

TITHING

IN THE CHURCH

**Is It Scriptural
Or
Unscriptural?**

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One Crying In The Wilderness

Messiah's Truth
Allen, Texas

TITHING IN THE CHURCH

Is It Scriptural Or Unscriptural?

© 2010 by Eddie Rogers

Published by Messiah's Truth
325 S. Jupiter Rd.
Suite 112
Allen, Texas 75002

www.MessiahsTruth.com

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Cover Design / Artwork by Kris Rogers

Edited by Craig and Murline Miles

///// WARNING /////

This book is not written as a form of entertainment, but rather to reveal to the sleeping Christian Church in these end of days Yahweh's (the Lord's) Truths from His Set-Apart (Holy) Written Word.

The information contained in this book will require a decision on the part of the reader. One will either accept it as true and change or reject it as false. Or, one may accept it as true, but not consider it important.

However after prayerful evaluation, if you find this information to be true; it may require you to change the way you tithe.

"And that servant who knew his master's desire, and did not prepare, nor did according to his desire, shall be beaten with many [stripes]. But he who did not know, yet did what deserved flogging, shall be beaten with few. And everyone to whom much is given, from him much shall be demanded. And to whom much has been entrusted, from him much more shall be asked" (Luke 12:47-48).*

NOTE: *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

"My people have perished for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being priest for Me. Since you have forgotten the Torah of your Elohim, I also forget your children" (Hosea 4:6).

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Deuteronomy 15:11

“Because the poor one does not cease from the land. Therefore I (Yahweh) am Commanding you, saying, ‘You shall certainly open your hand to your brother, to your poor and to your needy one, in your land.’ ”

**It Is Better
To Be Divided
By Truth
Than United
With Error!**

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Proverbs 3:9-10

“⁹Esteem יהוה (Yahweh) with your goods, And with the first-fruits of all your increase; ¹⁰Then your storehouses shall be filled with plenty, And your vats overflow with new wine.”

From The Author



We must search the Scriptures to find truth for ourselves. We cannot rely solely on someone else. I have heard pastors in different churches clearly encourage their members to search out the things they were teaching to verify whether or not those things were correct. **It is OUR responsibility to prove all things.** First Thessalonians 5:21 reads, “*Test all things, and hold firmly that which is good*” (Hebrew Names Version).

When Judgment Day comes and we stand before the Great I AM to be judged, our pastor ***will not*** be standing at our side to speak on our behalf for the things we did or did not do according to Yahweh’s Word. We are ***all*** responsible for our thoughts, actions and deeds. He has graciously given us His Written Word that we may know Him and what He wants of us.

If we are ***teachable***, we can mature in Messiah Yahshua (Christ Jesus). However, we ***should not*** rely on ***any*** religious institution to mold us. We **MUST** search out the truths which are clearly written in Yahweh’s Word to help mature and mold us.

If we look closely at the First Century Church, we will not find any denominations. Those who followed and believed

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in Yahshua Messiah (Jesus Christ) were known as “*Nazarenes*” (Acts 24:5). Denominations started in the second century and unscriptural teachings on tithing began shortly thereafter.

Be encouraged and know that Yahweh loves all His children. He wants them to seek Him diligently and to mature in Messiah Yahshua by first discovering His Truth and then obeying His Truth.

The purpose of this book is to “*enlighten*” and “*inform*” those in the Christian Church who may not have been taught Biblical Tithing according to what is written in the Scriptures, so they can *know* His Truths on tithing and be made free. Much of what is taught in the Church is not Biblically correct when it comes to tithing.

**It is time to BREAK AWAY
from false teachings on tithing.**

Activities that were unacceptable to Yahweh nearly six thousand years ago are still unacceptable today. He has not changed (Malachi 3:6).

Dedication



It is with reverential fear and a humble heart that
this book is dedicated to

Yahweh, the Set-Apart (Holy) One of Israel

Whose *Memorial-Name* shall be magnified to a
place of prominence within the hearts of a *righteous*
remnant; and to

**Yahweh's only begotten Son,
Yahshua the Messiah**

Who willingly poured out His precious blood to
atone for all people to the Yehudim (Jews) first,
then to the Goyim (Nations / Gentiles) that
together they would share in the promise of
eternal life.

**To all who have ears to hear and eyes to see; hear
His call to you and see His Word as TRUTH.**

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Proverbs 3:28

“Do not say to your neighbour, ‘Go, and come back, and tomorrow I give it,’ When you have it with you.”

Preface



The teaching presented in this book is specifically written to the Twenty-First Century Church in these end of days to reveal His Truths from His Word.

The subject presented in this book is by no means exhaustive. The intent is to present enough information to help the Body of Messiah Yahshua mature in His Word on tithing. Also, this material is given to pique your interest to do more research on your own (2 Timothy 2:15).

In obedience to the Third Commandment, you will notice throughout this book the proper Hebrew Names of the Father and Son being used instead of their transliterated names. The Name Yahweh is in the original Hebrew manuscripts 6,823 times. However, almost every translation on earth has removed the Creator's personal name and replaced it with LORD, Lord, GOD, God or Jehovah.

To help you understand why I do not use the name "*Jehovah*" for our Heavenly Father; I will quote from Lew White's book "*Fossilized Customs*," Ninth Edition, page 117:

"The 'monstrosity' (man-made from different parts) word '**Jehovah**' contains a terrible coincidental meaning in Hebrew. The word

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‘hovah’ in Hebrew is based on a word that means *ruin, calamity, destruction, and wickedness* according to Strong’s concordance dictionary. Has the adversary done this to make our Creator’s Name mean

‘I am ruin, wickedness’?

This book is presented in Yahweh’s Agape Love to reveal to those in the Body of Messiah Yahshua what some Pastors either **DO NOT** know or **DO NOT** want you to know about biblical tithing. Please be aware, however, that there are those who **DO** know the truths presented in this book and will **NOT** tell you. Why? Because it affects *“their”* bottom line. Some are sincere in presenting their message on *“tithing”* and others have an agenda to increase *“their”* status among their peers.

Truth-Seeker vs. Truth Lover

There is a difference between a *Truth-Seeker* and one who is a *Truth-Lover*. The *Truth-Seeker* picks and chooses the truths that fit his or her *personal lifestyle and belief*, while the *Truth-Lover* lets the Word *cut to the heart like a two edged sword, convicting the soul to repent* (Hebrews 4:12).

The *Truth-Lover* changes when **truth** is presented and proved from Scripture because they know that those who worship the Father **MUST** worship Him in Spirit and Truth according to John 4:24 where it reads, *“Elohim (Mighty One) is Spirit, and those who worship Him need to worship*

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in Spirit and Truth.” The Truth-Lover wants a REAL one-on-one relationship with our Heavenly Father and that can ONLY be achieved through His Truths from His Word and NOT through traditions of men and false doctrines.

Please take heed that you **DO NOT** fall into “**The Big Trap**” that **IS** already set in place. “*The Big Trap*” is: Accepting what you hear as truth without first checking it out to see if it measures up with the Scriptures.

I encourage you to read this book with your Bible.

Revelation 12:9 declares, “*And the great dragon was thrown out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who leads all the world astray. He was thrown to the earth, and his messengers were thrown out with him.*”

Satan has and continues to deceive the whole world. Can this be true? This book reveals some facts that have been withheld from the body of Messiah for the past 1900 years. Therefore, the truth has become stranger than fiction—it’s shocking and eye opening. However, since we are living in a time where knowledge has greatly increased and continues to do so exponentially (fulfilling Daniel 12:4), we need not be deceived any longer. Find out what the devil does not want you to know. And the Truth shall make you free (John 8:32).

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Matthew 6:3-4

“³But when you do a kind deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing (do not tell others what you are doing), ⁴so that your kind deed shall be in secret. And your Father (Yahweh) who sees in secret shall Himself reward (pour out His blessing) you openly.”

Introduction



Yahweh is Calling for a “Righteous Remnant”

Yahweh, Who is the Mighty One of Israel, the Mighty One of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is calling for a “*righteous remnant*” from the house of Yehudah (Judah) and from the house of Ephraim known as “*Gentiles*,” the lost ten tribes. He is reconciling to Himself and to one another a “*righteous remnant*” who will know and worship Him in Spirit and Truth. This book is written to and for wholehearted Truth Lovers.

It is the prayer of this servant of the Great “**I AM**” that His Spirit of Truth will take the reader on an exciting journey onward and upward on the *Highway of Holiness* (Isaiah 35:8). May His Spirit remove the scales from your eyes, unstop your ears and break stony hearts to receive His Truths.

For many centuries the truths presented in this book have been covered in obscurity by man-made doctrines (teachings) and religious traditions. This book will uncover those hidden truths.

Many reading this book will be drawn into His Camp of a “*righteous remnant*.” Those who humble themselves and walk according to His Word will be blessed. Those who

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choose not to walk according to His Word will not be blessed by Him.

He is calling many, but *few are choosing to listen.* Those who heed His call choose to walk down His “*straight and narrow*” path of *righteousness* to life eternal. They shall be clothed with His Shekinah (Esteem / Divine Presence).

In these days, He is revealing the crookedness of man-made (false) doctrines and religious traditions. His plumb line is set and does not waver to the left or to the right. Errors and deceptions are being revealed. His plumb line is like a flint knife of circumcision in His hand.

Only a “*remnant*” circumcised in heart can rightly approach His Shekinah. Many will grieve with broken and contrite hearts as they clearly see how far the “*Institutionalized Church System*” with its *self-serving* and *self-centered* ways has veered from Yahweh’s precepts and Set-Apart Commandments.

According to the prophets of old, Yahweh’s Righteous Judgment will soon fall upon those who turn from His Truths. The Apostle Peter had this to say: “*And we have the prophetic Word made more certain, which **you do well to heed** as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts...*” (2 Peter 1:19).

Introduction

With the enabling guidance of Yahweh's Spirit of Truth and His Word of Truth, it is this servant's deepest desire that this book will help illuminate and quicken the Body of Messiah Yahshua to come out of the darkness of false teachings on tithing into His Light of Truth and be made free.

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Proverbs 19:17

“He who shows favour to the poor
lends to יהוה (Yahweh), And He repays
his deed.”

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Proverbs 21:13

“Whoever shuts his ears (does not listen) to the cry of the poor, Let him also cry and not be heard.”

Chapter 1:

Maturing In Messiah Yahshua



At this time in history (January 2010), Israel does not owe a tithe to anyone. If you are a “**TRUE**,” blood bought believer in Messiah Yahshua, then you are an Israelite.

You may ask, “*What constitutes a ‘**TRUE**’ blood bought believer in Messiah Yahshua?*” It’s simple: **IF** you have received Yahweh’s free gift of eternal life through His gift to **ALL** mankind by His Son’s shed blood on the cross, **THEN** you are an Israelite of the commonwealth of Israel according to (Ephesians 2:12-13).

When we first receive Yahshua as our Master and Saviour, we are newborn babes in His Word. We should then desire the pure milk of His Word according to 1 Peter 2:2 which declares, “**as newborn babes**, desire the unadulterated milk of the Word, in order that you grow by it...”

