?
Yet you have robbed Me!
But you say,
‘In what way have we robbed You?’
In tithes and offerings.”*
Malachi 3:8

It is amazing God was the one that asked this question Himself. Have you ever thought about that question? Is it possible for a man to rob God? From this scripture we see it is very possible and people have been doing so. Is it not amazing that God never said anywhere else that He was being robbed but in this area of tithing? Any man that doesn't give his tithe is robbing God. Now I don't mean Christians alone, I'm talking about the whole world.

It takes a lot of boldness to rob God but some even take pride in it. I heard someone say; *“no matter how many bad things I do, one thing I don't want to do is steal from God”* I think that is wisdom on his part. Think about it, if you get into trouble with a man, both of you can turn to God and He will settle it, but when a man gets into trouble with God who can settle them?

No matter your background, religious belief, tradition etc, you should settle this in your heart; I will not rob God anymore. This is clearly written so you ask yourself, *“will I rob God?”* You should answer this question for yourself in your heart, if you want to rob Him or not.

Tithing is for everyone created by God and not an option. It is not what you should argue about, rather you should accept it. I will show you why.

The first person who taught me about tithing was my father and as a child, one thing I made up my mind for was never to rob God. I remember as a teenager we had an argument in our youth fellowship about tithing; if it was

right for students to pay tithes. I sat there looking and listening to people arguing about tithing, and I wondered if they knew the seriousness of this matter.

When it was time for me to speak, I asked some simple questions which I will never forget. Every time I think about what I said, I get amazed at how such wisdom came from me. I asked them, *“Is there a blessing for tithing?”* And they all said yes, then I asked again *“should students expect this blessing?”* again they said yes, then I said, *“Why should students expect the blessing of tithing without doing what brings the blessing?”* This ended the argument that day. Although as at then, I didn't know exactly how to calculate my tithes but most importantly, I had learnt it was a must and not an option.

You may be pondering what exactly the tithe is, and how to go about it. This is the reason God inspired these words in my heart to write to you and I am sure that by the time you are through reading this book, you will not only become serious about tithing, you will also become a teacher of tithing. But first, let us establish this fact: **Anybody that doesn't give God his tithe is stealing from God.**

CHAPTER TWO

THE GENESIS OF TITHING

Most times when people think about tithing they think about Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, then they go to the book of Malachi. But many don't know that tithing started with Adam right in the Garden of Eden. By the grace of God I will show you these things so that you would fully understand and get wiser on the subject of tithing.

"Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Genesis 2:15-17

There has been this question, why did God put a tree in the garden and tell man not to eat of it? Was He tempting man?

If you know the character of God you will understand that He is not in the business of tempting people.

"Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone."

James 1:13

So why did God put the tree there with that instruction? The reason was because that tree was Adam's tithe.

The Genesis of Tithing

Tithing: a must not an option

WHAT IS TITHE?

Tithe is simply God's portion of everything He has given you. I know you may wonder, why would God want a portion of what He has given me? For example, why did God want a portion of Adam's fruit in the garden?

The truth is the earth and the garden belonged to God not Adam. God created everything in it, planted the Garden of Eden Himself and put man there to take care of it. I want you to understand something here. When God created man, He didn't give him the ownership of the earth, God retained the ownership. He only gave Adam the authority to act in His stead on the earth. This means Adam was a caretaker.

The earth and all that is in it is intelligent and they all know who their owner is; God. They knew Adam was not their owner; but a caretaker representing God, so they related with him as such. God knowing this, put in this tithing process and gave Adam the instruction concerning the tree; the deal God had with Adam was simple, He told him to take care of the earth for Him, fill it up and enjoy everything in it, but **'the tree'** in the midst would be kept for God. This would be Adam's way of showing that he was still subject to God. Adam was meant to give God His part which was that particular tree and every other thing in the garden would be his.

Let me explain this to you. Have you ever lived in a rented apartment? Most times you do not deal directly with the owner of the house; you deal with the realtor or what some people call an agent or a caretaker. He is the intermediary between the owner and the tenant. You deal with him because you know he has the authority of the landlord. Usually, there is a percentage of the rent the caretaker keeps and the rest goes to the landlord. God is the landlord of the earth and Adam was His caretaker.

Adam was to take care of the garden, labor on every plant, including **'the tree in the midst'**; making sure everything was okay. When it was time for harvest for that particular tree, he was to bring all the fruit to God. Get this right, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was a normal physical tree, it was not

The Genesis of Tithing

a metaphorical tree as some claim. I know you may want to ask, how do I know? It is there in the Bible:

“And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

You see, the tree grew out of the ground.

THE FIRST MAN THAT ROBBED GOD

Remember, Adam was to bring the fruit to God as His portion; the tithe! It was to be part of his worship and God would have received it from him and told him what to do with it. I am convinced, God would have told him to eat it right there in His presence and Adam would have known good and evil by faith, without experiencing it.

But you know the story, Adam and Eve ate the fruit; when they ate it, it was their tithe they ate, “God’s portion” and that was when trouble broke out.

GOD NEITHER CURSED MAN NOR THE GROUND

“Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’:

*“Cursed is the ground for your sake;
In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.”*

Genesis 3:17

I want you to notice something here; God said “cursed **IS** the ground for thy sake” He didn’t say “cursed **BE** the ground”. If He had said cursed **BE**, it would have been a pronouncement of a curse but God said cursed **IS** the ground.

The Genesis of Tithing

Tithing: a must not an option

Let me explain what happened. Adam was God's caretaker or agent as I explained earlier but when he ate God's portion, the earth knew he had usurped authority therefore the earth could not trust him anymore. Using our previous example, if you realized the last rent you paid to your care-taker did not get to the landlord; would you freely give him your money next time? I don't think so. You would want to be sure that he has settled with the landlord before you release your money to him.

That was the position Adam found himself with the earth and that was what God explained to him in Genesis 3:17-19

It was not a curse pronounced on the earth nor was it on Adam, God was telling Adam the result of what he had done and that was where the trouble of the whole earth started because in the course of events, God drove man out of the garden and this put a hold on God's plan for the earth.

You know sometimes, I meet people that complain and say; why in the world did Adam and Eve eat the fruit? Why didn't he just obey the voice of God? If you are one of such people, I ask you a simple question, "Have you ever eaten your tithe?" Well if you have, then you'll understand.

Tithing: a must not an option

CHAPTER THREE

GOD'S CARETAKERS

When Noah came out of the ark after the flood, he did something very remarkable that got God's attention.

"Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. 21 And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done. 22" While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease."

Genesis 8:20-22

Remember I told you the tithe is God's portion of everything He has given. When Noah came out of the ark, everything that was in the ark with him was all the earth had. So, he took a portion of it and gave to God as an offering and this pleased God because that portion was the tithe. You see, this was where Adam failed which made the earth revolt against him.

When Noah gave his tithe to God, God declared "Hey, the earth is no more cursed," (Genesis 8:21). Adam had usurped authority and the earth was against him, but when Noah gave his tithe, both the earth and God found a new caretaker in him that could be trusted and you know what? God pronounced on Noah the same words He blessed Adam with at the beginning.

