

TITHING, the Great Christian Deception

By Walter Tschoepe – Website: thefigtreegeneration.net or the figtreegeneration.com



Tithing is now a financial income for many institutionalized churches and denominations. Blind Christians who have no idea of what tithing is, had been giving a tenth of their earnings all through their life thinking they were giving it to Yahuwah, but were they? We will explore what tithing is, and if Yahushas followers are **commanded** to

follow the tithing principle as it is presented in the Christian Churches.

Have you ever wondered why the Christian churches and denominations tell you the Old Covenant along with its statutes, judgments and ordinances is "done away with;" yet, they still quote **the requirement** for you to give them 10% of your income to support "their particular ministry" and "their churches"? **However, they refuse to acknowledge and to keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, the yearly festivals and the health laws because they claim that these are no longer binding.**

Much of what Christianity has defined as "**biblical and following Yahuwah's law**" rests upon the fallible and frivolous wisdom of fallen man.

The Bible says that "**There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, But the end thereof are the ways of death**" Prov. 16:25 KJV.

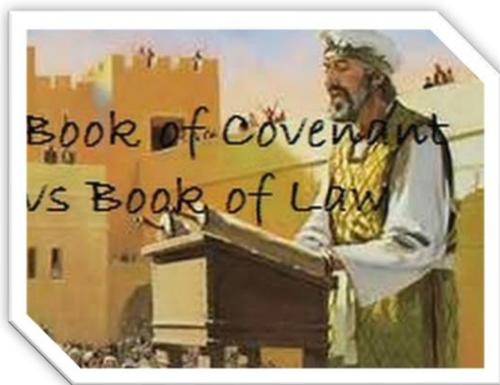
What is the result of this pressure to give ten per cent of your income every week or month to a denomination? Elohim's people are bullied; their consciences are being defiled! When people follow

these instructions, they feel they have made their pastor, and as well Elohim, happy and can expect a spiritual and financial blessing from Him. When they fail, they are taught it is stealing, and trouble looms ahead.

Some time ago I secured a book with the title “**Back to the Melchizedek Future**” written by Dr. David L. Perry, Th.D. One of the chapters is entitled “Tithing” and I am quoting first from this book from page 135, where it states:

“The command to tithe is neither found in the Book of the Covenant, the Ten Commandments nor is it supported by the New Testament. The command to tithe is contained in the “Book of the Law” to support a Levitical Priesthood we no longer have.” END OF QUOTE.

Here the “Book of the Law” is being mentioned. Before I continue quoting from this book, let me just quickly explain the difference between **the Book of the Law and the Book of the Covenant:**



There are 2 books: The Book of the Covenant and the Book of the Law. The Book of the Covenant was **inside the ark**, the Book of the Law **was on the outside of the ark.**

Exodus 25:16 says you shall put **INTO the ark** the Covenant "law" (Book of the Covenant) meaning **everything from Gen 1:1 to Exodus 24:11.** This includes: the weekly Sabbath, the Feast Days -- these are not JEWISH, they are ELOHIM'S; the dietary commandments, and the "10 words" on stone that Moses broke.

Deuteronomy 31:26 says to put **the Book of the Law beside the Ark of the Covenant** as a testimony AGAINST the children of Israel, because they sinned and YHWH (ELOHIM) was upset with them because of the Golden Calf apostasy. The Book of the Law is recorded from Ex. 24:12 to the end of Deuteronomy.

The Book of the Law with the establishment of the Levitical Priesthood was established because of the Golden Calif apostasy. The Levitical priesthood was never in Elohim's plan, **although** He saw it coming.

The promise belongs to Abraham's seed. Those who do the work of Abraham will be saved ... not to Aaron/Levi's seed. It is not about genealogy. **The only blood that matters is Yashua's blood.**

Abram wasn't a Jew, he didn't go to a temple and he never knew a Levite. Abram GAVE ONCE IN HIS LIFE a **freewill tithe to Melchizedek** of the recovered items (from the booty of war, Genesis 28:22).