So as newborn babes in Yahshua, we grow by the milk of His Word at first, i.e., the elementary, basic teachings of the Scriptures. Then as we continue to grow, we should move on to the “*meat*” of His Word. We read in Hebrews 6:1, “Therefore, having left the Word of the beginning of the Messiah, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of belief toward Elohim...”

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In other words, once we have accepted the message in our hearts that Messiah Yahshua has paid our sin debt with His shed blood on the cross, we are to move forward to perfection. (“**Perfection**” here is speaking of maturing in His Word. It **DOES NOT** mean being sinless as some teach.)

The Greek word for “**perfection**” (Strong’s #5047) is “**teliotace.**” *Teliotace* means “**completeness or full maturity.**” And it comes from the Greek word, “**telios,**” (Strong’s #5046) which means “**completeness, full grown, adult, full-age, mature.**”

However, unless we move beyond accepting Yahshua as our Savior, we are known as a “**carnal**” Israelite. We have to ask ourselves “Can a true Israelite (Christian) be carnal?” Before we can answer this question, we need to first define the term “**carnal.**” The word “**carnal**” is translated from the Greek word σαρκικός (sarkikos—Strong’s #4559), which literally means “**fleshly.**” When we read 1 Corinthians Chapter 3 in context, we can see how the term “**carnal**” (fleshly) is defined: 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 “¹And I, brothers, was not able to speak to you as to spiritual ones but as to **fleshly** (carnal), as to babes in Messiah. ²I fed you with milk and not with solid food, for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able, ³for you are still **fleshly** (carnal). For since there is envy, and strife, and divisions among you, are you not **fleshly** (carnal) and walking according to man?”

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In these Scripture verses, Paul is addressing the readers as “brothers,” a term he uses almost exclusively to refer to other Israelites (Christians). He then goes on to describe them as “*fleshly*” (carnal). Therefore, we can see that Christians can be carnal. Scripture teaches us that no one is sinless according to 1 John 1:8 where it states, “If we say that we have not sin, we are misleading ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” Every time we sin, we are acting carnally.

What we need to understand here is while a Christian can be carnal on occasion; a true Christian will not remain carnal for a lifetime. An example of this principle can be like a person starting a new trade. At first that person is looked upon as an apprentice. They will make many mistakes. In the process of learning, they will make fewer and fewer mistakes. When they have worked hard at learning their trade, they progress to being a master of that trade. Thus, they rarely make mistakes.

Some have twisted the meaning of what a “carnal Christian” is by saying that it is possible for people to come to faith in Yahshua and then proceed to live the rest of their lives in a completely carnal manner, with no evidence of being born again or a new creation according to what 2 Corinthians 5:17 teaches us. Such a concept is completely unbiblical. The book of James, Chapter 2, makes it perfectly clear that genuine faith in Yahshua will always result in good works. So, can a Christian at times fail and appear to be carnal? Yes. Will a true Christian remain carnal? No.

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Christians who become carnal due to their attitude or behavior towards Yahweh's Word can expect Him to lovingly discipline them as we see in Hebrews Chapter 12:

“⁵And you have forgotten the appeal which speaks to you as to sons, My son, do not despise the discipline of יהוה (Yahweh), nor faint when you are reproved by Him, ⁶for whom יהוה (Yahweh) loves, He disciplines, and flogs every son whom He receives. ⁷If you endure discipline, Elohim is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom a father does not discipline? ⁸But if you are without discipline, of which all have become sharers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. ⁹Moreover, we indeed had fathers of our flesh disciplining us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰For they indeed disciplined us for a few days as seemed best to them, but He does it for our profit, so that we might share His apartness. ¹¹And indeed, no discipline seems pleasant at the time, but grievous, but afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it” (Hebrews 12:5-11).

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From this Scripture we can see that Yahweh will work to restore us to a close relationship with Him and be trained to obey Him. Yahweh's desire for His children is to see us mature and grow into the image of Yahshua (Romans 12:1-2). Until we are delivered from our sinful flesh, there will be outbreaks of carnality throughout our lives. These outbreaks of carnality for a genuine believer in Yahshua will be the exception rather than the rule—and will lead us to repentance.

The carnal Christian would love to have spiritual authority so that he or she could perhaps call down fire on the heads of the ungodly like Elijah did. Yahshua's disciples had this problem while they were being trained by Him. It is no different with us. If carnal men and women knew their own hearts, they would be terrified to see that they, like the disciples, prefer to see the “enemies of Yahweh” burned up rather than see them converted by the fire of the Set-Apart Spirit. Yahshua scolded them for not knowing their own hearts. According to Scripture; we are still considered “*babes*” when we act carnally. Our “*goal*” is to become “*spiritually mature*” by developing a more intimate relationship with Yahweh.

The **ONLY** way this can be accomplished is to study the Scriptures, learn what Yahweh has established for us to draw close to Him, and obey what He says. That's how we are to mature in our relationship with Him.

The *greatest desire* of any “*true*” believer after they are saved should be to grow in the knowledge and understanding

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of Yahweh and His Ways so that they can have a deeper and more meaningful, intimate relationship with Him. This is the message of Jeremiah:

Jeremiah 9:23-24 “²³Thus said יהוה (Yahweh), Let not the wise boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty boast in his might, nor let the rich boast in his riches, ²⁴but let him (the true believer) who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am יהוה (Yahweh), doing kindness, right-ruling, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight, declares יהוה (Yahweh).”

A “*maturing*” believer is one who moves beyond the cross and strives to be obedient to **ALL** of Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions given to us in the Scriptures. In addition to learning how to give properly, they will start keeping His Sabbath, Festivals and Dietary Laws as well—subjects which are not covered in this book. Anyone who is interested in learning more about Yahweh’s Sabbath, Festivals and Dietary Instructions may email me at eddie_rogers@messiahstruth.com.

Most Christians keep some of Yahweh’s Commandments. However, there are many Commandments they do not keep because they’ve been taught that those things written in the “*Old Testament*” were done away with when Yahshua was nailed to the cross.

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Yet, this teaching is incorrect. Most in the Church do not really understand what was actually nailed to the cross. It was the law of sin and death, nothing more and nothing less.

It is apparent that most Christians hang their eternal state on one word. That word is “fulfill” from Matthew 5:17-18 where Yahshua said:

“¹⁷Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah (Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions / Law) or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to complete (fulfill—to reveal it in its intended fullness). ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, till the heaven and the earth pass away, one jot or one tittle shall by no means pass from the Torah till **ALL** be done.”

Most in the Church today believe this verse means the “*Old Testament*” has been fulfilled, or done away with. They say, “*all was fulfilled*” when Yahshua said, “*it is finished,*” and therefore the Torah is no longer relevant. Such a belief about the Torah could not be farther from the truth.

Consider Yahshua’s own words “*till heaven and earth pass away.*” Has heaven and earth passed away? Absolutely not! It is clear then that the “*Old Testament,*” remains necessary and essential to living in Yahweh’s Will.

Hebrew Idiom

Yahshua quoted a Hebrew idiom when He said “*Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah (Law) or the*

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Prophets.” He was using a familiar phrase *easily* understood during Biblical times.

If someone heard a Torah teaching and they did not agree with what was stated, they would say to that Torah teacher, ***“You are destroying the Torah (Law).”*** If they heard a teaching they thought was the right interpretation they would then say, ***“Yes, this is fulfilling the Torah (Law).”*** Yahshua had been accused of misinterpreting the Torah, yet He said that He was *“rightly”* and *“correctly”* teaching the Torah. Traditional Yehudite (Jewish) writings support this idiom:

“Should all the nations of the world unite to uproot one word of the Law, they would be unable to do it” (Leviticus Rabbah 19:2).

To recap and understand the true meaning of Matthew 5:17, everything hinges on the meaning of the words ***“destroy”*** and ***“fulfill.”*** What does Yahshua mean by ***“destroy the Torah (Law)”*** and ***“fulfill the Torah (Law)”***?

“Destroy” and ***“fulfill”*** are technical terms used in rabbinic argumentation as we noted previously. When a sage felt that a colleague had misinterpreted a passage of Scripture, he would say, ***“You are destroying the Torah!”*** Needless to say, in most cases, his colleagues strongly disagreed. For one sage would say, ***“you are destroying the Torah”*** and the other sage would say, ***“I am fulfilling the Torah”*** (rightly interpreting the true meaning of the Scriptures). This is well documented in the book

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“Understanding the Difficult Words of Jesus” by David Bivin and Roy B. Blizzard.

In plain English, Yahshua is saying:

“Do not even imagine for one moment that I intend to do away with the Torah (Law) by misinterpreting it. My intent is not to weaken or negate the Torah, but by correctly interpreting Elohim’s Written Word, I intend to establish all that is written in the Torah. I would never invalidate the Torah by effectively removing something from it through misinterpretation. Heaven and earth would sooner disappear than something from the Torah. I tell you the Truth, not even the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet, nor one of its decorative spurs will disappear from the Torah.”

This sheds a whole new light on the “real” meaning of Matthew 5:17 and there are many more “hidden” treasures in the New Covenant as well as the Old Covenant writings. All we have to do is dig them up. The time and effort to do this will be well worth it. I know this from personal experience.

Once I cried out to Yahweh, seeking His Truths from His Word; and He has continued to be faithful to show me hidden treasures in His Word. He is no respecter of persons and will do the same for anyone who truly wants His Truths.

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Proverbs 14:21

“He who despises his neighbour sins;
But he who shows favour to the poor,
O blessed is he.”

Chapter 2: **Are You Tithing Correctly?**



In this chapter, we are going to discuss tithing in the Christian Church. Each week, many Church leaders preach that **EVERYONE** needs to tithe, but are they teaching tithing according to what is “*actually*” written in the Scriptures?

Let’s find out what “*true*” Biblical tithing really is and what it consists of in the Scriptures. You may be surprised to find out that it is *nothing* like what is being taught today from pulpits around the world.

**Are the SHEEP (Christians)
being fleeced in the
Body of Messiah Yahshua?**

“**Will a man ROB Yahweh?**” Many who teach and preach “*tithing*” each week use Malachi 3:8 totally out of context. Some do it knowingly for “*their*” own sordid gain, and they will have to give an account one day; others do it innocently because of the errors they were taught either in Bible College or Seminary. Unfortunately, both verbally beat their congregations over the head weekly about “*robbing Yahweh*” in tithes and offerings using Malachi 3:8 as their weapon.

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I cannot stress enough how important it is to **read ALL Scripture in “Context.”** Malachi 3:8 means what it says, BUT if it is taken out of context it can appear to mean something totally different.

Later, we will take a closer look at **who was** defrauding Yahweh of tithes and offerings in Malachi 3:8, and **who** Yahweh blames for this act. But for now let’s discuss two opposing ways of interpreting Scripture.