"So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

Genesis 9:1

Tithing: a must not an option

God was saying; I can trust you and the earth can work with you so get into the job I gave to Adam. Hallelujah!

ABRAHAM AND HIS TITHE

One remarkable thing about Abraham was the fact that he was a tither and he had a great revelation about it. Let us see what the bible said about him.

“Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said:

*“ Blessed be Abram of God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;*

*20 And blessed be God Most High,
Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.”*

And he gave him a tithe of all.”

Genesis 14:18-24

Wow! If you can understand what transpired here, you've found a secret and you will never be broke another day of your life.

Each time I read this portion of scripture, I'm always inspired. First, I want you to notice that when Melchizedek met Abraham he spoke blessings into his life. Now Melchizedek was not a familiar person, he wasn't Abraham's neighbor. The bible calls him '**Priest of the Most High God**' and when you study Hebrews 1-3, you will know He was the Angel of the Lord. He just showed up. How did Abraham know him? By the kind of words He spoke. Melchizedek spoke words to Abraham that no man dare speak, and He spoke with authority. He called Abraham blessed, He called him possessor of heaven and earth. When Abraham heard these words, he knew he had met with God and he wasn't just going to let

God's caretakers

Him go. He knew it was time to give his tithe and he gave Him a tithe of all that he possessed at that time.

I tell you the truth, when Abraham did that, even the earth knew it. It recognized Abraham as God's representative so it submitted to him. This was why Abraham was so rich, there was no land he went into that he didn't come out with abundance, everybody gave to him, the earth couldn't get barren, but rather it was always producing with joy for his sake.

It was because of the tithe he had given that Abraham was able to look at the King of Sodom and say "take all your goods, less you say you have made Abram rich" (Genesis 14:21-23). He had just given his tithe to God and he was expecting a harvest from God. Abraham didn't want to confuse the small goods he recovered for the king of Sodom as his harvest and that was faith, which God honored.

Abraham passed down this knowledge to his children.

JACOB UNDERSTOOD TITHING

Jacob was the grandson of Abraham, and down to his generation the tithe was still very relevant; he became a very wealthy man because of his commitment to tithing.

*"Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, **21** so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God. **22** And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."*

Genesis 28:20-22

Tithing: a must not an option

There is something I want you to notice about these people, the word of God came to them and immediately they responded with their tithe. After the Lord appeared to Isaac, Isaac built an altar.

“And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, “I am the God of your father Abraham; do not fear, for I am with you. I will bless you and multiply your descendants for My servant Abraham’s sake.” 25 So he built an altar there and called on the name of the LORD, and he pitched his tent there; and there Isaac’s servants dug a well.”

Genesis 26:24-25

Understand this; whenever they built altars, they were not just empty altars they built. They built altars so they could give their tithe and offerings to God on them.

Jacob also did the same thing. Notice what he said in Genesis 28:22

“And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

Jacob already knew about tithing, he must have learnt it from his father Isaac who got it from Abraham. Remember what God said about Abraham in Genesis.

“For I have known him (Abraham), in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”

Genesis 18:19

Jacob knew about tithing and he desired to be blessed so he made a vow to strengthen his faith in tithing. That was why he said I will surely give my tithe. Do you know God took that vow seriously? I love the faith of these men.

God's caretakers

Listen, tithing has benefits, it is as sure as the sun shining. So you have to learn not only how to tithe but also how to get all the benefits from your tithing.

This is the reason God instructed me to write this book, to bring you knowledge so that you will begin to walk in the fullness of the blessings that belong to you because of your tithing.

Tithing: a must not an option

God's caretakers

CHAPTER FOUR

HOW TO WALK IN THE BLESSING OF TITHING

There is the blessing that goes with tithing. Do you know that with every tithe you give to God, there is a harvest? I know people still have this idea that the tithe belongs to God so they owe God, and they think whenever they bring their tithe to God they have just paid a debt. This mentality can and has put many in bondage. It is true that the tithe belongs to God, but each time you give it, God blesses you for it; your tithe is stored up in an account for you because you are a son of God, the inheritance is still yours. The truth is when you give your tithe, you are running things for God, you are handling his business, because He says to you just give me Ten percent (10%) and the rest is yours.

This is the reason we must conduct our business differently from the people of the world. God's economic principles are totally different from that of the world and when you tithe you are showing that you understand the difference. Here I want to show you how you can begin to operate in God's principles and amaze the world. The system of the world is faulty, it is not working anymore, it was designed from the onset to fail because the chief designer who is the devil is a failure and he did the design with his corrupt wisdom.

Before I continue, let me correct a notion people have about the devil. I have heard a lot of people say the devil got his authority from Adam and he was using it until Jesus came, conquered him and got the authority back. This is not so and I will explain it to you.

The devil has never had any authority to rule the earth, he never got it from Adam because Adam couldn't have given willingly or mistakenly what he didn't have. Adam didn't have this authority because God didn't give him ownership of the earth. All the devil had and is using is his inherent ability (Dunamis). This was in him from his creation; God created him with wisdom and might and you really cannot take that away.

You see, when a man is wise, he cannot all of a sudden stop being wise and become a fool, but it is possible for him to channel the use of his wisdom from

Tithing: a must not an option

good to evil. That was what the devil did. God created him wise, He does not take back what He has given.

“For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.”

Romans 11:29

Lucifer (the devil) corrupted his wisdom, the wisdom that was supposed to be a blessing was now for evil imaginations. (See Ezekiel 28:12-17)

Lucifer had the blue print for the earth before he sinned, that wisdom was still in him but what he doesn't have anymore is the connection with God and the right to carry out the blue print.

When he got Adam to sin against God, God drove Adam out of the garden but life continued, and while God was working on what next to do, the devil started giving directions with his corrupt wisdom to men, by planting his thoughts in their minds. So with that wisdom he was able to set up the systems we see in the world today, that was how he became “the god of this world”, all those that are under the system are under him, he is running their lives. This is why the system of the world doesn't please God because there is no faith in it.

“but without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

Hebrews 11:6

The devil became an influence by talking and spreading his thoughts to men before God finalized His plan. But now God's plan has been given, and He has given it to us through words. This is the reason Isaiah said, “*Who shall believe our report?*” (Isaiah 53:1).

When you give God your tithe, you are saying you have believed the report of God. But a lot of God's children even after giving their tithe still function by

How to work in the blessing of tithing

How to work in the blessing of tithing

the world's system and after a while they begin to wonder what the relevance of tithing is, so it becomes more like obeying a command rather than walking in a principle.

When you live by a principle or law, you do not walk by assumptions; you are dealing with something that works. Many give their tithes and just believe somehow they will be blessed but only a few have come to understand how to walk in the '**tithing blessing**'. This is what we will be talking about here, practical steps to walking in the blessing of tithing.

There are five points I would like to share with you.

1. **Have faith in the God of your tithe.**
2. **Resist the system of the world.**
3. **Fellowship with the Spirit.**
4. **Know who the devourer is.**
5. **Let praise be in your mouth.**

HAVE FAITH IN THE GOD OF YOUR TITHE

"but without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Hebrews 11:6

If you don't see that you are giving your tithe to God and see Him receive it, you may not look to Him for your harvest. The portion we just read says, you must believe that God rewards those that seek Him diligently. It means you must seek in hope.