Notice that this was *not* wheat, corn, wine, oil, or cattle from Abram's **personal possessions**, but rather booty taken from conquered nations. There is nothing stated here that would cause us to conclude that Abram (later changed to Abraham) ever tithed on a regular basis on his own personal possessions, even though he was very rich.

In accordance with this fact, we are NOT obligated to tithe, but if we do, it's a **matter of freewill**, not an obligation. Abraham's tithe was a gift, not a payment. Melchizedek did not ask for a tithe, nor did ELOHIM tell Abraham to give Melchizedek a tithe. No one asked Abram to do that. We should ask the question, "**Why are Christians being actually asked and at times mandated to give a tithe to**

their Church?” In some cases, paying the tithe is a condition of Church membership or to have a position in the church.

There are **only two examples of tithing**. BEFORE THE BOOK OF THE LAW in Genesis tithing was voluntary, non-routine and profit [ownership] based. Tithing AFTER THE BOOK OF THE LAW, after the Levitical Priesthood was established, was mandatory, routine and agrarian (land) based. Never was it based on income or money as is usually taught today.

Yahusha is in the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews 6:20).

I will continue quoting this book about “tithing”:



We have no record that Isaac ever tithed. However, there is one account in Genesis 28:22 that Jacob vowed to tithe. **“And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be Elohim's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.”** That may be the premise of Levitical tithing that YHVH had

never before required. END OF QUOTE!

(ELOHIM did not demand or require that of Jacob. This was completely voluntarily and a commendable decision on Jacob's part. – emphasis mine.)

Let's ask ourselves a reasonable question: Just how did Jacob actually give a tithe to Elohim? Did he personally hand it to Him? No! Did Jacob tithe to an angel? No! Did Jacob send his tithe to Heaven some other way? No. Did he take it to the local church? No, there was no local church. Did he take it to the Temple? No,

there was no temple. Did he give it directly to one of the Levitical priests? No, there were no Levites as yet. Well how then did Jacob tithe to Elohim? Was it even possible?

The answer may be found in Deuteronomy 12:6-7: **"And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your TITHES, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks: And there ye shall eat before YHVH your Elohim, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, YE and YOUR HOUSEHOLDS, wherein YHVH thy Elohim hath blessed thee."**

And even though there were no Levites in Jacob's day, nonetheless, there were **"...the STRANGER, and the FATHERLESS, and the WIDOW, which are within thy gates, shall come, and SHALL EAT AND BE SATISFIED; that YHVH thy Elohim may bless thee in all the work of thin hand which thou doest"** (Deut. 14:29).

That's the only way how Yahuwah could have acknowledged a tithe from Jacob: By partaking of a portion himself with his family in communion and thanksgiving to Elohim, and by sharing his fortune with the unfortunate, the poor, the strangers, etc.

Let's go to Leviticus 27:30-33, **"And all the TITHE of the LAND, whether of the SEED of the land, or of the FRUIT, of the tree, is Yahuwah's: it is holy unto THVH. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof. And concerning the TITHE of the HERD, or of the FLOCK, even of whatsoever passes under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto Yahuwah. He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it ..."**

According to this section of Scripture:

1. The tithe comes from the "land," not the air nor the sea. Fishermen were *not* required to tithe *fish*.
2. It was the "seed" or agricultural produce from the field that was holy to Elohim and tithed.
3. Products from "trees" were to be tithed. This not only included the fruit, but oils, etc.
4. "Of the herd or of the flock" it was the "tenth" that passed under the rod that was holy and dedicated to Elohim.

The tradesmen, who made the baskets for harvesting, did not tithe. The cobblers, who made the shoes for the servants of the field, did not tithe.

The carpenters, who made the wagons used for harvesting the field, did not tithe.

The potters, who made the jugs for carrying water to the servants in the field, did not tithe.

The seamstresses, who made the garments for the fieldworkers, did not tithe.

And certainly, the servants, who worked in the field for wages, did not tithe.