Eisegesis vs. Exegeses

Again, we should always read Scripture in “*context.*” Otherwise, we’ll only have “*partial*” truths, but not the “*whole*” truth. Churches today are doing exactly what the Pharisees and Sadducees were doing in the second century C.E. long before Yahshua was born. They apply what is known as “*eisegesis.*”

Eisegesis is the approach to Scripture interpretation **where the interpreter tries to “force” the Scripture to mean something that fits the interpreter’s existing belief or understanding of a particular issue or doctrine.**

People who interpret the Scripture this way are usually not teachable or willing to let the Scripture speak for itself (*exegeses*). Their goal is to try to *force* or *prove* a point *they* already believe in, and everything *they* read and interpret is filtered through that paradigm. Stated another way, *they* engage in what the Scripture refers to as “*private interpretation*” (2 Peter 1:20).

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In the end, *eisegesis* is an exercise that in most cases leads to **wrong interpretation**, and therefore **improper application** of those Scriptures in a person's life.

As a result of *eisegesis*, we now have a host of different denominations, including non-denominations. The founder of each no doubt started out by reading Scripture and discovered something that fit their belief or theology (whether contextually accurate or not), and then formed their Church doctrines.

However, we are to use "*exegeses*" when reading the Scriptures.

Exegeses is reading out of Scripture what is there rather than trying to read or force into Scripture what is not there.

When "*eisegesis*" is employed, it places a "*heavy*" weight upon people by leading them into false doctrines.

This is exactly what has happened in Churches around the world today. There are many "*man-made*" rules (do's and don'ts) that have been added to Yahweh's Word in the form of Church doctrines throughout the centuries. This places a heavy "*yoke*" upon the Body of Messiah Yahshua.

Shocking Truths

Listed below is a short list of a few "*less known*" things about "*tithing*," which you probably have never heard.

1. Abraham **never** tithed on his own personal property or livestock.

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2. Jacob wouldn't tithe until Yahweh blessed him first.
3. Only the Levite priests could collect tithes, and there are no Levite priests today.
4. Only food products from the land were tithable.
5. **Money was never considered a tithable commodity.**
6. Christian converts were **never** asked to tithe anything to the early Church.
7. Tithing in the Church first appears centuries **AFTER** the completion of the Bible.

Tithing References

Now we will look at the Scriptures and see what Yahweh says in His Word about tithing.

Genesis 14:20 “And blessed be the Most High Ėl (God), who has delivered your enemies into your hand. And he (Abram) gave him (Melech-Tzedek) a tenth (TITHES) of all (the goods of war, verse 16).”

Hebrews 7:1-5, 8-10 “¹For this Melech-Tzedek, sovereign of Shalēm (Salem), priest of the Most High Elohim, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the sovereigns and blessed him, ²to whom also Abraham gave a tenth (TITHE) part of all, [*his name*]* being translated, indeed, first, ‘sovereign of righteousness,’ and then also sovereign of

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Shalēm, that is, ‘sovereign of peace,’ ³without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but having been made like the Son of Elohim, remains a priest for all time. ⁴Now see how great this one was, to whom even the ancestor Abraham gave a tenth (TITHE) of the **choicest booty**. ⁵And truly, those who are of the sons of Lěwi (Levi), who receive the priesthood, have a command to receive tithes from the people according to the Torah...”

NOTE: *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

“⁸And here it is men who die that receive TITHES, but there it is someone of whom it is witnessed that he lives. ⁹And one might say that through Abraham even Lěwi, who received TITHES, gave TITHES, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his father when Melech-Tzedek met him.”

In Genesis 14:20 and Hebrews 7:1-5, 8-10, we see that Abram gave to Melchizedek a tithe of the best of the booty taken in war. Notice that this was ***not*** wheat, corn, wine, oil, or cattle from Abram’s personal possessions, BUT rather booty that was taken from conquered nations.

There is ***nothing stated*** or ***implied*** in the text that would cause ***anyone*** to believe that Abram ever tithed on a regular

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basis from his own personal possessions. Although Abram gave Melchizedek a tithe of the booty of war, he told the king of Sodom that he would take none of it for himself (Genesis 14:21-24).

In this same account recorded in Hebrews 7:1-5, and in verses 8-10, we see that the priests of Levi, from the family of Aaron also received tithes from the people according to the Torah given to Moses. The text is telling us a little more about the actual tithes; rather than simply stating that they received tithes.

Christian scholars' *claim* that Abraham's tithing (of the spoils of war) predated the Law of Moses, and therefore even if the Law of Moses has been done away with (which it hasn't been), tithing is still binding on Christians. You have to ask yourself, is this true?

Christendom teaches that this Scripture is the first proof from the Word of Yahweh that Christians are to tithe ten percent of their salaries to the Church. But what have we really learned from these Scriptures?

Abraham's Tithe

Abraham went to war on behalf of Sodom, to rescue his nephew, Lot. He then gave 10% of these **spoils of war** to Melchizedek (a priest of Yahweh and also the king of Salem), and allowed Sodom to keep 90%, while he himself kept NOTHING! This is a good example of applying

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“*exegeses*.” Reading out of Scripture what is there and not “*eisegesis*,” reading into Scripture what is not there.

Is there a Christian Scholar alive anywhere on earth who can explain to us *how* this single, unparalleled and never-again-to-be-duplicated event is Scriptural proof that Christians should give 10% of their annual salaries (not the spoils of war), but their money, their salaries; not once, but year-after-year-after-year; not to Melchizedek, but to Clergymen who *claim* to be ministers of Yahshua Messiah?

Jacob’s Tithe

There is one Scripture you will probably never hear a sermon taught on by any pastor. No tithe-preaching clergyman would ever use the example of how Jacob tithed. Remember, Jacob was the grandson of Abraham, the father of the faithful, whom Yahweh also tremendously blessed. Not only did Yahweh *approve* of Jacob’s tithing proposal, but, He made it the foundational principle upon which *all* future tithing would be based. Now, let’s take a look at what the Scriptures declare:

Genesis 28:20-22 “²⁰And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, **IF** God (Yahweh) will be with me, and (**IF** Yahweh) will keep me in this way that I go, and (**IF** Yahweh) will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, ²¹So that I come again to my father’s house in peace; **THEN** shall the LORD (Yahweh) be my God: ²²And this stone, which I have set [*for*]* a pillar, shall be God’s house: and of all that thou shall

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GIVE ME I will surely give the TENTH unto thee” (KJV). **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

This Scripture is very clear in what it says. And this one Scripture contradicts 99% of all sermons preached on the subject of tithing! It’s the very first account in the Scriptures of someone giving a tenth or tithe of his personal possessions back to Yahweh. However, what is taught in most Christian Churches is just the opposite of what Scripture teaches. Modern Christianity teaches that you make a vow, give what you have vowed and THEN you can expect Yahweh to bless you.

Jacob truly recognizes Yahweh as his Provider. He then begins to proposition Yahweh. He states that “**IF**” Yahweh will do this and “**IF**” Yahweh will do the other things, “**THEN**” Jacob says, “**shall the LORD be my God.**” Jacob concludes his proposition to Yahweh, should Yahweh meet **ALL** of Jacob’s requirements, by saying that of all the things that Yahweh will **FIRST** give to Jacob, Jacob will give Yahweh back a tenth.

Yahweh honored Jacob’s proposition, and furthermore, He continued to honor this same principle of tithing all through Israel’s history. As Paul said in 1 Corinthians 4:7 “...what do you have that you did not *receive*?” All that we

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possess comes from Yahweh. He has given us stewardship over those things He has entrusted us to take care of.

Once more, we learn that Israel was not to tithe on what they did not first possess, unlike those today who teach that it is **required** to tithe on that which one does not already possess. **Yahweh is NOT partial** and **He is NOT a hypocrite**. This example of Jacob proves that Yahweh does not expect a tithe **UNTIL** He blesses the tithe payer **FIRST**. Now let's look at the method of tithing.

Ask yourself this: "How did Jacob actually give a tithe to Yahweh?" Did he personally hand it to Yahweh? **No**, that would have not been possible because no one has ever seen Yahweh (John 1:18; 1 John 4:12). Did Jacob tithe to an angel? **No**, angels do not need and cannot use tithes. Did Jacob send his tithe to Heaven by Celestial Express? **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 at that time. Did he give it directly to one of the Levite priests? **No**, there were no Levites at that time. Well then, how did Jacob tithe to Yahweh? Was it even possible? **Yes**, there were actually two different ways that Jacob could tithe to Yahweh:

Deuteronomy 12:6-7 ⁶"And there you shall take your burnt offerings, and your offerings, and **YOUR TITHES**, and the contributions of your hand, and your vowed offerings, and your voluntary offerings, and the firstlings of your herd and of your flock. ⁷And there **you**

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shall eat before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, **and shall rejoice** in all that you put your hand to, **YOU** and **YOUR HOUSEHOLDS**, in which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim has blessed you.”

Deuteronomy 14:29 “And the Lēwite (Levite), because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the **SOJOURNER** (stranger) and the **FATHERLESS** and the **WIDOW** who are within your gates, **SHALL COME AND EAT AND BE SATISFIED**, so that יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim does bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.”

This is how Yahweh acknowledged Jacob’s tithe: Jacob partook of a portion himself and his family in communion and thanksgiving to Yahweh, and shared his fortune with those who were unfortunate, poor, strangers, fatherless, and widows. **This is the correct biblical way to tithe.**

Tenth of a Tenth Tithe

We learn a great deal about tithing from Leviticus 27:30-33. The **tithe** comes from the “***land***,” not the air or the sea. Fishermen were ***not*** required to tithe ***fish***. It was the “***seed***” or agricultural products from the fields that was Set-Apart (Holy) to Yahweh and tithable. Products from “***trees***” were

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to be tithed. This not only included the fruit, but oils, etc. Of “*herds or flocks*” it was the “*tenth*” that passed under the rod that was Set-Apart and dedicated to Yahweh.

Leviticus 27:30-33 “³⁰And all the **TITHE** of the **LAND** – of the **SEED** of the **LAND** or of the **FRUIT** of the tree – belongs to יהוה (Yahweh). It is Set-Apart (Holy) to יהוה (Yahweh). ³¹If a man indeed redeems any of his **TITHES**, he adds one-fifth to it. ³²And the entire **TITHE** of the **HERD** and of the **FLOCK**, all that passes under the rod, the **tenth** one is Set-Apart (Holy) to יהוה (Yahweh). ³³He does not inquire whether it is good or spoilt, nor does he exchange it. And if he exchanges it at all, then both it and the one exchanged for it are Set-Apart, it is not redeemed.”

Now we will expose another “*false*” doctrine. It was not the *first* tenth, but rather the *tenth* tenth that belonged to Yahweh, which is contrary to what most teach on tithing. Modern clergymen insist that the *first* tenth *always* belongs to Yahweh. This is clearly **unscriptural** and **untrue**. Scripture reveals it’s the *tenth* one of a herd that belongs to Yahweh.

This is an interesting point, if a herdsman had but *nine* cattle, *he didn’t tithe his cattle at all!* Also notice here that Yahweh *did not* even require the *best* of the cattle, just the tenth one to pass under the rod even if it was not the best of

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them all. Remember, we are talking about tithing and not sacrificing animals here. Animals that were offered as sacrifices were *required* to be without blemish.

