

Chapter 18—God Reaffirms Levites' Roles in His Work At The Tabernacle

1. To Aaron God said, “I myself have selected your fellow Levites from among the Israelites as a **gift** to you, dedicated to the LORD to do the work at the Tent of Meeting.” 18:6
2. “Anyone else who comes near the sanctuary must be put to death.” 18:7
3. Being a spiritual leader is a “call” from God; not a personal “aspiration.”

Provisions for God's Workers

1. God said to Aaron, "Everything in Israel that is devoted to the LORD is yours." 18:14
2. "You will have no inheritance in their land, nor will have any share among the them. **I am your share and your inheritance among the Israelites.** I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance in return for the work they do while serving at the Tent of Meeting." vs. 20-21

“Take the Whole World, but Give Me Jesus.”

1. When God calls people to serve Him, he becomes their portion, share, and inheritance (Ps 73:26) They are expected to stop pursuing the world and instead commit to His work.
2. How much have your pursuits changed as you've developed as a believer?

Where Your Heart IS You Put Your Money

1. A very tangible way to measure how much you have left the embrace of the world, and see God as your portion, is in your faithful tithing\ giving to God's work.
2. A tithe is 10% right off the top. This was considered GOD'S part of their money. If they were spending it on themselves, they were "robbing God", and would suffer for it. (This can be a significant SOURCE of our financial problems today as well.)

A Brief Lesson on Christian Giving

1. The Bible is full of financial advice and commands.
2. Jesus himself said, “Give to God what is God’s.” Matthew 22:21
3. What impact does tithing have in the Christian life? Practical tips for doing it?
4. God expects his people to give of the “firstfruits” and give of their “best” (not leftovers).

Why don't some\many Christians tithe?

1. They don't have enough money.

“He who loves money, never has money enough.” Ecclesiastes 5:10

2. They don't have enough faith.

3. They don't have a financial plan that makes it work.

4. They are poor investors (investing mostly in a material world that is passing away, rather than in a spiritual kingdom that will last forever.)

Why don't some\many Christians tithe?

5. They love money, pleasure, entertainment, the things money can buy. . . They overcommit financially.
6. They are too concerned about what others think; spending money to maintain an image.
7. They are impatient, unwilling to put off satisfying their desires until they can afford them.
8. Others thoughts?

The Progression in Christian Giving

1. Giving begins with a **heart of gratitude** for God's many blessings.
2. **Faith** is stimulated as we reflect on these blessings; knowing God is faithful to provide.
3. Faith ALWAYS leads to **obedience**, in this case to give the tithe.
4. **Blessings** ALWAYS follow obedience (even if they are INTANGIBLE) because the Spirit of God in us rejoices in our obedience.

Summary

1. **Disobedience** leads to forfeiting God's blessings.
2. Don't take out your **frustration** with your current circumstances on your leaders. (All grumbling is against **GOD!**)
3. When you fail God, don't get stuck; **move forward** with Him.
4. Let God be the LORD over your **finances**, and you will see a significant change in your life. (**Tithing** is step #1)
5. Get help to put a financial **plan** together that will work for your family. And get "**check ups**" to maintain it. Don't be too proud to get help. (TESTIMONIES?)
6. Don't **fight** with your spouse over finances, **pray** about it and commit it to the LORD.