Hope is very vital to your faith walk, without hope you cannot walk by faith. But the world has twisted the use of the word. For example, if someone says, "I will see you at 10am" and you say "Okay, I hope you will come?" In today's language that expresses doubt saying you might not come, but it actually

Tithing: a must not an option

means, I will be expecting you or I will be looking out for your coming. When someone says, "I hope God will do it for me" it actually means, I am expecting God to do it for me.

You see, it is the system of the world that has tried to make the word hope negative so God's children will miss out in the blessing. Without hope there is no faith because faith is the substance of things hoped for. When your hope is complete, you begin to give substance to it, which becomes faith.

You may wonder how this is, I will explain. When you say "I hope God will bring His word to pass in my life" that is okay, but that alone doesn't have substance, though it may keep you alive. But when you begin to say "*God does not lie, He has the ability to bring to pass what He says, He has integrity, he has never lied and He is not about to start with me because He does not change according to his word*". That is giving substance to your hope which is now faith. I am sure you understand this.

When you give God your tithe, you should hope to get something back from Him even before you give it. This must be a settled fact in your heart. Then start adding substance to your hope. To do this, you apply scriptures like Malachi 3:10

*"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the LORD of hosts,*

*" If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it."*

You say this out to yourself because you believe; you build up your expectation and keep your eyes on it. This is how you will get it. If you don't put into action your faith, you will only be giving out money like contributions people make to organizations.

RESIST THE SYSTEM OF THE WORLD

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Romans 12:2

One man that inspires me in this area is Abraham and we will learn from him again.

“Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself.”

22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’”

Genesis 14:21-23

Abraham had just paid tithe to Melchizedek and should have been expecting a harvest, now I want to show you the spiritual wisdom he exhibited.

Abraham had just gotten back the goods and the people of Sodom for the king. The war was not his; he went in only because of his nephew Lot. But you see, Abraham was not a selfish man, he recaptured everybody and everything. Then on his way back, he met Melchizedek and he gave Him a tithe of all. Observe something here, the spoil from which he gave the tithe were not his totally, he had gotten them from the war and though they belonged to the king of Sodom, they were under his charge. Meeting Melchizedek, he knew it was time to give his tithe so he did. He could have thought *“oh these are not mine, I wish they were, I would have given my tithe”* but he knew better, he was smart about it, the goods were under his charge, he could have hidden some and brought the rest to the king, nothing would have happened, but rather he gave God the tithe.

When he met the king of Sodom and the king asked him to take all the goods, Abraham could have been excited thinking God was rewarding him. But

Tithing: a must not an option

he was smart about this, he knew who to demand his reward from; God and not the king, so he told the king, I won't receive payment for this job I've done for you, it was done out of love. You see it was not the king that invited Abraham to fight, if he did then it would have been right for Abraham to receive payment, but Abraham went to the war voluntarily, because of his nephew and love and goodness on his part.

Why was he bold to refuse the payment or reward offered and not think he would regret it? It is because his eyes were on God and he had refused to follow the corrupt world system that says collect payment for everything you do. I have seen people who will squeeze out everything they can get from you because of a help rendered. '**Nothing goes for nothing**' they say and this is the mentality they have. Abraham's principle was; '**meet a need and let God reward you**'.

Let me tell you something; what we call salary over here; God calls it "**bread of sorrow**" This is in the word.

"It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep."

Psalm 127:2

Now the amplified bible puts it this way, "*...to eat the bread of [anxious] toil for He gives [blessings] to His beloved in sleep*"

Make no mistakes about this, the wages you earn at your job is not the blessing of God no matter how much it is; it is a debt owed you by that organization, this is why God calls it bread of sorrow.

So when you see men like Abraham and Jacob refusing to collect wages, they knew what they were doing, they made up their minds to trust in the prosperity that comes from God only.

This was Abraham's thinking and did it pay him off at the end? Yes it did, God was watching all along while he spoke to the king of Sodom, you may ask how I know God was watching? Look at what God said immediately to Abraham.

How to work in the blessing of tithing

“after these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”

Genesis 15:1

God said, *“I am your reward”*; do you know what this means? I wish people will understand this. In this part of the world (Nigeria) there is a system I see where someone goes to work for another person with the purpose of learning the business and both of them agree that after a certain number of years the boss will pay off the apprentice with enough money to start his own business. But in many cases this doesn't happen. Somewhere along the line there is a disagreement, distrust and so on, which will make the boss send the apprentice away empty. That has caused a lot of trouble for many people, but I wish they will hear me and understand tithing like Abraham did.

You don't need settlement from any man; don't let your life depend on that settlement. As an apprentice you should be tithing, since that business is in your charge tithe from it, when you make gain give God your tithe and look up to Him for your harvest, do your work diligently and with integrity, when it comes to the time of settlement, you can walk away with joy in your heart.

Just imagine it's time for you to leave and your boss then tells you he can't afford to settle you right then, you just tell him *“Sir, there is no problem, God will settle me”*. He may not understand but giving no offence, you walk away and I tell you the truth, if you know this principle, you will become even bigger than that boss if he doesn't know it.

Resist the world system, refuse to walk in it, don't depend on the world's payment method no matter how much it is. You are not suppose to live your life based on that, Listen to me, anyone that lives by the wages gotten from a job or a business is living under a curse, the Adamic curse. What I am telling you might not be popular now but it is the truth, the blessings of God are free. You do not labour for it and because you are his beloved, God wants to get his blessings to you in abundance, but your reasoning has kept you away from it. When your salary is increased, it is not the blessing that increased; it is your **'bread of sorrow'** that increased and that means more enslavement by that organization. I really get amazed at how God's children rejoice over the wrong things; how can

Tithing: a must not an option

the child of a wealthy billionaire in dollars rejoice over his salary increment from \$1000 to \$3000, Yet this is what a lot of God's children are doing and God is not happy about it.

This is why He has sent me to tell you. Don't you know how rich your father is? And He called you a joint heir, hear me! This is the truth; you don't need to work or do any business to be prosperous, you belong to a rich family and your portion of the wealth has already been divided to you. This should be the baseline of your thinking in this area. God can and wants to meet every need in your life if you'll only let Him. Look at what David said again in Psalm 127:2(Amplified) "...for He gives [blessings] to His beloved in sleep" this means even if you do nothing, your father gives blessing to you, because you are His child and He is a responsible daddy and He calls you His beloved.

This should be your thinking, if you want to work, that should be your choice and as a love gift, not for the salary. The whole salary thing was instituted by the devil to deceive God's children, so they would think they are enjoying God's blessings whereas they are not. Listen, refuse the system of this world, and walk by the principles of God's word.

FELLOWSHIP WITH THE SPIRIT

*"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen."*

2 Corinthians 13:14

I know this verse is prayed or said at the close of every Christian meeting but I wonder how many people have actually spent time meditating on it. What is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, what is the love of God and what does He mean by the communion of the Holy Spirit?

*"for you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that
though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor,
that you through His poverty might become rich."*2
Corinthians 8:9

Tithing: a must not an option

How to work in the blessing of tithing

So when we speak of the grace of Jesus being with us, we are talking about our prosperity which is in Christ Jesus. The love of God is also so big that by the time we start talking about it; even the world cannot contain it.