If you read the whole book of Leviticus, you will not read *anywhere* about tithing “*money*.” Don’t you find that interesting? Now we will look at some other Scriptures to see if “*money*” was used for tithing.

Numbers 18:24-28 “²⁴but the **TITHES** of the children of Yisra’ël, which they present as a contribution to יהוה (Yahweh), I have given to the Lěwites as an inheritance. That is why I have said to them (Lěwites), Among the children of Yisra’ël they have no inheritance.
²⁵And יהוה (Yahweh) spoke to Mosheh (Moses), saying, ²⁶Speak to the Lěwites and say to them, **WHEN** you take from the children of Yisra’ël the **TITHES** which I (Yahweh) have given you (Levites) from them (Israelites) as your inheritance, **THEN** you (Lěwites) shall present a contribution of it to יהוה (Yahweh), a **TENTH** of the **TITHE**.”

(Notice here that of all the tithes that the children of Israel gave to the Levites that the Levites were to take a tenth of that and give it to Yahweh). Continuing on...

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“²⁷And your contribution shall be reckoned to you as grain from the threshing-floor and as filling from the winepress. ²⁸Thus you also present a contribution unto יהוה (Yahweh) from all your **TITHES** which you receive from the children of Yisra’ēl. And you shall give from it the contribution to יהוה (Yahweh) to Aharon (Aaron) the priest.”

According to what the previous Scriptures are telling us, can anyone claim to be a representative of Yahweh and therefore have Israel (Yisra’ēl) pay tithes to Him? Let’s read it again, “but the **TITHES** of the children of Yisra’ēl, which they present as a contribution to יהוה (Yahweh), I have given to the Lēwites as an inheritance.”

Now in order to be a priest, one not only had to be of the tribe of Levi, but he also had to be of the family of Aaron. In fact, if one could not trace his genealogy back to the family of Aaron, he could not be a priest of Yahweh. This is the whole point of what is written in the book of Hebrews 7:1-5, 8-10.

Yahshua is “The Priest” forever of the order / rank of Melchizedek because Melchizedek predated the Torah of Moses which stated that only the sons of Aaron could be priests. Therefore, Melchizedek’s genealogy is not given in the Scriptures, and Messiah, Who according to the flesh is of the line of Yehudah (Judah), can and will be Yahweh’s High Priest in the Kingdom of Yahweh.

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👏 WARNING 👏

There is **NO** Temple of Yahweh being officiated in Jerusalem as of the writing of this book. There is **NO** Levitical priesthood to officiate at such a Temple. There is **NO NEED** for such a Temple or priesthood at this time. **ONLY** Levites could collect tithes at the Temple.

Therefore, **EVERYONE collecting TITHES today is wrongly applying Scripture.** If one cannot historically trace back his genealogy generation by generation with no lapses to the family of Aaron, he **IS NOT** and **CANNOT** be a priest authorized of Yahweh at this time to collect tithes for the Temple services and sacrifices. We know Yahshua **IS** our Sacrifice, and **therefore** that whole system funded by the tithes as written in the Torah is **NO** longer applicable.

This is not to say that tithing has been done away with. What is being stated here is the **TITHING SYSTEM** set-up by the Torah of Moses for the Levites is **NOT** valid today. Tithing is still valid **BUT** done differently today and I will cover more on that later.

Un-Official Tithe Extraction

Today, people are taught to tithe on a “*continual*” basis. Millions upon millions of dollars are given each year. And to add more fuel to the fire on tithing, a special appeal is usually given close to the end of the year that goes something like this: “*you need to tithe*” or “*sow a year-end seed.*”

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Other appeals tend to put a guilt trip on you by reminding you of some **BIG DEBT** that needs to be paid off and *they* need *you* to plant *your* “seed” today to help pay off this debt and be blessed by Yahweh. However, Scripture teaches us **NOT** to go into debt. Deuteronomy 15:6 instructs us to **Be the loaner and not the borrower.** Everyone should heed this admonition to get out of debt.

The whole system changed under the New Covenant. Notice what happened when Yahshua said the Temple would be utterly destroyed:

Matthew 24:1-2 “¹And going out, יהושע (Yahshua) went away from the Set-Apart (Holy) Place, and His taught ones came near to point out to Him the buildings of the Set-Apart Place. ²And יהושע (Yahshua) said to them, Do you not see all these? Truly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, at all, which shall not be **THROWN DOWN.**”

Under the New Covenant, Yahweh does not dwell in Temples made with hands.

Acts 17:24 “יהוה (Yahweh), who made the world and all that is in it, this One being Master of Heaven and Earth, does **NOT** dwell in dwellings made with hands.”

The true believers under the New Covenant are now Yahweh’s Temple.

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2 Corinthians 6:16 “And what union has the Dwelling Place of Elohim with idols? For **YOU ARE A DWELLING PLACE OF THE LIVING ELOHIM**, as Elohim has said, **I SHALL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM**, and I shall be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.”

1 Corinthians 3:15 “If anyone’s work is burned, he shall suffer loss (of Kingdom rewards), but he himself shall be saved, but so as through fire.”

1 Corinthians 1:19 “For it has been written, I shall destroy the wisdom of the wise, and set aside the learning of the learned ones.”

When the Temple ceased, the priesthood who officiated at the Temple CEASED! Each individual believer under the New Covenant forms a NEW priesthood.

1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a **ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**...”

How then, under the New Covenant, does a believer give a tenth, when we are supposed to give our **WHOLE BEING** as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1), since the Levitical priesthood and Temple **does not exist**. But now we are part of a priesthood (1 Peter 2:9); and *we are the Temple* where Yahweh dwells. No longer do we have priests with spiritual infirmities interceding for us, but rather we have

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Messiah Yahshua as our perfect intercessor and High Priest seated at the right hand of Yahweh in the heavens as noted in Hebrews 7:28-8:1.

If you read all of Paul's writings, **you will NOT find one verse instructing anyone to pay one cent of tithe money to anyone.** You will not find one because it does not exist.

Deuteronomy 12:6-7; 11-12; 17-18 “⁶And there you shall take your burnt offerings, and your offerings, and **YOUR TITHES**, and the contributions of your hand, and your vowed offerings, and your voluntary offerings, and the firstlings of your herd and of your flock.

⁷And there you shall eat before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, and shall rejoice in all that you put your hand to, **YOU** and **YOUR HOUSEHOLDS**, in which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim has blessed you.

¹¹And it shall be, that unto the place which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses to make His Name dwell there, there you are to bring all that I Command you: your burnt offerings, and your offerings, and **YOUR TITHES**, and the contributions of your hand, and all your choice offerings which you vow to יהוה (Yahweh). ¹²And you shall rejoice before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, **YOU** and **YOUR**

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SONS and **YOUR DAUGHTERS**, and **YOUR MALE SERVANTS** and **YOUR FEMALE SERVANTS**, and the **LEVITE** who is within your gates, since he has no portion nor inheritance with you.

¹⁷You are not allowed to eat within your gates the **TITHE** of your grain, or of your new wine, or of your oil, or of the firstlings of your herd or your flock, or of any of your offerings which you vow, or of your voluntary offerings, or of the contribution of your hand. ¹⁸But **eat them before** יהוה (Yahweh) **your Elohim**, in the place which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses, you and your son and your daughter, and your male servant and your female servant, and the Lēwite who is within your gates. And you shall rejoice before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim in all that you put your hands to.”

Who Partakes of the Tithe?

Ask yourself, “***Who** was to partake of all these tithes and good things of the herd and of the land and of the trees?*” **EVERYONE**, including the Levites, was instructed to rejoice before Yahweh. Did anyone see “***money***” in the list of things ***they*** were to bring before Yahweh to rejoice? Was it just the ministers (the Levites) who were the recipients of

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these tithes and offerings, or was *everyone* to partake of these things?

Rejoicing and eating one's own tithe before Yahweh was a very personal and reverend act of worship and communion with Yahweh. Not unlike prayer. Others may share and profit from our prayers, but we offer them to Yahweh, not to men.

The following verses teach us about those who lived too far away to bring their tithes to Jerusalem for the Feasts of Yahweh where they were to eat and rejoice before Yahweh and learn to fear Him. They could sell their tithes of the land for MONEY, and carry that amount of money rather than the bulky and heavy tithes themselves, to the Festival Site. Upon arrival, they were to purchase whatever *their* hearts desired and to *share* it with the Levites, the widows, the orphans and the destitute or less fortunate. These verses will be further explained here:

Deuteronomy 14:22-29 “²²You shall **TITHE** without fail all the **YIELD** (increase) of your grain that the field brings forth year by year.

²³And you shall eat before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, in the place where He chooses to make His Name dwell (Jerusalem), the **TITHE** of **YOUR GRAIN** and **YOUR NEW WINE** and **YOUR OIL**, and of the **FIRSTLINGS OF YOUR HERDS** and **YOUR SHEEP**, so that you learn to fear יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim always. ²⁴But when

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the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to bring the tithe, or when the place where יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses to put His Name is too far from you, when יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim is blessing you,²⁵**THEN** you shall give it in **SILVER**, and shall take the SILVER in your hand and go to the place which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses.²⁶And **YOU shall use the SILVER for whatever your being desires:** for **CATTLE** or **SHEEP**, for **WINE** (not grape juice) or **STRONG DRINK**, **for whatever your being desires.** And **YOU** shall eat there before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, and **YOU shall rejoice, YOU and YOUR HOUSEHOLD.**²⁷And **DO NOT** forsake the Lěwite who is within your gates, for he has no part nor inheritance with you.²⁸At the end of every **third year** you bring out all the **TITHE** of **YOUR INCREASE** of that year and store it up within your gates.²⁹And the Lěwite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the **SOJOURNER** (stranger) and the **FATHERLESS** (orphan) and the **WIDOW** who are within your gates, **shall come and eat and be satisfied,** so that יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim does bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.”

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Here we see the third year of tithing is mentioned again:

Deuteronomy 26:12 “When you have completed **TITHING** all the **TITHE** of **YOUR INCREASE** in the **third year**, which is the year of **TITHING**, and have given it to the **LEVITE**, to the **STRANGER**, to the **FATHERLESS**, and to the **WIDOW**, and they have eaten within your gates and have been satisfied...”

Tithing from Increase

Again we notice that Israel never tithed from their **POVERTY**, but on their **INCREASE**. The increase here is **NOT** your weekly or monthly salary for which you trade your hours for money. Contrary to false teachings, **Yahweh NEVER intended for people to tithe on what they do not have, but ONLY on the INCREASE of what Yahweh gave them.**

Time and again Yahweh told Israel that they were to tithe on their increase from their abundance, **NOT** on their decrease or their lack.

