

## **PRINCIPLES FOR BEING CHRISTIAN AND DOING CHURCH FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS**

Tithe to the Kingdom as Minimum and Give More as the Holy Spirit Directs

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*Principle Six: We must embody sound biblical stewardship that emphasis the tithe as the basis of giving and money management as core of Christian praxis.*

Introduction:

This principle has two fundamental points:

The tithe is the basis of Christian giving and sound fiscal management

Sound fiscal management is the core of Christian praxis.

In time we shall focus on the issues of money management, which are related to but not identical with the tithe. Many persons are faithful in giving the Lord's tithe but stumble over the matter of managing the other ninety percent of the resources entrusted to their care.

Several money management texts are:

Suze Orman, The Road to Wealth.

\_\_\_\_\_, The Laws of Money and the Lessons of Life.

Dave Ramsey, Total Money Makeover.

Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko, The Millionaire Next Door.

William D. Watley, Breaking Financial Barriers That Block Vision.

\_\_\_\_\_, Ten Steps to Financial Freedom.

For the immediate present however, we shall continue to emphasize the importance of tithing because based upon this pastor's study and understanding of the scripture, the tithe is the first and necessary step to sound financial management for followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **What is the Kingdom of God?**

Message of the Lord Jesus: Matthew 4: 17; 4: 23; 6: 33

**To live in the kingdom of God is to live in the reign and under the rule of God in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord as the Holy Spirit abides and lives within us.**

Reign and Rule of God: I Corinthians 15: 10

Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord: Philippians 1: 21; 3: 4-15

Holy Spirit Abides and Lives Within Us: John 14: 25-26

God is the Foundation and Founder of Wealth

I Chronicles 29: 12; Proverbs 3: 9; 10: 22 (*No sorrow to it*)

God as Owner Sets the Standard

Leviticus 27: 30; Deuteronomy 14: 22

Kingdom Giving

Matthew 23: 23; Luke 19: 1-10; Acts 4: 32-27

Where Do We Tithe to the Kingdom?

We Tithe to the Church as God's Storehouse and as the Body of Christ

Malachi 3: 10; Ephesians 4: 1-6

How Do We Tithe to the Kingdom?

Tithe of Treasure

Tithe of Time

Daily: 2.4 hours or 2 hours and 24 minutes

Tithe of Talent

Service versus Pay

Tithe as Foundation of Kingdom Giving

**TITHE:** Tenth Indicates Thankful Heart's Expression

**Tenth**

Genesis 28: 18-22; Leviticus 27: 32

**Indicates**

Malachi 3: 6-8; Matthew 6: 21

**Thankful**

Genesis 14: 17-20; Mark 14: 3-7

**Heart's**

I Chronicles 29: 14-17; Mark 12: 28-34

**Expression**

Mark 12: 41-44; II Corinthians 9: 6-12

**TITHE:** Totally I Trust Him Eternally

Habakkuk 3: 17-19; Jude 24; Revelation 1: 6

Points to Ponder:

Does our giving reflect more of our hearts or our pocketbooks and wallets?

If we say that we truly trust and love God and that we truly believe God will supply our needs, why are we so quick to say what we cannot afford to give?

How do we expect God to prosper us when we rob God in tithes and offerings?

Are there other ways or things we could do to grow in our giving in terms of either treasure, time or talent?