Here are the simple facts regarding the Biblical teaching of tithing:

ONLY LANDOWNERS TITHED

ONLY PRODUCTS OF THE LAND WERE TITHED

ONLY LEVITES COULD RECEIVE THE TITHES

Yahusha, the Messiah was a carpenter by trade, and as such, it is not recorded that He tithed!

I continue reading from the book "**Back to the Melchizedek Future.**" It states:

Note that the New Testament does support sow and reap, but in all aspects of life **not just money**. We sow heavenward, we support and give, etc. But a one-time freewill tithe does not equal the

compulsory Book of the Law ongoing tithing of Malachi 4 **to support a Levitical Priesthood we no longer have.**

Yahuwah said, if you keep covenant you will be My people. Israel is His Firstborn, but Israel broke the Covenant thus defiling themselves. No longer Yah's undefiled son's, no longer His peculiar treasured people, **they became thrust under a Levitical priesthood with a commanded mandate** (along with many other things) **to collect tithes.** A mandate that was not imposed by Yahuwah at any time **before** the Covenant breach.

Matthew 17:24-26 **“And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? 25 He saith, yes. And when he was come into the house, Yahusha prevented him, saying, what thinkest thou, Simon of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? Of their own children, or of strangers? 26 Peter saith unto him, of strangers. Yahusha saith unto him, then are the children free.”** KJV

The Bible says, **“Cursed is he that makes flesh his arm.”** [Jeremiah 17:5] This applies to any man, book, or commentary. That is true inside or outside any “nailed to the cross.” The weight of evidence shows that the Book of The Covenant (along with the Ten Commandments) stands outside the Book of the Law with its own penalties. We still know of personal penalties and generational curses that are tied to idolatry via the Book of the Covenant, even though the Book of the Law curses are broken. It wasn't until Exodus 24:12 that Yahuwah even mentions anything about stone tables or Law; even more interesting is what Exodus 24:12 actually says... ... and I (YHVH) will give you tablets of stone ... and the law ... and the commandments, which I (YHVH) have (already) written, that you may teach them.” **END OF QUOTE.**

“The New Testament” nowhere designates a **fixed percentage of income** a person **must** set aside, but only says **gifts** should be “**as Elohim has prospered**” (1 Corinthians 16:2). Some in the Christian church have taken the 10 percent figure from the Old Testament tithe and applied it as a “**recommended minimum**” for Christians in their giving. A deceitful charade is played out in churches throughout the world almost every Sunday and Sabbath at collection time.

We are blessed to give:

- generously
- cheerfully
- willingly
- **NOT out of necessity**
- according to our means
- in faith
- in love
- in kindness

One of the main Scriptures that is used to support the doctrine of demanding "tithes and offerings" from those who are seeking Elohim's favor is Malachi 3:8 which says: “**Will a man rob Elohim?**” Who is YHVH speaking to? He is specifically speaking to the Levites and the priesthood of Aaron and not to the people giving the tithes and offerings to them. It states in Malachi 1:6 ... “**It is you, O priests, who show contempt for My Name.**” It was the priests, not the people, who were not respecting Elohim as Father and Master.

The behavior of the Levites and priests had caused the people to be discouraged in that by saying the “**Lord’s table** [the church pulpit] **is contemptible**” (much like those today who take your tithes and offerings to buy for themselves the best of goods and services while refusing to help those in need); they made the people give to Elohim, defected and sick animals as tithes and offerings; and they took the

best of the livestock and grain offerings for themselves to later sell for profit.

The Levites were commanded to receive tithes and offerings from the people and the people were obligated to give tithes and offerings; **however, in the third year they were to share this tithe given to them by those who had livestock and land to tithe on with “the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.”** Many of today’s ministries are building bigger churches instead of taking care of the needs of the widows and the poor and needy in their community.

Tithing Was Never Money or Income Based. Tithing was Land Based!