Paul **NEVER** taught the Gentiles to tithe, **BUT** he did teach them to give freely from what they had, **NOT** from what they did not have:

2 Corinthians 8:10-12 “¹⁰Here is my (Paul) advice: It would be good for you to finish what you started a year ago. Last year you were the first who wanted to give, and you

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were the first to begin doing it.¹¹ Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. **GIVING IN PROPORTION TO WHAT YOU HAVE.**

¹²Whatever you give is acceptable if you **GIVE IT EAGERLY.** And **GIVE ACCORDING TO WHAT YOU HAVE, NOT WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE.**" (The New Living Bible Translation).

We as believers in Messiah Yahshua need to **wake up and turn from the false teachings that are destroying the Written Word of Yahweh.** Those who are "*fleeing*" Yahweh's flock will have to give an account for leading the sheep astray. They should know better. Some of them are highly educated people, and yet "*they*" **shamelessly** swindle and PEDDLE their false "*religious*" doctrines, trinkets, and wares over the air waves in the name of Yahweh!

What did the apostle Paul tell the Corinthians about "*peddling*?"

2 Corinthians 2:17 "For we are not, as so **MANY** (the majority), **ADULTERATING** (corrupting / peddling) **THE WORD OF ELOHIM...**"

The word translated here "*adulterating*" comes from the original Greek word **καπηλεύω** "*kapeleuo*" (Strong's

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#2585) which the Spirit of Yahweh inspired to be used in the Scripture.

Here is the meaning of the Greek word “*kapeleuo*” translated “**peddler / adulterate / corrupt:**”—“**To sell** at retail, with the insinuation of **improper profit**, either by overcharging or adulterating” (*Greek-English Keyword Concordance*, page 220).

Notice that it is not just a few who “**peddle**” the Word of Yahweh, but Paul says, “...**the MANY (MAJORITY)**” are peddling the Word of Yahweh! Contrast this insincere merchandising of the Word of Yahweh with Paul’s motive:

2 Corinthians 2:17 “For we **ARE NOT**, as so many (the majority), adulterating (corrupting / peddling) **THE WORD OF ELOHIM** [*for gain*]* – but as **OF SINCERITY**, but as **FROM ELOHIM**, in the sight of Elohim, we speak **IN MESSIAH.**” **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

Because so many peddle the Word of Yahweh today, we’ve all been indoctrinated to believe money is tithable. Thus we have to continually cleanse our minds by the washing of the water of the Word. So let’s look at another Scripture that tells us again what products were to be tithed.

2 Chronicles 31:5-6; 12 “⁵And as the word spread, the children of Yisra’el brought large quantities of the first-fruits

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of **GRAIN** and **WINE**, and **OIL** and **HONEY**, and of all the **INCENSE OF THE FIELD**. And they brought in the **TITHE OF ALL**, a large amount. ⁶And the children of Yisra'ël and Yehudah (Judah), those who dwelt in the cities of Yehudah, brought the **TITHE OF CATTLE AND SHEEP**. Even the tithe of Set-Apart gifts which were set apart to יהוה (Yahweh) their Elohim were brought in, and they gave heaps, heaps.

¹²Then they brought in the contribution, and the tithes, and the Set-Apart gifts, trustworthily. And Konanyahu (Cononiah) the Lēwite was leader over them, and Shim'i (Shimei) his brother was the next.”

There are many more Scriptures that clearly teach us about “*what*” tithes are and “*whom*” they are to be given to. Here are a few more for your consideration:

Nehemiah 12:44; 13:5, 12

Amos 4:4

Malachi 3:8-10

1 Samuel 2:13-17.

Chapter 3:

Christian Tithing



Now we are going to take a closer look at Scriptural proof that (through misunderstanding, misinterpretation, mistranslation and even manipulation), tithing as it is being taught today is “*unscriptural*.”

Yahshua’s followers *DID NOT* pay tithes to Him from farm products or herds; neither did His followers pay Him ten percent of their salaries from other sources of income. “*Christian tithing*” is an oxymoron—it is a **contradiction of words**. Better put, it is a Christian hoax! “*Christian tithing*” is about as Scriptural as “*Christian burnt offerings*,” or “*Christian stoning*.”

For centuries, leaders of Christendom have wrongly taught that “*Christian tithing*” is a Scriptural command from Yahweh Himself. And because this erroneous teaching has been passed down and accepted for so long, it is now assumed, without question, to be true.

Of all the 613 Instructions given to us by Yahweh in the first five books of the Bible, (aside from keeping most of the Ten Commandments), “***tithing***” is virtually the only other Law that the modern Church retains. And it retains “***tithing***” in **name** only. Comparing biblical tithing to what is practiced in the Church today; we find there are no similarities in

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purpose, method or physical objects tithed. The ONLY resemblance between the two is the amount—*ten percent*.

Over 1000 Instructions are given to us in the New Covenant writings and nowhere do we see Christians tithing to the Church. It simply does not exist, because it was *never* practiced by the New Covenant Church.

Binding LAW?

Not only is Christian tithing taught as needful; it is taught as a divine, binding LAW. **However, there is no such thing as a “Christian tithing law” in the New Covenant Scriptures.** It is a heresy that has been propagated on the Christian Church for centuries.

And whether intentionally or unintentionally, “Shepherds” are falsely warning the “Sheep” that failure to pay this 10% Church tax will cause them to be “*cursed with a CURSE!*” There is indeed “*a curse,*” **BUT it is not Yahweh Who is pronouncing this curse.** You will learn “*who*” was “*cursing*” whom in Chapter 4.

Tithing in the Church of the Apostles

There is Scriptural proof that no law or custom for Christian tithing was ever taught or practiced in the Christian Church by any of the early apostles. All the epistles in the New Covenant are “**TOTALLY**” devoid of “**ANY**” tithing custom or law. Gentile converts were “**NEVER**” taught to tithe to “**ANYONE.**” Nowhere in all the New Covenant writings (when the Temple in Jerusalem was still standing until 70

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C.E. and afterwards), will we find a Jewish convert being instructed to give their tithes to the Apostles rather than to the Temple priests. It is **NOT** in the text.

We read in Acts 15 where the Jerusalem Conference outlined what the Apostles had all agreed upon was necessary for the newly converted Gentiles to practice, and by inspiration of the Set-Apart (Holy) Spirit of Yahweh, tithing is conspicuously missing.

Some believing Pharisees *wanted* the Apostles to teach the Gentiles to keep the Law of Moses (which certainly contained the Law of tithing, Acts 15:5), but the Apostles headed by Peter, James, and Paul would not hear of it (Acts 15:28-29)!

Yet, what is one of the very first legislated duties taught to Gentile converts by the Church today? It is that members of the congregation “**MUST**” tithe their annual salaries to the Church. Where did this unscriptural man-made law of Christian tithing come from?

We will find our answer to this question when we look at what history says 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

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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’). (Emphasis mine)

From this historical account we see that the Church “extended” its base of tithe collecting to eventually include **ALL** forms of income. Interestingly, although money was in wide use in ancient Israel, it was **never** a tithable commodity. But today, cold hard cash has become the **only** tithable commodity.

Yahweh 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. Here is His Word to the shepherds:

Jeremiah 50:6 “My people have been wandering (lost) sheep. (Why? How did they get that way?) Their **SHEPHERDS** have **LED** them astray...”

Do you think the Israelites back then were consciously aware of the fact that they were being led astray by their

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“*spiritual*” leaders? Most did not know then and neither do Christians today know that they to are being led astray by man-made doctrines on tithing.

This is a clarion call to all Christian clergymen who have stepped outside the bounds of Scripture and have added to and taken away from what Yahweh has established in His Set-Apart Written Word:

Deuteronomy 4:2 “**Do not add to the Word which I command you, and do not take away from it**, so as to guard the commands of יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim which I am commanding you.”

Deuteronomy 12:32 “**All the words** I am commanding you, guard to do it – **do not add to it nor take away from it**.”

Proverbs 30:6 “**Do not add to His Words**, Lest He reprove you, and you be found a liar.”

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Proverbs 14:31

“He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, But he who esteems Him shows favour to the needy.”

Chapter 4:

The Mystery Of Malachi



From the book of Malachi, today's Christian clergy use only **three verses** as "*their*" main authority for "*declaring*" the doctrine of "***Christian tithing.***" According to them, Christian tithing means that everyone must give 10% of their gross income or they will be "***cursed with a curse.***"

Perhaps you have not taken the time to study the book of Malachi, but I encourage you to sit down and give some serious time to studying the **whole** book of Malachi. It will be well worth your time to read the "***real***" meaning of Malachi's prophecy.

As I mentioned earlier, when a sermon is taught on "***tithing***" in most Christian Churches and from TV Evangelist, the congregation will typically only hear three verses quoted from Malachi. This is the clergymen's "***club***" that's used to extract **YOUR** ten percent for the Church or for "*their*" ministry.

Here are the "***cursing***" verses in Malachi:

Malachi 3:8-9 ⁸Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. ⁹Ye [***are***]* cursed with a curse: for ye have

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robbed me, [*even*]* this whole nation” (KJV).

NOTE: *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

Here is the “*blessing*” verse in Malachi:

Malachi 3:10 “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that [*there shall*]* not [*be room*]* enough [*to receive it*]*” (KJV). **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

The following is a crude clergyman’s interpretation of these proof texts: **Rob Yahweh of His ten percent of your salary and be CURSED, or pay Yahweh ten percent of your salary and be BLESSED.**

At this point, we need to ask ourselves, **WHO** is **cursing** whom in this Malachi prophecy? We’ve been led to believe it was Yahweh Who was doing the cursing. Does Yahweh, indeed, say, “**You are CURSED with a curse**” (Malachi 3:9)? This definitely sounds as if it is Yahweh Who is doing the cursing, doesn’t it?

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Let's take a closer look. If you are using a King James Bible, you will notice that the word "***are***" in your Bible is in italics. What this means is the word "***are***" was added by the translators and it is **not** in the original Greek manuscripts. Remove it, and the verse says: "**Ye cursed...**" rather than "**Ye are cursed...**" We would do well when reading the King James Version of the Bible to pass over those words in italics as they have been supplied by the translator. In some cases an "*added*" word has changed the meaning of what was being communicated. We must be careful when we read a word in italics or parenthesis that it doesn't change the meaning of Yahweh's Word.

Who is doing the Cursing?

Is it Yahweh or the priests of Israel who is doing the cursing in Malachi 3? The Jewish Scribes understood this verse to say that it was the priests of Israel who was "*cursing Yahweh*" rather than "*Yahweh cursing Israel*." There are many different "translations" that lead us to believe that it is Yahweh who is doing the cursing. However, it is the opposite. It will help us here to take a look at three different translations to see what is going on:

Malachi 3:9 **"With the curse YOU [priests] are cursing [Me—Yahweh], and Me [Yahweh] YOU [priests] are robbing—the nation in its entirety."**

And:

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Malachi 3:9 “**With a curse YOU [priests] curse Me [Yahweh], and Me [Yahweh] YOU [priests] are defrauding—the nation, all of it**” (*Concordant Version of The Old Testament*).

And:

Malachi 3:9 “**You [priests] have cursed Me [Yahweh] with a curse, for you [priests] are robbing Me [Yahweh], this nation, all of it**” (The Scriptures)!