For the purpose here, we will be talking about the Communion or fellowship of the Holy Spirit in the area of tithing. A lot of God's children give but many don't receive as they ought to and the reason is simple, they do not participate in this fellowship, in the area of receiving.

When you give to God, remember the first point we discussed, you should expect to receive. Our reasoning when it comes to receiving matters a great deal. I want to show you a perfect example from the Bible about receiving from God through this fellowship when you give your tithe.

“Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which was in the rods. 38 And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink. 39 So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted. 40 Then Jacob separated the lambs, and made the flocks face toward the streaked and all the brown in the flock of Laban; but he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's flock.

41 And it came to pass, whenever the stronger livestock conceived, that Jacob placed the rods before the eyes of the livestock in the gutters that they might conceive among the rods. 42 But when the flocks were feeble, he did not put them in; so the feebler were Laban's and the stronger Jacob's. 43 Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.”

Genesis 30:37 – 43

Tithing: a must not an option

This is a very interesting story if you study from 31. It is about the life of Jacob and how he prospered supernaturally. I want you to notice what he did when Laban his uncle told him to name his price; he declined. This was like his grand dad Abraham who declined the pay from the King of Sodom. Jacob rather decided to go into business with Laban and he put the stakes so high on Laban's part that he became disadvantaged in the eyes of Laban.

I am sure Laban would have thought *"oh yeah you fool, who told you pure breeds can produce speckled"* but Jacob had his eyes on God. Now when you just read the story here, you will think it was just the fact that Jacob did what he did about the rod that made it happen, it was more than that. There was a supernatural element which occurred through the fellowship of the Spirit and I want you to see it.

"And it happened, at the time when the flocks conceived, that I lifted my eyes and saw in a dream, and behold, the rams which leaped upon the flocks were streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted. 11 Then the Angel of God spoke to me in a dream, saying, 'Jacob.' And I said, 'Here I am.' 12 And He said, 'Lift your eyes now and see, all the rams which leap on the flocks are streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. 13 I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now arise, get out of this land, and return to the land of your family.'"

Genesis 31:10 - 13

This was exactly what happened. The Holy Spirit who is referred to here as 'the Angel of the Lord' was in fellowship with Jacob, and gave Jacob a vision of where his harvest was. It was supernatural. Notice what the angel said again.

13 I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and where you made a vow to Me..."

Literally He said *'I am the God of your tithe'* now what vow did Jacob make? It was a vow to give his tithe (Genesis 28: 19 -22).

How to work in the blessing of tithing

When you walk with the Holy Spirit He will take you beyond the world's system and you will begin to do things supernaturally. The laws of this world won't mean anything to you. By the Spirit, you will use new laws that the world has never known. This is one great benefit of tithing.

It was the Holy Spirit that told Jesus where the fishes were before He told Peter where to cast his net. It was through fellowship with the Spirit that Jesus sent Peter to get money from the mouth of a fish. The normal mind can never fathom that. But this is what the fellowship of the Spirit does. Let me talk to you about the miracle of Peter.

Peter had toiled all night and caught nothing, not because there were no fishes but the water was cursed for man's sake, same as the ground (Genesis 3:17). When Jesus came, notice He didn't pray for fishes to come, (Luke 5:4-6). Why didn't Jesus pray? Because He was conscious of the fact that the waters and fishes will respond to Him since He was a tither. Now I wouldn't know if Peter at that time was faithful in giving his tithe, if he was, then he didn't have a revelation of it. Jesus knew a law has already been given, I wish everybody in the fishing business will know this. God has already given a command to the fishes in Genesis 1:21-22

"So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

This was what Jesus was walking with. The fishes that came to Peter's net were not created suddenly, they were there that whole time, they were just smart enough to dodge Peter's net, but when Jesus, God's caretaker showed up, they knew who was talking, a faithful caretaker that the boss trusts and they trusted also because Jesus gave His tithe. All the fishes wanted to enter Peter's net till the net began to break.

Another example is the story of Isaac in Genesis 26:1-3, and 12-13

Tithing: a must not an option

“There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar.

2 Then the LORD appeared to him and said: “Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you. 3 Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.”

12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him. 13 The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous;”

There was economic crisis and everybody began to migrate out of town. Isaac, although he was a tither didn't know how to walk in the blessing of it, he didn't know the reason for the crisis was because the ground was cursed for the people's sake so it was just stubborn to produce for the 'men that ate their tithe'. Isaac wanted to leave like everybody else; he didn't know he was different, but the Holy Spirit helped him by telling him to stay while others moved.

When Isaac sowed in the land, there was no special prayer, you know what happened? The care-taker was calling and the ground had to respond. Where others sowed and got nothing, Isaac, because he was a tither sowed and got one hundred fold. But if the Holy Spirit wasn't there to remind him he would have left town like every other person walking by the principle of the world. Now you see the importance of having fellowship with the Holy Spirit?

Think about it, if you are having fellowship with the Spirit of God who was there when the world was created, you should know He has all the secrets of the world even the ones the optical eyes cannot see. When He talks to you, you will begin to see, and know what others don't and it will make you stand out.

I remember one day, I was in need of money and I had developed my faith not to go asking people for money. If I need anything, I simply ask the Lord for it and believe for it. On this particular day, I had waited from morning till night putting my faith to work to receive; around 10pm, I decided to take a walk down

How to work in the blessing of tithing

my street and just talk to the Lord; confessing that my needs are met. I actually told the Lord that night that I will not ask Him for money because Psalms 23 says *"I shall not want"* to me it means for every need there is a specific provision. So rather, I asked the Lord to open my eyes to see the provisions He has kept. When I said that, I knew that I had hit the right cord. Suddenly I heard the Lord say to me *"tomorrow morning go to the bank"* I knew it was the Lord speaking and I believed His word.

The next morning, I was expecting to receive a call that money has been deposited into my account but no such call came in and the time for me to use the money was approaching. I asked the Lord again and He said *"I didn't tell you to wait for a call, I told you go to the bank"* immediately I went by faith to the bank, knowing there was previously no money in my account. On getting there, I requested for my account balance and when it was written I discovered there was sufficient money to meet that need; someone had deposited money into my account. I wanted to ask the bank staff to check who sent the money but I clearly heard the Lord say to me *"don't do that, take the money and leave"* I simply obeyed.

For a whole month, I was expecting that the person who sent the money would at least call but no one called. Out of curiosity, I requested for my bank statement and there I discovered a second miracle. Someone without a name had deposited that money. I thought about it for a long time and all I heard the Lord say was *"didn't I tell you that you will entertain angels unawares?"*
(Hebrews 13:2)

"Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?"

Hebrews 1:14

That was how my need was supernaturally met. God sent an angel to pay in money into my account. I have had experiences of people sending money to my account and they said they had a dream that I needed that money. How can you explain such? That is what fellowshiping with the Spirit does to a man who is a tither.