A simple example: if two farmers had crops of 10 carrots each, they would both be obligated to tithe one carrot. Under the agrarian (land based) tithing system it didn't matter if one sold the remaining 9 carrots for \$5 and the other sold his remaining 9 carrots for \$10. The tithe of the harvest was unrelated to the income of the harvest. Plain and simple - THE TITHE WAS NOT 10% OF INCOME, it was 10% of the harvest. The tithe was agrarian which means BASED ON THE LAND.

Another interesting point: If a herdsman had but **nine** cattle, *he didn't tithe his cattle at all!* Also notice that Elohim did not even require the *best* of the cattle, just the tenth one that passed under the rod, even if it were the weakest of them all. Remember, we are talking about tithing and not sacrificing (animals for sacrifice always had to be without blemish.)

During the period of the Mosaic Law (the Levitical System), Yahuwah commanded people bring a tenth of what they produced from the land regardless of the income they received from it. Tithing wasn't

income based BEFORE OR AFTER the law and the tithe was NOT money!

In fact, it was against the law to sell the tithe. One was to bring the PRODUCT, not what the product was worth [Leviticus 27:28]. There are many references regarding tithing the "increase." [Example: Deut. 14:22 uses the Hebrew *tbuw'ah*.] This literally means fruit or produce. In the tithing verses, EATING the tithe is often referred to. Note in Nehemiah 13:10, the Levites went to THE FIELD to replace missing tithes. During the time of agrarian law tithing bartering was common, but there were also time money systems in place. (See Genesis 23:15-16 and Genesis 42:25, Jeremiah 32:9-11, Deuteronomy 14:25 and Malachi 3:5). Yet the tithe remained agrarian (land based).

According to the Douglas/Tenney NIV Bible Dictionary Leviticus 27:31 makes it clear a penalty of 20% of the tithe was exacted from one who redeemed (exchanged for money) his tithes and refused to use the money to pay for a substitute. Again, this shows the tithe was not income or money based.

Elohim gave Israel's tithes to the Levites as an inheritance in lieu of land. [See Joshua 13:14, Deuteronomy 10:6-9, Deuteronomy 18:1-5, Numbers 18:21, Numbers 18:24. The Levites gave tithes and offerings out of the tithes to the priests [Nehemiah 10:38, Numbers 18], but they apparently didn't have to tithe the income from the sale of inherited property [Deuteronomy 18:6-8]. The Levites and priests were dependent on tithes for FOOD. Elohim's house was a STOREHOUSE and DISTRIBUTION POINT for the sacrifices, the Levites, the priests and those in need. [Malachi 3:10 "Bring all the tithes into the STOREHOUSE that there may be FOOD in My House." Also see: Nehemiah 13:10-13; 1 Samuel 8:15; 1 Samuel

8:17; 2 Chronicles 31:11; Deuteronomy 12:6-7; Deuteronomy 12:17-19; and Deuteronomy 14:22-23].

There was one exception for converting a tithe into money that was allowed early in the law. According to many scholars, this exception was abolished later. Deuteronomy 14:24-27 gives this early exception proving money systems were in place without tithing being based on money. In this early exception one could sell the tithe given in specific circumstances and spend the money on whatever one desired provided one shared what one bought with the local Levite. Also, these verses make clear, "if the distance was too long for you to CARRY YOUR TITHE" proving the tithe was NOT money (coin) based. The New Testament shows Pharisees tithing, not income -nor money, but what they OWNED and GREW [Luke 18:12, Matthew 23:23]. These verses show examples of both AGRARIAN (land) based tithing and PROFIT based tithing.

Here is exposed another lie of modern clergymen. It was **not the first tenth, but rather the tenth tenth** that belonged to Yahuwah, contrary to every minister that insists that the *first* tenth always belongs to Elohim. This is unscriptural, it is untrue. **It's the tenth one of a herd that belongs to Yahuwah.**

Notice this telling bit of history from the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. "**Tithes in Christendom** — The earliest authentic example of anything like a law of the State enforcing payment appears to occur in the capitularies [ecclesiasticals] of Charlemagne at the end of the 8th or beginning of the 9th century. Tithes were by that enactment to be applied to the maintenance of the bishop, clergy, the poor, and the fabric of the church. In the course of time the principle of payment of tithes was extended FAR BEYOND its original intention. Thus they became transferable to laymen and saleable like ordinary property, in spite of the injunctions of the third

Lateran Council; and they became payable OUT OF SOURCES OF INCOME [not just farming and herding, but other trades and occupations and salaries paid in the form of money] NOT ORIGINALLY TITHABLE." (1963, volume 22, page 253, 'TITHES').