Now to confirm what we have just read above, let us read a little further down in Malachi:

Malachi 3:13 “**Your (priests) words have been harsh against Me**, said יהוה (Yahweh), but you (priests) have said, ‘What have we (priests) spoken against You (Yahweh)?’ ”

Looking more closely at this verse reveals that it was the priests of Israel speaking a “*curse*” upon Yahweh rather than Yahweh speaking a curse upon Israel. We also learn from the notes in the *Companion Bible* on page 1300 for Malachi 3:9 where it reads:

“9 are cursed with a curse. The primitive text read, “ye have cursed Me with a curse”. The *Sopherim* [Scribes]** say (Ap. 33) that they altered the letter מ (Mem=M) into נ (Nun=N), thus making it passive instead of active, and

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detaching it from the rest of the sentence. This was done to avoid a supposed irreverence.”

**Added for clarity.

Now we will take a quick look at Appendix 33 from the *Companion Bible* titled ‘THE “EIGHTEEN EMENDATIONS [corrections]” OF THE *SOPHERIM*’ [Scribes]:

“The *Massorah* (Ap. 30), [from Ap. 30 in the *Companion Bible*—“The word *Massorah* is from the root *maser*, to *deliver something into the hand of another*, so as to commit it to his trust. Hence, the name is given to the small writing referred to, because it contains information necessary to those into whose trust the Sacred Text was committed, so that they might transcribe it, and hand it down correctly.”] i.e. the small writing in the margins of the standard Hebrew codices, as shown in the plate on p. 32, consists of a concordance of words and phrases, &c., safeguarding the Sacred Text.

A note in the *Massorah* against several passages in the manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible states: “*This is one of the Eighteen Emendations of the Sopherim*,” or words to that effect.

Complete lists of these emendations are found in the *Massorah* of most of the model or

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standard codices of the Hebrew Bible, and these are not always identical; so that the total number exceeds eighteen: from which it would appear that these examples are simply typical.

The *Siphri* [An ancient commentary on Leviticus (circa A.D. 219-47)] adduces seven passages; the *Yalkut* [A *catena* of the whole Hebrew Scriptures, composed in the eleventh century, from ancient sources by Rabbi Simeon.], ten; the *Mechiltha* [An ancient commentary on Exodus, compiled about A.D. 90 by Rabbi Ishmael ben Elisa.], eleven; the *Tanchuma* [A commentary on the Pentateuch, compiled from ancient sources by Rabbi Tanchuma ben Abba, about A.D. 380.], seventeen; while the St. Petersburg Codex gives two passages not included in any other list (Mal. 1. 12; 3. 9; see below).

These emendations were made at a period long before Christ, before the Hebrew text had obtained its present settled form, and these emendations affect the Figure called *Anthropopatheia*. See Ap. 6. [From Ap. 6 in the *Companion Bible*—“**An-throp-o-path-ei-a**; or, **Condescension** (Gen. 1. 2; 8. 21. Ps. 74. 11. Jer. 2. 13. Hos. 11. 10). Ascribing to God what belongs to human and rational

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beings, irrational creatures, or inanimate things.]" "

We have learned from the above notes and Appendix in the *Companion Bible* that the Scribes have altered the Hebrew Text in certain places (of which Malachi 3:9 is one of those text), to read as though it were Yahweh cursing the priests rather than the priests cursing Yahweh.

Now that we know WHO is pronouncing the “*curse*,” it blows away what is being taught on tithing in the Christian Church. Does this make you upset that you have been “*taken*” to the cleaners all this time? It should. That is the reason for this book, to help those in the Body of Messiah Yahshua to learn the “*real*” Truth from His Set-Apart Written Word.

You may be wondering why pastors, teachers and Christian theologians do not teach all the TRUTHS from the Scriptures. Perhaps they are only perpetuating what they learned in Seminary or Bible College. Regardless, they will be judged to a higher judgment than those who are not teaching from the Word of Almighty Yahweh. They will learn then that they were the ones “*destroying the Law*” rather than “*fulfilling the Law*. ”

We must always keep in mind that when the Bible says “*tithes*” it means products from the land—as grains and cattle. But when the Priests of Christendom say “*tithes*,” it “*always*” means money to them. Because the clergy preferred to be paid in money, it therefore became necessary to “*change*” the Biblical use of the word “*tithes*” to include

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money. And if “*money*” could be shown to be a tithable commodity, guess what? That’s how the fleecing of the sheep began.

Now “*everyone*” in the Christian Church regardless of their occupation, is required to pay ten percent of his / her income to the Church—not just the farmers as in the Law of Moses. As a result, the Church leaders increased their base of productivity a hundred fold.

Getting back to Malachi: What is the 21st Century application of this prophecy? Are we now to tithe money? Let us look closer at Malachi 3:10:

WHAT were they robbing Yahweh of?
“**tithes AND offerings.**” Tithes of what?
Products from the land—grains and cattle.

WHERE were they to bring the tithes? To the
“**storehouse**” [Hebrew: ‘**garner**’—a granary for grain].

WHY did Yahweh want these tithes of the land brought to the “**storehouse**” (the granary)? “**That there may be meat** [bread] **in Mine house** [Yahweh’s house, not the granary]” (KJV).

If there is no spiritual application of these statements and we take them literally, there appears to be a contradiction here. Why should the people bring the tithes to the “**storehouse**” (a granary for storing grain) when what

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Yahweh wanted was “**bread in His house,**” (the Tabernacle / Temple, and not the “storehouse”)?

The only food in Yahweh’s house—the Tabernacle / Temple, was a dozen loaves of bread. And that bread was for the Priests only, not for the tribe of Levi. Since there were only twelve loaves of bread in the Tabernacle / Temple of Yahweh, are we to believe that the whole nation of Israel did not bring enough grain to the storehouse to make even twelve loaves of bread?

Yahweh does not contradict Himself; there must be a need for something other than the lack of enough grain from the whole nation of Israel to make twelve loaves of bread! Just what did Yahweh mean when He said, “**that there may be meat [bread] in Mine house...**” (KJV)? Do you really believe Yahweh is reprimanding Christians of the 21st Century through Malachi’s prophecy to bring our checkbooks to Church, “**that there may be money in Mine house?**” Yet this *is* the weekly teaching of the Christian clergymen regarding Malachi’s message. What is the *Real Truth* here?

Does Yahweh ask Israel to bring all the tithes and offerings into the storehouse, or treasury, or granary, so that there will be “**tithes and offerings in Mine house**” (KJV)? **NO**. We know that they **DID NOT** bring the tithes and offerings into the Most Holy Place (also known as the Holy of Holies) of the Tabernacle / Temple. **ONLY** bread was kept in the Holy Place.

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The “**bread**” in the Holy Place was a type and foreshadow of something future, just as everything that happened to Israel and all of their offerings and ceremonies were a type of something future. One would have to be spiritually blind not to see that the “**bread**” in the Holy Place foreshadows “**The True Bread of Life—Yahshua Messiah.**”

If Yahweh wanted more money in His house, why did Yahshua do what He did in the house of Yahweh?

Matthew 21:12-13 “¹²And יהושע (Yahshua) went into the Set-Apart (Holy) Place of Elohim and drove out all those buying and selling in the Set-Apart Place, and overturned the tables of the **MONEYCHANGERS** and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³And He (Yahshua) said to them, It has been written, ‘My House shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of robbers.’ ”

We should be able to see now that it is not money that Yahweh wants from us but rather He wants **us**. What Yahweh wants for the 21st Century Christian believer is for us to present ourselves to Him that He may use us to help others with whom He crosses our path. He has and continues to do this with me. I am always rewarded by Him when I am obedient to His call to help someone in need. I encourage you to submit to Him your whole being for His service and be blessed by Him for your obedience.

Chapter 5:

Bringing In The Tithe



The modern Christian interpretation of Malachi 3:10 is this: “Bring ye all the tithe MONEY and extra offerings of money to the Church bank, that there may be money in the Church.” It may not be stated that crudely, but that is what the Christian clergymen teach. Ask any pastor of any Church, “How do I, starting today, obey this prophecy of Malachi to stop ‘**robbing God of His tithes and offerings**’?” and he will tell you to write out a check in the name of his Church, for 10% of your salary (plus an offering), and that check will then be deposited into the Church bank account.

Then ask these same pastors what kind of blessings you will receive for obeying this procedure, and they will probably tell you stories where people received huge amounts of material goods and even huge amounts of more money. This is their interpretation of Yahweh “**opening the windows of heaven and pouring out a blessing.**” And there are ministers by the tens of thousands currently preparing more stories and more yarns (tall tales) on how blessed one will become in every imaginable physical, earthly, and material thing for giving them (they would say, giving Almighty God) your money.

Is this “*really*” how Yahweh wants us to apply Malachi’s prophecy to our lives? **ABSOLUTELY NOT.**

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This prophecy has absolutely “*nothing*” to do with tithing money to the Church. This very point cannot be stressed enough. Those who preach and teach this **DO NOT** understand the “*correct*” meaning of the text.

Does Yahweh suggest somewhere in this prophecy that there isn’t enough “money in His house?” Is Yahshua Messiah coming back to this earth to judge these “*priests*” because the “*people*” failed to bring enough money to the storehouse so that there would be money in Yahweh’s house? Is it a “*lack*” of money that concerns Yahweh in this prophecy? **No, it is both the people and the priests who have corrupted themselves according to this prophecy.** But like always, Yahweh holds the priests to a much *higher* standard and therefore *they* receive the greater condemnation. There are two groups of judgments in this prophecy:

Malachi 3:1-3 “¹See, I am sending My messenger (John), and he shall prepare the way before Me (Yahshua). Then suddenly the Master you are seeking comes to His Hēk’al (Yahweh’s Temple), even the Messenger (Yahshua) of the Covenant, in whom you delight. See, He is coming, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts. ²And who is able to bear the day of His (Yahshua’s) coming, and who is able to stand when He appears? For He is like the fire of a refiner, and like the soap of a launderer. ³And He shall sit as a refiner and a

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cleanser of silver. And He shall **CLEANSE** (purify) the sons of Lěwi, and refine them as gold and silver, and they shall belong to יהוה (Yahweh), bringing near an offering in righteousness.”

Malachi 3:5 “And I (Yahweh) shall draw near to you for right-ruling (not just the priests, but many of the people as well). And I shall be a swift witness against the practisers of witchcraft (sorcerers), and against adulterers, and against them that swear to falsehood, and against those who **oppress the wage earner** in his wages and **widows** and the **fatherless**, and those who turn away a **sojourner** and do not fear Me, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts.”

It is amazing how the Christian clergy make most people “*think*” that the only thing of value in the book of Malachi are these three verses on “*robbing God*” and “*receiving a blessing*.” There are four whole chapters in this book, and maybe it would behoove all of us to take the time to read all of Malachi to see what the rest of this book has to say. Here are just a few more things contained in the book of Malachi:

Malachi 1:7-8 “⁷You are presenting defiled food on My altar. But you asked, ‘In what way have we defiled You?’ Because you say, ‘The table of יהוה (Yahweh) is despicable.’
⁸And when you present the blind as a slaughtering, is it not evil? And when you

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present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Bring it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favourably? said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts.”