Note also that the Holy Spirit is the captain of the Lords host in Malachi 3:10. He kept saying *'the Lord of Host'* there is a reason. The angels of God that

Tithing: a must not an option

make up the host are all involved in our tithe so you should always expect angelic assistance when you tithe and fellowship with the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the God of our tithe. Praise God! As a tither, you partner with Him and both of you form the biggest partnership the world can imagine.

KNOW THAT THE DEVOURER IS REBUKED

*“ And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes,
So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground,
Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,”
Says the LORD of hosts;”*

Malachi 3:11

God said, *“I will rebuke the devourer”*. Now we know God cannot lie, but we find that there are times when though you give your tithe people steal from you and you wonder how come, since the devourer has been rebuked for your sake why would you lose your property? I remember I used to think those thoughts until one day the Holy Spirit talked to me about it.

My thinking was, *“if I give my tithe, I shouldn't misplace any of my things, no one should cheat or steal from me”*. I thought the angels of God should protect everything that belongs to me. That is true but the fact that your property was stolen should not make you disadvantaged.

I asked Him why a tither should misplace or lose anything or why should someone steal from him? *“Are we to tithe and still fight the devourer ourselves after the bible has clearly said God will rebuke him?”* While pondering and asking the Holy Spirit, He asked me a question that changed my thinking. He said, *“When Jesus was on the earth did He give His tithe?”* I answered and said; definitely He must have been a tither because the bible said Jesus was without sin so robbing God would have been far from Him. Then He said, *“Was the devourer rebuked for Jesus' sake?”* Yes of course I answered. Then He said to me, *“what about Judas Iscariot?”*

Oh! I thought for a very longtime, Jesus would never have played with tithing because of His desire to please the father, if anyone ever gave tithe it must

How to work in the blessing of tithing

have been Jesus; how come He had a thief as His treasurer? Judas was a consistent thief, it was not a onetime incident yet Jesus gave him all the money to be in-charge of. Was Jesus a fool or was it that God didn't rebuke the devourer? The answer is none of the above. The question rather should be; how does God rebuke the devourer?

When you tithe, your properties should be protected by reason of the devourer being rebuked but the fact that someone stole from you doesn't mean the devourer has not been rebuked. The truth is when you lose your goods to a thief; it is an opportunity for you to increase. This is true from the word of God and I will show it to you. Judas was always stealing from Jesus, but did you ever read that Jesus got broke? Neither did we ever read that Jesus was asking "*what happened to all the money?*" Though Judas was always stealing, Jesus had supply at every point of need without even going to His account.

Remember one day, tax collectors came and He got money from a fish to pay His tax, He didn't ask Judas for money probably because Judas might have emptied the account. Jesus was so supply conscious He got it from a fish. The fish was ready to give to Him because the devourer was rebuked, for everything Judas stole Jesus received a harvest of it because He was a tither.

Look at what Jesus Himself taught;

"Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back."

Luke 6:30

If you understand this, you will never have a bad day. When someone steals from you, even if you find the person, Jesus said don't ask him for it again, let him go, turn to God who will show the devourer that he was wrong. He doesn't show it by knocking the thief on the head; remember He loves the thief also. The way God rebukes the thief is by increasing you. This is how our father thinks and usually a rebuke is done after an action has been taken, to rebuke means to criticize or reprimand, So God is saying, "*I'll say to the devourer, you are wrong*" and the way God does this is by replacing what was taken and even giving you more or a better one.

Tithing: a must not an option

To devour means to eat up, to consume, to waste, to destroy, so the devourer is anyone or anything that devours. As a tither, you always have supplies that the world knows nothing of, God makes the devourer ashamed for your sake, whoever or whatever steals from you or makes you lose anything is only creating an avenue for you to receive, because the more He takes your goods, the more you increase, but you have to be very conscious of that fact.

The story is different for the one who doesn't give his tithe; it will be trouble for him because he has lost that which was stolen completely. Each time you give your tithe, you are laying up your treasure in heaven where nothing can touch it (Luke 12:33); whatever you have in the physical is too small compared to what you can withdraw from your heavenly account. Nothing is strong enough to eat up your goods.

*"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;
20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."*

Matthew 6:19-20

LET PRAISE BE IN YOUR MOUTH

*"Let them shout for joy and be glad,
Who favor my righteous cause;
And let them say continually,
"Let the LORD be magnified,
Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."
28 And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness
And of Your praise all the day long."*

Psalms 35:27-28

David was praying for those that favor his righteous cause, he was praying for his partners, when you tithe, you are in partnership with God. David had enough sense to pray for his partners, that they shout for joy in praise. Surely

How to work in the blessing of tithing

that is God's desire for all His partners too. Those that tithe are partners with God; they are the ones that carry out God's vision upon the earth and they give Him His portion, the tithe.

"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

1 Corinthians 1:9

The word fellowship also means partnership. God is faithful so when you become faithful in tithing, you are walking in the light as God is in the light and you know what that means? You are in fellowship (1 John 1:7), and this fellowship gives you peace. Peace takes away every fear and worry from your heart so that you are sure of receiving the harvest of your tithe then you begin to give God praise not because you have seen anything physically, but because you know you are in the perfect will of God and your mind is nowhere else but fixed on God.

*"You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You."*

Isaiah 26:3

When you tithe with revelation, you are keeping your mind on Him, and that means He takes the responsibility to keep you in perfect peace, which in turn brings out words of praise from your mouth, it may come out in a known language or in an unknown language by the Spirit. You see I'm not talking about just singing songs to console yourself; I'm talking about words of assurance, coming out from a settled heart.

The bible says;

"The kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost".
Romans 14:17

Tithing: a must not an option

So when your faith is intact because you refuse to walk according to the system of the world in the area of tithing and you walk with the Spirit, not allowing the devourer to stop you because you understand who he is and how God rebukes him, you will have no choice but produce praise from your heart through your mouth.

Tithing: a must not an option

CHAPTER FIVE

HOW TO PAY YOUR TITHE

Now this is an area you need to pay close attention to. Knowing that you ought to give God your tithe is one thing, knowing how to give your tithe is even more important because if you tithe wrongly, it will affect your harvest. And the devil will want to attack you in this area so that you will begin to doubt the word. You see, God's word is sure. It does not fail. If you think you are doing the word but it seems not to be working, check what you have been doing. You shouldn't just do what you want or think and expect God to back it up.

God loves you and He wants to get all the best things in life across to you. But you see He has already set the necessary principles and laws into motion, if any man puts it to work he will get the desired result. It is no more in God's hands, it's in your hands now. No man should blame God for his trouble because God has already given the answer.

You know why the bible says "*God is no respecter of persons*"? (Romans 2:11) It is because God has already done everything and He is not doing anything again today in this regard. He has already set down the laws and it will work for whoever puts it to work rightly. Isn't that exciting? To know that it is not about who God wants to bless or not, it is now who will believe. The question is, will you believe? (Mark 11:23)

Let us look at this scripture: Malachi 3:10

*"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the LORD of hosts,*

*" If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it."*

Tithing: a must not an option

There has been a lot of misconception about this scripture especially in the area of 'storehouse' and 'meat in mine house'. Many have thought God was saying bring the tithe to the church, when I say church here I mean the church organization, a particular denomination not necessarily the body of Christ. It is important to know that God was not talking about an earthly storehouse but the storehouse in heaven which Jesus spoke about in Matthew 6:20

"but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."