The Catholic Church knows its own history. Here is how tithing got back into the Church after being absent for nearly five centuries:

"As the Church expanded and various institutions arose, it became necessary to make laws which would insure the proper and permanent support of the clergy. The payment of tithes was adopted from the Old Law... The earliest positive legislation on the subject seems to be contained in the letter of the bishops assembled at Tours in 567 and the [canons] of the Council of Macon in 585."—*The Catholic Encyclopedia*.

They "extended" their base of tithe collecting to eventually include all forms of income. All Christian scholars know that although money was in wide use in ancient Israel, **it was never a tithable commodity**. But modern Christian pastors of Elohim's sheep don't want tithes of goats or oil or corn — they want money — cold hard cash. Elohim has a word to the **"shepherds of the sheep,"** and it is the very same message that He had for the Levites in the book of Malachi. And it is this: **"My people have been lost sheep. [Why? And how?] Their SHEPHERDS have caused them to go astray"** (Jer. 50:6).

In 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 Paul says the following: **"He who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly, and he who sows on blessing shall also reap on blessing. 7 Let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not of grief or of necessity, for Elohim loves a joyous giver. 8 And Elohim is able to make all favor overflow toward you, that you, always having all you need in every way, have plenty for every good work."** *The Scriptures*



Tithing
vs.
Giving

Let's look at the Lexham English Bible:
“Now *the point is this*: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7

Each one should give as he has decided in his heart, not [reluctantly] or from compulsion, for Elohim loves a cheerful giver. 8 And Elohim is able to cause all grace to abound to you, so that in everything at all times, *because you have enough of everything, you may overflow in every good work.*”

Giving is especially important and is a great benefit to the spiritual health of Yahuwah's followers. We should give what we are able to give, and generosity is always a good thing. However, the focus is on **motive** rather than strict percentages or tithes. Giving is meant to encourage faith, as we pray and ask for wisdom from Yahuwah as to how much we should give, and in what manner. As we were reading in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 our **offering** should be done cheerfully to glorify and worship our Heavenly Father by serving His people. Of course, we- **give since** we are blessed but there is no mandated minimum amount under the Melchizedek Covenant.

Now we come to an especially important question... is your church, your denomination, your group actually undertaking Yahuwah's work in teaching biblical truth? Do they teach the Torah with the statutes, judgments and commandments or are they stumbling in the dark preaching darkness, the commandments, and traditions of man? Do they promote the weekly Sabbath, Yahuwah's yearly appointed feast days that are a compacted prophecy of the plan of salvation and the biblical dietary laws? If they don't, whatever monetary support you give to that organization **is useless, a waste**

of money, because they are false shepherds and that will not be blessed by the Father. In that case, you are more blessed by giving to the worthy poor, the widows, and the orphans, which would be in that case the only legitimate way to use the tithe and offerings. The reason for that are the words of our Savior Yahusha in Matthew 25:32-36 and 40, when He talks about the final judgment:

“And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them from one another like a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right and the goats on the left. 34 Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world! 35 For I was hungry and you gave me *something* to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me *something* to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me as a guest, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you cared for me, I was in prison and you came to me. 40.Truly I say to you, **in as much as you did it to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.”**

The Scriptures



Therefore it is better to help the needy, not the greedy! Give to the fatherless, the orphans, the strangers, the widows, the poor, and the homeless, and the beggar on the street, as Yahuwah gives to you. Give to reputable charities if you have extra. Give to your family members and relatives in need—don't humiliate them

by making them ask you first. Give to a neighbor in financial distress. Even when tipping someone, let it reflect the One that you represent in your Christian walk. Our Father is a generous Elohim —may you be generous also. Develop a "love for giving." Paul tells us in Acts