Malachi 2:1-3 “¹And now, O priests, this Command is for you... ²I (Yahweh) shall send a curse upon you... I (Yahweh) shall curse your blessings. And indeed, I (Yahweh) have cursed them, because you do not take it to heart. ³I (Yahweh) shall rebuke your seed, and scatter dung before your faces...”

Malachi 2:8-9 “⁸But you (priests), you have turned from the **Way**, you have caused many to **stumble in the Torah**. You have **corrupted** the Covenant of Lěwi, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts. ⁹And I also, I (Yahweh) shall make you (priests) **despised** and **low** before all the people (Israel), because you are not guarding My Ways, and are **showing partiality** (doing it your own way) in the Torah.”

Malachi 3:13, 16-18 “¹³Your (priests) words have been harsh against Me, said יהוה (Yahweh), but you (priests) have said, ‘What have we spoken against You?’ ¹⁶Then shall those who fear יהוה (Yahweh) speak to one another, and יהוה (Yahweh) listen and hear, and a book of remembrance be written before

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Him, of those who fear יהוה (Yahweh), and those who think upon His Name. ¹⁷And they shall be Mine, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts, on the day that I prepare a treasured possession. And I (Yahweh) shall spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him. ¹⁸Then you (priests) shall again see the difference between the righteous and the wrong, between one who serves Elohim and one who does not serve Him.”

Malachi 4:6 “And he (Ēliyāh / Elijah) shall turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I (Yahweh) come and smite the earth with utter destruction.”

When we stop and slowly read the book of Malachi, we can see the priests were the ones cursing Yahweh. The priests were **NOT** following Yahweh’s instructions He had given them in the Torah. This paints a totally different picture when we take the time to see what the Scriptures are “*really*” saying.

Remember this loved ones, when we stand before the Great **I AM** our pastor will not be there to intercede for us. We will be on our own because “*we*” are responsible for our own actions, words and thoughts. We will not be able to point our finger at “*them*” (those that taught us in the Church) because we individually are accountable for what we do.

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This is a wakeup call for all believers in Messiah Yahshua to stop “*blindly*” believing everything spoken from the pulpit without checking it out for yourself. It’s time to step up to the plate and prove all things (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

Chapter 6:

Malachi And The Bread Of Life



Malachi contains a prophecy and information “**for OUR admonition upon whom the ends of the world are come**” (1 Corinthians 10:11). As I mentioned before, there is no Tabernacle / Temple administered by the priests of Levi today, nor has there been for two thousand years. **Malachi is NOT speaking to Christians about tithing money to the church.**

The literal, physical circumstances in Malachi’s day is but a *type* and *shadow* of a *spiritual reality* for our day and for all those called since the resurrection of Yahshua Messiah. It was from the tithes that the Priests of Levi selected the “*sacrifices.*” Therein lies the problem for ancient Israel and the problem for the Christian Church today.

Listed below is the problem with Israel and her priests:

Yahweh says: “**I have LOVED you...**”
(Malachi 1:2)

Israel asks: “**In what way have You (Yahweh) loved us**” (Malachi 1:2)?

Yahweh said: “**...And if I am the Father, where is My esteem (honor / glory)? And if I am a Master, where is My fear?**” said יהוה

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(Yahweh) **of hosts to you priests who despise My Name...**" (Malachi 1:6)

The priests ask: **"In what way have we despised Your Name"** (Malachi 1:6)?

Yahweh says: **"You are presenting defiled food on My altar..."** (Malachi 1:7)

The priests ask: **"In what way have we defiled You"** (Malachi 1:7)?

Yahweh says: **"And when you present the blind as a slaughtering (sacrifice), is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? ..."** (Malachi 1:8)

Yahweh says: **"...I have no pleasure in you, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts, NOR DO I ACCEPT AN OFFERING FROM YOUR HANDS"** (Malachi 1:10).

What we have just read here and learned so far is the Priests **despised** Yahweh's Name and their sacrifices are, **blind, sick and lame**. And so Yahweh says He will not even accept their **offerings**. The people were in fact tithing, **BUT the "quality" of their tithes** (from which they [the priests] selected the sacrifices) **was of an unacceptable quality**.

We have to ask, was it this poor quality of sacrifices that *"really"* angered Yahweh? Not really. The sick and lame sacrifices were but a *symptom* of a much *greater* problem.

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Yahweh used *their polluted sacrifices* only as a physical, visual illustration to show them their sins and how polluted their hearts were. This is evident in the remainder of the book of Malachi. Yahweh unfolds to them their many sins and weaknesses.

Yahweh says: **“From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My Torah (Teachings and Instructions / Laws) and did not guard (keep / do / obey) them. Turn back to Me, and I shall turn back to you...”** (Malachi 3:7)

The priests ask: **“...In what shall we turn back”** (Malachi 3:7)?

Yahweh says: **“...In the tithe and the offering”** (Malachi 3:8)!

Yahweh here used **“tithes and offerings”** to illustrate *their attitude of mind* and *heart behind their giving*. Tithes and offerings were all that Yahweh asked of the people to give Him. Everything else they could keep for themselves. But how much did they love Yahweh? How much did they appreciate Yahweh and all His goodness to them? What was their attitude of heart and mind toward Yahweh? Their **“tithes and offerings”** says it all:

Malachi 1:7 **“You are presenting DEFILED FOOD on MY ALTAR....”**

Based on what we have just read, the *“love”* the priests and people had was superficial and not a *“true”* genuine

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love for Yahweh. The priests as well as the Israelites *knew* what was acceptable and what was not acceptable according to what is written in the Torah.

All that was included in their “**tithes and offerings**”—firstfruits, tithes of the land, tithes of the herds, and altar offerings of every sort—were to Yahweh: “**polluted bread upon Mine altar.**” They gave offerings (they WERE TITHING), BUT their tithes were totally unacceptable as we read in Malachi 1:10.

**THE TYPE AND SHADOW IS FAR
INFERIOR TO THE REALITY.**

Malachi was a “prophet.” Moses was also a “prophet,” “**And since then no prophet has arisen in Yisra’el like Mosheh**” (Deuteronomy 34:10). And Yahshua Messiah did not come to destroy the “prophets,” but rather to “**fulfill**” (rightly teach the prophets) (Matthew 5:17). Yahshua came to bring the “*correct*” understanding of the Written Word because the Pharisees and Sadducees had added to and taken away from the Written Word.

One of the best translations I have come across on Matthew 5:17 is from the “*Restoration Scriptures True Name Edition*” as follows:

“Think not that I (Yahshua) am come to weaken (water down / dilute), or destroy (do away with / abolish) the Torah (Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions / Law), or the

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neviim (prophets): **I have not come to weaken, or destroy, but to completely reveal it** (Yahweh's Teachings and Instructions / Law) **in its intended fullness."**

The word "**fulfill**" has been **grossly misused** by many in the Christian Church for centuries and continues to this very day. It is time to get on Yahweh's Straight and Narrow Path to a "**correct**" understanding of His Set-Apart Written Word. Yahshua came to reveal the "**correct**" intended instructions which are written in the Torah (*Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers* and *Deuteronomy*).

Under the Prophet Moses, Yahweh fed the nation of Israel bread in the wilderness.

"Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, as it has been written, 'He (Yahweh) gave them bread out of the heaven to eat' " (John 6:31).

Through the Prophet Malachi, Yahweh said in Malachi 3 that they (the Israelite people) should bring the tithes into the storehouse that there may be...

"...**meat** [bread] in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of HEAVEN, and pour you out a blessing (keep in mind that this blessing is *singular—a blessing*) that *[there shall]** not *[be room]** enough *[to receive IT]** (again, *singular*)" (KJV). **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets

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are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity (Malachi 3:10).

This may well be one of the most misunderstood and wrongly interpreted verses in the Bible.

The word “*meat*” in this verse comes from a Hebrew word תָּרַף (*târaph*), and means “to pluck off or pull to pieces; to supply with food (as in morsels)” (Strong’s Hebrew Dictionary, #2963).

From this pulling to pieces, plucking off, and morsels, comes the phrase “**breaking bread.**” There undoubtedly was, more grains in the storehouse (to bake bread), than any other food commodity. What did Yahshua have to say to the Yehudim (Jews) about the “**bread out of the heaven**” which they said their fathers ate in the desert?

“³²Therefore יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahshua) said to them, Truly, Truly, I say to you, Mosheh (Moses) did **NOT** give you the **bread out of the heaven**, but My Father gives you the **TRUE** Bread out of the heaven. ³³For The Bread of Elohim is He who comes down out of the heaven and gives life to the world” (John 6:32-33).

How could Yahshua say this?

The Yehudim (Jews) said that their fathers ate
“**...bread out of the heaven.**”

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Mosheh said that, “**He gave them** (the Israelites) **bread from out of the heaven to eat.**”

But Yahshua said, “Mosheh did **NOT** give you the **bread out of the heaven**, but My Father gives you the **TRUE** Bread out of the heaven.”

Is Yahshua contradicting the very Word of Yahweh? **Absolutely Not!** He is **fulfilling** it. Yahshua completely revealed the Truth in its intended fullness (the words of the prophets) just as He said in Matthew 5:17.

The bread the children of Israel ate in the desert was only a “***type***” and “***foreshadow***” of the “***TRUE***” bread from heaven, which is Yahshua Messiah. The “**polluted bread**” of Malachi is but the “***type***” of the unpolluted, pure, “**TRUE bread from heaven**,” which is Yahshua Messiah. However, to receive this “**blessing from heaven**,” we must bring all our tithes, all that we have to offer Yahweh, into the storehouse so that there will be “**meat (unpolluted bread) in Mine house.**”

Does Yahweh want unpolluted animals? **No.** Does He want unpolluted produce from the land? **No.** Does He want unpolluted money? **No.** We have to ask ourselves here, “What kind of sacrifice does Yahweh **really** want?” Yahweh wants **YOU! ALL OF YOU!** Your whole heart, that’s the sacrifice that Yahweh wants. We read this in Romans 12:

“I call upon you, therefore, brothers, through the compassion of Elohim, to **present your**

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bodies a living offering—Set-Apart (not polluted but Holy), well-pleasing to Elohim—**your reasonable worship**” (Romans 12:1).

In Malachi, Yahweh said He would not accept the offering from the priests hands; however, here in Romans we are told it is our “***bodies***” that house our mind, heart, and spirit, which is our “***living sacrifice***” that is acceptable unto Yahweh.

Ask yourself this, “Do the physical material things we offer Yahweh have *ANY* value in and of themselves to Him?” If those physical material things we offer Him are themselves “***polluted bread***,” do you believe Yahweh ***REALLY*** desires physical material things?

He has already created BILLIONS OF GALAXIES full of “*physical things*.” All these galaxies Yahweh has created by no means can fulfill the desire He has for **love**, **obedience**, and **admiration** from His children—Sons and Daughters created in His Own Image. Yahweh **WILL NOT** accept children whose hearts are likened to “***polluted bread***.”