So when He says bring the entire tithe to the storehouse, He is saying upload your heavenly account, so that you will have stuff there. Not necessarily keeping your tithe record in your local assembly up to date, like many think.

It is important to distinguish between these or else you will be doing the wrong thing thinking it is right.

WHAT THEN IS MY TITHE?

Your tithe is Ten percent (10%) of all your income; now I know some people especially workers have this idea that you tithe only from your salary, but remember the definition I gave for tithe in the second chapter of this book. The tithe is God's portion of everything He has given you. So what has God given you? Any income you receive, any money coming into your hand as yours; whether it is a salary, profit in a business, an allowance, a gift, as long as it is good, it is from God. The Bible says *"every good and perfect gift comes from the Lord"* (James 1:17).

That means a portion of it which is Ten percent (10%) is your tithe and it belongs to God. This may not be in monetary terms alone, you can tithe from anything; remember Adam was to tithe with fruits from a tree, the children of Israel did tithe from their cattle and farm produce, so don't restrict yourself to money alone. Understand it is a command that is for your benefit, just like it was for Adam's benefit, so that you can prosper on earth and so that the forces of life will always recognize you as a faithful caretaker. Your tithe goes as far as your faith goes, now since you are expecting a harvest; the question you should ask

Tithing: a must not an option

yourself is what do I want a harvest from? I'm sure you would want a harvest from everything.

WHO DO I GIVE MY TITHE TO?

You have to understand that the tithe belongs to God so you do not give it to anyone else but Him. Now I know the question will arise in your heart, how do I give my tithe to God when I don't see Him?

I like to give my answers from the word of God and not just tell you what I feel is right. Adam was to give his tithe to God; Abraham gave his tithe, Jacob also. Now who did they give their tithe to and how did they give it? The bible says in Hebrews 6:12

“ that you do not become sluggish but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

So we ought to look out for those we know got the blessing from tithing, know how they did it and copy them.

We see from the bible in Genesis 3:8

“And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.”

This was God coming to meet them in the garden and I believe He had come like that before to have fellowship with Adam and Eve. For example, when God brought all the animals to Adam to name, God and Adam had fellowship.

“Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam

Tithing: a must not an option

called each living creature, that was its name." Genesis 2:19

God and Adam have been enjoying this fellowship, Adam knew when God was around and I have cause to believe that at this time in Genesis 3:8 God was coming to receive the tithe but before He got there they had eaten it.

"And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden."

Genesis 3:8

Now if they had not eaten it, they would have presented it to God and worshipped Him with it, they would have told Him *Lord, this is your portion of all the things you have given us to watch over. We have done so faithfully, we have labored on this tree also; we dressed it till the fruit is now ripe for harvest. Here is it, we bring the fruit to you in honor to your name, receive it Lord* and God would have received it and blessed them; the whole earth would have watched and be pleased with Adam.

How would God have received the tithe from Adam, would He have taken it to Heaven? No! God would have received it and instructed Adam what to do with it. I believe in this case He would have told Adam to eat it right in His presence, because Adam was supposed to eat it to become wise, knowing good and evil. The important thing was the obedience to God's instruction, no matter how many times Adam obeyed God; he would have been blessed for it.

We also read about Abraham giving tithe to God, God Himself came to receive the tithe from Abraham in the person of Melchizedek (Hebrew 7:1-4).

Jacob gave his tithe to God; you remember when the Angel said "I am the God of Bethel"? (Genesis 31:13) That was not an ordinary angel, that was God and He appeared to Jacob several times to receive his tithe. It was on one of such occasions that Jacob wrestled with God.

Tithing: a must not an option

THE LAW CHANGED THINGS

When God gave the law through Moses, a law was also given in the area of tithing and that changed a lot of things. God told the children of Israel to give the tithe to the priest in the temple. You can study this from Numbers 18:21-32. Now there are many things to learn from here though it was just a shadow but we know a shadow points to the fact that there is a real one. Remember also that the bible says the law didn't make anything perfect.

“for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.”

Hebrew 7:19

The very thing about the law that made it imperfect was the fact that instead of drawing the people to God it drew them away from God and replaced the real fellowship and relationship with God, with the adherence to certain rules and regulations, hoping God would be pleased by them.

Also I want you to understand this, when God gave the law, He was not thinking about His children, the righteous ones, the law came because of the disobedient people among the children.

“knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,”

1Timothy 1:9

The righteous man was not to keep the law but continue in his relationship with God and in doing so God would be pleased by faith without any law in focus.

Tithing: a must not an option

THE LAW AND TITHING

This same imperfection of the law has affected God's children in this issue of tithing.

Now, I want you to see something about this. The patriarchs gave God their tithe and it was done completely in faith as we have already seen in previous chapters of this book. They get their tithe and then they wait for the Angel of the Lord to show up and when He does, they give Him the tithe and go into their harvest.

The relationship they had with God concerning tithing was very personal and they recognized the Angel of God by His words. Notice that it wasn't because they saw a man with wings flapping, standing before them. No, that was not how they knew the angel. They observed the kind of words He spoke. For example, when Abraham met Melchizedek, how did he know the man was not ordinary? Remember, God called Abraham a prophet.

"Now therefore, restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you shall live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours."

Genesis 20:7

When Abraham heard the words Melchizedek uttered and the authority with which He spoke, he knew that He was not an ordinary man. You see, Melchizedek came in the name of the Lord.

Abraham heard those words of blessing and knew this was a man of God so he knew it was time to give his tithe. It was the same thing with Jacob.

But when the law was given, it took away faith from the whole process and replaced it with ceremonies which only appealed to the flesh. They would take their tithe to the priest, and then he will perform the usual sacrifices and they will feel good. It became a general thing and no more a specific walk of faith before God so things started getting bad. Not that the law in itself was bad but

Tithing: a must not an option

the purpose and the administering of it was the problem and so they missed out on the real thing.

It is my greatest desire in this book that you know specifically for yourself the hope of God's calling in this area of tithing and do it right, not just the putting of money in an envelope and putting it into the offering bag.

A CHANGE IN THE PRIESTHOOD

After the death and resurrection of Jesus, there was something that transpired in heaven which definitely affected God's mode of operation on the earth. It also affected how God receives tithe. But many have neither taken note nor understood the significance of this change.

Let us look at Hebrews 7: 4-8

"Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils. 5 And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham; 6 but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. 7 Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better. 8 Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives."

I love the way this argument is put forth, you will have to study the whole chapter for yourself to get the argument. Notice how he explains the different priesthood and their responsibility in receiving the tithe.

Keep this in your mind as you study this; the law God gave to Moses was not in God's original plan, it was a make shift arrangement. Galatians 3:19 tells us *the law was added because of sin, till the time of the seed*. So because it was a makeshift plan, God put in place a makeshift priesthood to administer the law.

Tithing: a must not an option

But when the seed; which is Christ came, God had to return to the original plan and do away with the make shift plan.

11 Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron? 12 For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.