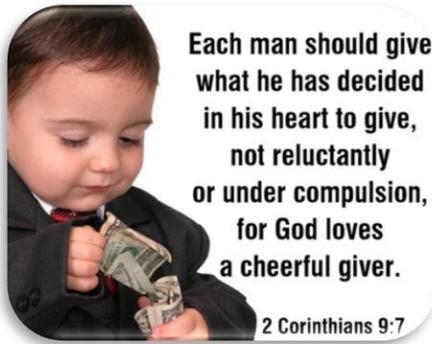
20:35b to remember the words of Yahusha Ha Mashiach, how He said, **It is more blessed to give than to receive.**” Remember, we have brought nothing into the world, and it is certain we can carry nothing

The point of this study is to remember that **mandatory tithing** at a required percentage from the churches has no basis in the “**Book of the Covenant**” under the Melchizedekian priesthood after the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. Believers are now under the Melchizedekian priesthood according to 1 Peter 2:9, we are “**a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people.**”

The modern church organizations of the various denominations do not replace the Levitical priesthood of the Old Testament that was supported by the mandatory tithing system. The modern tithing system by Christians appears to be a scam run by greedy pastors and organizers. However, might the pastors and organizers really not know what the Scriptures teach? How many of these people even understand the Melchizedek Priesthood and what it entails? Until understood it is nearly impossible to understand the tithing truth as instructed in the Book of the Law for Yahuwah’s people when under the Aaronic Priesthood – which of course ended at the cross with our highest Melchizedek Priest that now abides in heaven. Until understood it is impossible for today’s Christian pastors to teach the truth on tithing as it stands in the Scriptures.

To give with a cheerful heart is a virtue. Let’s take the example we find in the book of Acts, where it states that the believers each gave generously to those who were preaching and teaching the word as well as to the widows and orphans. However, fraudulently fleecing the flock by exacting ten percent of parishioner's paychecks so they won’t be cursed is a sin! May all, who have been chafing under the unscriptural burden of Christian tithing, feel free at last to follow their

heart in giving freely and cheerfully to whomever they desire as Yahuwah prospers them. John 8:32 tells us that Truth Frees ... **"And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you FREE."**



I encourage every individual to do their own research and to look at these and other websites from which I gleaned this information, as there are many more details given, which I didn't include in this study as it would have become too long. Remember that today we are living under **"the Book of the**

Covenant" and **not** under **"the Book of the Law"** and since the time of the Cross -we are under the order of Melchizedek, which most (if not all) of Christians don't know or don't understand yet. Also remember that one has to be careful with some of the information on the internet as Christianity divides the Bible into two: the Old Testament and the New Testament; and claims that the Old Testament as the word says is old, obsolete and for today not binding, which is utterly false. The Elohim of the Old Testament (Yahuwah) is the same as the Elohim (Yahuwah) of the New Testament as He never changes according to Malachi 3:6 and Yahusha is the same yesterday, today and forever according to Hebrews 13:8. Also understand that the so-called New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31 and Hebrews 8:8) is still future and **according to Scripture**, is not made with Christianity, but with the House of Israel and the House of Judah.

The true believer of the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, accepts **in his life** Yahshua Messiah, as King and Savior of his life, and as Yahshua did, lives according to the Torah, not according to the teachings of the Pharisees and the Sadducees, not according to the vain traditions of men. Join the House of Israel and the House of

Judah. Not the Israel of this earth nor the Judah of this world, but the Israel and Judah that is in heaven.

Some of the information was taken from the following website:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/109560948/Tithing-is-Unscriptural-Under-the-New-Covenant> also from:

<http://tithinginfo.com/>

TITHING, the Great Christian Deception

By Walter Tschoepe November 1, 2017, revisited July 12, 2020

Website: thefigtreegeneration.net or the figtreegeneration.com