Hebrews 7:11 - 12

The make shift plan held back perfection from coming including in the area of tithing, because the earthly priests were limited in their understanding and really couldn't perform the ministry perfectly as God wanted them to, but praise God for the change, it brought about God's perfection, so now we can give our tithe in a perfect way and enjoy the perfect blessing of it. (Study Hebrews 7:15-27)

THE NEW WAY OF TITHING

Now, we are not to give our tithe the way they did under the law. I have met people who believe tithing came with the law therefore it has gone since the law has been abolished. That is not true, I'm sure having read this book to this point you know better. This is where the mix up is today; we do not tithe as a law because we do not live by the law. Those who give tithe as a law today, are under the old covenant and are not acting by faith.

"Yet the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them."

Galatians 3: 12

We are to tithe in faith in response to our relationship with our Father and our High priest; Jesus. Today, we are not to take our tithe to any priest in any

Tithing: a must not an option

temple but we are to take it to the High priest himself who receives the tithe from us.

Now you may ask how this is done. It is simple and I will tell you.

You are to take your tithe by yourself, and lift it up to Jesus in prayer like God taught them to do in Deuteronomy 26:13-15.

"then you shall say before the LORD your God: 'I have removed the holy tithe from my house, and also have given them to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, according to all Your commandments which You have commanded me; I have not transgressed Your commandments, nor have I forgotten them. 14 'I have not eaten any of it when in mourning, nor have I removed any of it for an unclean use, nor given any of it for the dead. I have obeyed the voice of the LORD my God, and have done according to all that You have commanded me. 15 'Look down from Your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless Your people Israel and the land which You have given us, just as You swore to our fathers, "a land flowing with milk and honey."

You see, this is the prayer God told them to pray then, when they gave their tithe according to His command.

Today, we give our tithe to Jesus and then He tells us where to take it to, and who to give it to. So when you lift up your tithe, you may pray to Him like this;

“Lord, I thank you for blessing me and above all making me a partner with you before the whole world. I have received this fruit from the earth at this time and I bring your part which is a tenth. I worship you with it and I praise you with joy in my heart. Sanctify and receive this tithe through your Spirit, thank you Lord, in Jesus name, Amen”.

Now this is just a model prayer, I'm sharing with you the idea; you don't have to form a religion from it, just get the idea and pray with your own words as the Holy Spirit leads you.

Tithing: a must not an option

When you are done praying, you've got to wait for an answer because you have prayed in faith. The Lord will now tell you what to do with the tithe. You see, that is how you know He has received it. The Holy Spirit will minister to your heart who to send the tithe to. When He does so, you will be working with Him as a partner in meeting a need of the one that receives it and God will surely bless you for the tithe and the errand. He may also in most cases, put specific words of blessing in the person's mouth for you.

You are to walk by faith in this area, remember our five points.

JESUS MEETS THE NEEDS OF HIS WORK WITH THE TITHE

When you are fully engaged in the work, Jesus sponsors you, He pays you, and that is what He does with the tithe. He distributes it to those that are working, giving life to people; it is His responsibility to distribute it not ours, we bring it to Him and He tells us where to send it, to meet the need of every work. I know some may have problem with this because it is not popular yet, but this is the truth.

This is why it is important we all participate with the Holy Ghost in this area of tithing so you don't send your tithe to where He didn't want it to go. It is actually God's money not yours. I believe one of the first things to teach believers is how to develop a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit, how to talk to Him and hear Him talk back to you.

When a man wants to be the only voice of God to you, he is leading you gradually into bondage. The work of a minister in your life is to lead you to that point where you know God for yourself, even as he has known Him. You are the prophet of your own life. God has put people ahead of you to guide you, they guide you because in the work of faith they are ahead of you so they have things to teach you which will benefit you. This is the place of the five fold ministry, this is why we have pastors over people today, to nurture them till they come to that full knowledge too.

Tithing: a must not an option

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ – “

Ephesians 4:11-15

So a pastor or leader is not to lord it over people but lead them into God's knowledge. A lot of people don't grow in the things of God, they just feel the pastor is there to do all the praying for them and studying, they just come and use him when they want to, they come to receive prayer and teachings on a Sunday or if they have a need for prayer, they run to him. This is not God's perfect design, everything you see the pastor, prophet, teacher etc do, you also are to be doing. He has known them before you so he is teaching you but you have to be learning and growing till you get to the point you can share even with your pastor the things God is teaching you and he will be blessed.

As a pastor, you should be conscious of the growth of your members, they are really not your own but God's and He didn't give them to you for keeps, but for them to receive your knowledge and experience of Him; so you must be sure you are always increasing in that knowledge and fellowship so they would have what to learn from you. But most importantly you should see them knowing God for themselves. We are all carriers of God, we have all been made priest unto God (Revelation 1:6) the bible never said there is any ranking in this priesthood, but we all have our High Priest, Jesus and we are all one in His sight. The difference in us is our individual knowledge of the father, which is what distinguishes us. If you stop increasing in knowledge, your people will definitely go elsewhere for the knowledge; they are not tied to you. When you see that people are leaving you consistently, most likely you have stopped growing and God is leading his children elsewhere to be fed. Jesus said *“No man comes to me*

Tithing: a must not an option

except my father draws him" (John 6:44) so if they don't come to you, it simply means they have not been drawn yet.

I pray every pastor will understand this. Simply feed God's people and when you do He is the one to reward you for it. I know they are to respond to you according to Galatians 6:6 and 1Thessalonians 5:12-13. It would not be right for you to think your reward is only coming from them, when you do this you will find yourself fighting over people and that would not be right. If God has not given someone to you to pastor, don't try to do it by force, those He has given you, nurture and admonish until you see them doing what you are doing too.

When I was much younger I usually ask this question, *'if we all give our tithe to the pastor, who does the pastor give his tithe to? And who does that person give his to?'* In my mind I was wondering, who is the highest authority. I believe God inspired that question in my heart because I've asked the Lord for years till He finally gave me the answer which I've shared with you on how to give your tithe. So in the area of giving your tithe, as an individual you ought to relate with your High Priest even as the pastor does relate with Him, you ought to hear Him for yourself.

As a Christian and minister of the gospel, I only ask God to meet my need and He does, I don't ask any man, when I pray, God speaks to me and tells me who to give my tithe to, as I obey, in the same way He speaks to others to give to me and they surely obey. This is walking by faith and I enjoy it so much, it makes my walk with God very exciting because every day I expect a miracle and I know I have to be in faith every second.

I believe this is how we all ought to walk with our Lord, this was how the early church walked and no one lacked. The reason no one lacked was not because they had helps department, they didn't lack because they all trusted the Lord to meet their need and He did. They all heard the voice of God for themselves and if we walk like they did, we would get the same result.

You may ask, "what if I don't hear God?" Jesus said; he that is of God hears God's words. (John 8:47). So the question is, are you of God? If you are born again, then you are of God but if you are not born again, or if you are not sure

you are of God, you can be sure right now by simply praying this prayer with me. Mean it with all your heart.

Say, Lord Jesus, according to Romans 10:9-10 I believe with all my heart that you came to this earth, died and rose again for my sake, I believe in the God that raised you up and declared you to be Lord. So in agreement with God, I confess you now as Lord over my life from this day forward. Baptize me with the Holy Ghost so that I will become one with you. Thank you Lord Amen.

If you prayed that prayer with all your heart, congratulations you are of God, you are now a son of God, the Holy Spirit is now in you, which means you can hear His voice clearly in your heart and even right now I am very sure He is speaking to you and you can hear Him. He is so eager to talk with you. If you will just put down this book for a moment and say "Lord, just speak to me" and be quiet for a while, He will definitely speak to you. Do this now as I agree with you on it that He will speak and you will hear His voice, would you take out time to do it right now?

What did you hear? Can you write it down? That is the voice of God to you. Practice this all the time and you will see how your life would grow.

I have helped many people in this area, I remember a dear lady who was trying to hear the voice of God, and she asked me "*how do I know the voice of God apart from my mind?*" I told her it is simple, just ask the Lord to talk to you and He would and it will not be your mind. So I said to her "*why not do it right away,*" I told her to go on her knees and ask the Lord to speak to her, wait and tell me what she hears.

She did so and said, all I hear is "*I am God is there anything hard for me?*" and then she said "*but I don't know if it is my mind*" I said to her it was ok, let us just analyze it and see. The voice said, "*I am God*" the devil can never say that, he will be too afraid to, your mind won't even think of it. So that leaves only one voice, God's. Secondly, that statement was picked from the bible, and Jesus said the Holy Ghost will bring my words to your remembrance.

Tithing: a must not an option

“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

John 14:26

So you see, that was no other voice but the voice of God. She was so excited about it and she didn't stop there, she continued and presently as I write this book she is a Pastor in a Spirit filled ministry.

You need to hear the voice of God for yourself; it is the sweetest thing that can happen to you. I believe every minister should guide the flock into this relationship where they begin to hear God for themselves. If you will listen to His voice, you cannot miss Him.

This is very important in tithing, and don't be in a hurry to give it; if God hasn't said who you should give it to yet, keep it till He does but don't eat it, you can keep a separate account for it because most times, God doesn't want you to give sparingly but bountifully, so keep it till He gives you the word for it.

Tithing: a must not an option

Tithing: a must not an option

CHAPTER SIX

SO WHEN WILL YOU START TITHING?

I have shared this with you in the most simple and clear way so that you will perfectly understand. My greatest desire is that you fulfill God's dream and that can never happen when you are not giving God your tithe, you cannot have a profitable business on this earth if God doesn't receive your tithe. Someone might say *"but I have been doing so well without giving God my tithe"*. The truth is you are not. Anybody doing seemingly well in any kind of business without tithing is operating an illegal business and God has permitted it for a reason.

"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous."

Proverbs 13:22

Also, God said in Ecclesiastes 2:26;

"For God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who is good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to him who is good before God. This also is vanity and grasping for the wind."

The reason the wicked will lose his wealth to the one that is good in God's sight is because of the tithe; the wicked does not pay tithe so their wealth has no root on the earth, and will eventually find its way to the one that will please God with his tithe.

He that has ears to hear, let him hear. The wealth of a non tither is only for a time; the true owner of that wealth will show up and get it from you. The true people God has given a business on the earth will honor Him with their tithe and the earth will recognize them, the spiritual forces of life will know and respond to them as God's caretakers and their businesses will know no end but it would expand till it covers the earth.

Tithing: a must not an option

I have heard some people say *"we live in the era of grace so even if I eat my tithe God will still forgive"* you see, it is not about God forgiving you, God will always do but your problem here is not with God but with the earth and the forces of life. God still loved Adam and Eve after they ate the tithe but the earth wouldn't respond and God would not go back on His instruction to them.

This is the time to get serious with tithing and to do so with understanding, so that you don't find yourself tithing and yet losing out on the blessing. Don't perish for lack of knowledge. I have shared knowledge with you, take your bible, do a careful study on it again and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you, He will.

Give God your tithe anytime you receive money, if you are a farmer or whatever you do or get that you call profit, give God a tenth. He is only asking for Ten percent (10%) the rest is yours, the earth and forces of life know you ought to do it. Don't only do it, teach those around you what you have learnt from this book. If you have children, teach them to tithe no matter how young they are, you will be doing them a great good. If you want to ensure a prosperous future for them, if you want your children to become great on the earth, you will teach them now.

The bible says in Proverbs 22:6

*"Train up a child in the way he should go
and when he is old he will not depart from it."*

I shared with you how my parents taught me to tithe at a very young age, they didn't only teach me, I saw them do it. I have not departed from it since then, and not only that, God has given me the opportunity to bless you and others today with this wisdom. Of course this is not exactly what they taught me, I have stayed with God to learn more, now I have more understanding and experience on the subject. So share the message, we are partners with God, let us spread the kingdom of God over the earth. Jesus said,

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all
things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you*

Tithing: a must not an option

always, even to the end of the age." Amen."
Matthew 28:19-20.

I see a day when nations shall put it in their constitution that as a nation they shall give a tenth to God. I believe it, I pray about it and I know God wants it so it shall be done. For the kingdom of God is expanding and we are filling up the earth like God told Adam. He gave that same command to Jesus and us. We are not going to make the mistake Adam made by eating our tithe, we have known the devices of the devil. We are set on a course and we are filling this earth with the Garden of Eden which today is Zion, the kingdom of Christ.

If you have received an income, made profit or any money that is yours and you haven't given your tithe yet, or maybe you have never been a tither, why don't you make up your mind now to give it? Take it now while I pray with you.

Pray this with me:

Father in the name of Jesus, First, I want to thank you for this wisdom and knowledge you have given me in this area of tithing. Thank you for an understanding heart and greater insight that you will give me by your Spirit, I thank and praise you for it.

Father I make a commitment to you today just like Jacob, I know the world has its principles of success but I have chosen to walk by your principle of success, knowing that you have great plans for my live according to Jeremiah 29:11.

I shall do your word and shall be blessed for it and I shall surely bring my tithe to you. I love you Lord and will not rob you.

Today, I bring this tithe to Jesus my High Priest, receive it Lord, I believe by faith and receive the blessings of tithing from you. I declare that the devourer is rebuked for my sake, the windows of heaven are opened to me and a blessing is poured

Tithing: a must not an option

upon me. I increase in this blessing till all nations shall see and call me blessed.

Thank you Lord for your Holy Spirit that you have given to live in me, He is the Lord of Hosts and Lord of the harvest, therefore by Him I dispatch the angels to go and bring in my harvest now in Jesus Name.

**Lord, my heart is open to hear from you as regards where I should send it to and I do so by faith.
Thank you Lord. Amen**

Hallelujah! You can begin to praise Him now and be joyful because something is happening right now. He is even talking to you about where to send your tithe to. Remember when He tells you what to do with it; you know He has received it. Confess the word in Malachi 3:10-12

God bless you. Amen.

Tithing: a must not an option

To Contact the Author, please write to:

ATUBO GEORGE
P. O. Box 11997
Garki, Abuja.
Nigeria

Email: info@atubogeorge.org
Website: www.atubogeorge.org

Or Call
Tel: 234-81-37173454

Please include your testimonies or help received from this book when you write.
Your prayer requests are also welcome.