Chapter 7:

The Physical Then The Spiritual



1 Corinthians 15:46 “The spiritual, however, was not first, but the natural, and **afterward the SPIRITUAL.**”

Was the bread that the fathers ate in the desert the “**TRUE bread from heaven?**” No, it clearly was not for Yahshua said it was not! And so, can we not see, can we not believe, can we not understand, that Yahshua Messiah IS

“^{32b}...the True Bread out of the heaven. ³³For The Bread of Elohim IS HE (Yahshua) who comes down **OUT OF THE HEAVEN** and gives life to the world” (John 6:32b-33).

Hold this thought

And now let's go back to Malachi:

Malachi 3:10 “Bring ye all the tithes into the **storehouse** that there may be meat [bread] in **Mine** house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that *[there shall]** not

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[be room] enough [to receive it]**” (KJV).

NOTE: *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

Malachi 1:8 “And when you present the blind as a slaughtering (sacrifice), is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Bring it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favourably? said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts.”

This is vital to our understanding: Yahweh does not rebuke the people or the priests for the “*lack*” of **quantity** in their tithes and offerings and sacrifices, but rather a “*lack*” of **quality**. Here is absolute Scriptural proof. They brought offerings, but why would Yahweh not accept their offerings? It is simple, because they offered “**blind, lame and sick sacrifices.**” And why did they do that? Because they were spiritually blind, lame and sick themselves. There was **quantity** to their offerings, but not **quality**.

Fine Flour and Pure Frankincense vs. Polluted Bread

And how does Yahweh view these evil sacrifices:

Malachi 1:8 “And when you (all of you) present the blind (polluted bread upon My altar) as a slaughtering, is it not evil? And

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when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil?...”

Here is the whole ball of wax if you will: The problem is not a lack of money, but rather offering “*polluted*” bread upon the altar of Yahweh when what He wants is “Pure and Fine Bread:”

Leviticus 24:5, 7, 9 “⁵And you shall take **fine** flour and bake twelve cakes... ⁷And you shall put **clear** (pure) frankincense on each row, and it shall be on the bread... ⁹And it shall be for Aharon (Aaron) and his sons (the priests), and they shall eat it in the Set-Apart place...”

Remember: first comes the natural, (the physical), and then comes the spiritual.

And so the children of Israel ate the “**bread from heaven**” in the wilderness. There was sufficient quantity, but it lacked everlasting quality. It did not possess the quality of True LIFE—they all DIED in the wilderness except for Caleb and Joshua in that generation. The reason Caleb and Joshua did not die in the wilderness is because their hearts were pure before Yahweh. They were the ONLY two that brought back a “good” report to the children of Israel. All the others brought back a “bad” report and thus they all died in the wilderness because their hearts were not “pure” before Yahweh. The physical manna they all ate in the wilderness was not meant to keep them alive forever. It was only meant to keep them alive for a time physically. The spiritual

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fulfillment of this type of physical bread in the wilderness is that Yahshua Messiah is **“The True Bread of LIFE.”**

Looking forward from the wilderness example, we can see the quantity of bread being offered by the priests on the altar of Yahweh was not the problem, but rather the *quality* of those offerings which represented their hearts.

The spiritual bread (the spiritual food for the people) being offered in the Christian Church today is not lacking in quantity, but rather *quality*. There is **“bread,”** yes, but it is **“polluted bread.”** The opposite of **“polluted”** is **“pure.”** It is written in the book of James:

“CLEAN and UNDEFILED religion before the Elohim and Father is this: to VISIT ORPHANS and WIDOWS IN THEIR AFFLICTION, [and]* to KEEP ONESELF UNSTAINED FROM THE WORLD”
(James 1:27). **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

This verse does not say: “Take ten percent of the Social Security checks and welfare checks of the **“fatherless and widows IN THEIR AFFLICTION,”** and give it to the Christian clergymen to take the money and spend it for all the **‘spotted materialism of this world.’**” Yet that is *exactly* what we see happening today.

The Physical Then The Spiritual

Furthermore, many Christian leaders “shamelessly” boast about their material possessions! They “**love the world and the things that are in the world.**” And, therefore, is it little wonder that, “**the love of the Father is not in them** (1 John 2:15)?” Neither do they have a “**love of the Truth**” (2 Thessalonians 2:10).

Yahweh used the physical, outward, visible, type of sick, lame, and blind sacrifices, which He then calls “**polluted bread**” to show Israel and their priests what He was really angry with—namely, their “**polluted**” hearts, minds, and spirits! Malachi’s prophecy is about the sin WITHIN, not sacrifices WITHOUT! This was as true back then as it is today.

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Luke 6:38

“Give, and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over shall be put into your lap. For with the same measure with which you measure, it shall be measured back to you.”

Chapter 8:

The End Time Church



When we read Second Peter, he is describing the latter day Church:

“¹But there also came to be false prophets among the people, as also among you **there shall be false teachers**, who shall secretly bring in destructive (fatal, disastrous, ruinous) heresies (false teachings / doctrines), and deny the Master (Yahshua) who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves. ²And many shall follow their destructive (lascivious, licentious, wanton) ways, because of whom **the Way** (Yahweh’s Straight and Narrow Path) **of Truth shall be evil spoken of**, ³and in greed (covetousness, lust), with fabricated (made up, empty) words, **THEY SHALL USE YOU FOR GAIN...**” (2 Peter 2:1-3).

Let us look at other renderings here:

“**Motivated by greed, they will exploit you with their counterfeit arguments**” (*Berkely Version*).

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“...in their lust they will exploit you with cunning arguments” (*Moffatt Translation*).

“And ||**in greed with forged words**|| will they |of you| ||**make merchandise**||.” (*The Emphasized Bible*).

“And **through covetousness** in avarice (greed) shall they with **feigned** fabricated words **make** merchandise of **you**.” (*Exegeses Parallel Bible*).

“In their greed for MONEY they will trade on your credulity [gullibility] with sheer fabrications” (*The New English Bible*).

Can we not see here the warning given to us by Peter about those who are “*false*” teachers of the Word of Almighty Yahweh? There are many in the Church today who are “*destroying the Word of Yahweh*.” They are blind to the “*true*” understanding of His Word, so what we have is the blind leading the blind.

In these end of days, Yahweh is raising up a “*righteous remnant*” (those who are *obedient*), to proclaim His Truths to those who “*want*” to follow Him with their whole heart.

More and more people are coming out of the Institutionalized Church System knowing there is far more truth in the Scriptures than what they have been taught. Yahweh is awakening and calling out to everyone regardless

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of their Church affiliation. And many are hearing and coming out of the “Babylonian System.”

Not surprisingly, those who have come out of the system and have begun to study on their own with a Hebrew mindset, bear witness to learning more in a shorter time than in all the years they were in the Church. I for one can vouch for this, having been in the Church System longer (at this point), than in studying the Hebrew Roots of the faith.

I can honestly state that my wife and I have learned far more in the short time we have been in the Hebrew Roots than all the years in any Christian Church. We continue to learn more from His Word each day as He guides us and He will do the same for you **IF** you choose to walk in His “Way”—down His Straight and Narrow Path of obedience to His Word.

Physical Types Foreshadow Spiritual Realities

Everything that happened in the Old Covenant was a TYPE and FORESHADOW of future, spiritual things.

1 Corinthians 10:11 “And **ALL** these came upon **THEM** as (our) examples, and they were written as a warning (admonition / rebuke / advice) to **US**, on whom the ends of the ages have come.”

Malachi is no different here. We have read where the people of Israel tithed sick, lame, and diseased animals to Levi. The Priests took those *unacceptable* beasts and offered

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them as sacrifices to Yahweh. The reason that the people and the priests offered sick (polluted) sacrifices is because they themselves were sick and polluted with sins. Isaiah describes them very well for us:

Isaiah 1:4-6a “⁴Alas, sinning nation, a people loaded with crookedness, a seed of evil-doers, sons acting corruptly! They have forsaken יהוה (Yahweh), they have provoked the Set-Apart One of Yisra’el, they went backward (they backslid). ⁵Why should you be beaten any more? You continue in apostasy (abandonment of the faith)! All **THE HEAD IS SICK**, and all the heart faints (dizzy / weak / feeble). ⁶From the sole of the foot, to the head, **THERE IS NO SOUNDNESS IN IT...**”

Much of what is taught in the Church today as “*wholesome spiritual food*,” Yahweh calls “**polluted bread**.” And just WHY do “*they*” offer polluted bread? We learn WHY in Matthew 12:

“Brood of adders! How are you able to speak what is good—being wicked?
**FOR THE MOUTH SPEAKS FROM
THE OVERFLOW OF THE HEART**”
(Matthew 12:34).

There it is! There is the message of Malachi—it was a heart issue. That is why Israel brought sick and blind

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sacrifices and that is why the priests did not correct the Israelites, but went ahead and offered them to Yahweh. **Both the people and the priests were polluted in their hearts, and it is of the overflow / abundance of the heart that determines men's actions.**

Today's "polluted bread" is served up in such doctrines as: Exact ten per cent of the parishioner's salaries in the form of a Church tax called, "*tithing*." And the threat of eternal torture in fire if one does not follow the dictates of a specific denomination or religious teaching that is deemed necessary to avoid this eternal damnation.

The type and shadow of Yahshua Messiah, Who is the True Bread of Life, was the physical bread that Israel ate in the desert. The desert doesn't produce enough food to sustain an army of people—it had to be supernaturally supplied by Yahweh. The desert and wilderness of our carnal nature does not produce enough spiritual food to sustain us either. **ONLY the True Bread of LIFE from Heaven in the person of Yahshua Messiah can supply our spiritual needs.** We must eat this spiritual bread in order to have spiritual life.

The sacrifices spoken of in Malachi were not suitable for Yahweh's house, because it was "**POLLUTED BREAD**" and we have discussed some of the many sins that constituted this polluted bread. **Here are the only sacrifices that are fit for Yahweh's storehouse:**

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Psalm 51:17 “The slaughterings (sacrifices) of Elohim are **A BROKEN SPIRIT, A HEART BROKEN AND CRUSHED**...”

And we see in Psalm 34 where King David reversed the order:

“יהוה” (Yahweh) is near to the **BROKEN-HEARTED**, And saves those whose **SPIRIT IS CRUSHED**” (Psalm 34:18).

It is all about the attitude of the heart: **REPENT, HUMBLE YOURSELF, and OBEY His Written Word!** **THEN** look for His Blessing to follow.

People always want to do physical things to prove their spirituality. Yahweh does not want our physical things. He wants a broken heart and a crushed / contrite spirit and a willingness to OBEY:

1 Samuel 15:22 “Then Shemu’el (Samuel) said, “...Look, to **OBEY** [*is better*]* **than an offering**, to heed (listen / pay attention) is better than the fat of rams.” **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

The sacrifices of a broken heart, a crushed / contrite spirit, and a willingness to obey are **ALWAYS** acceptable to Yahweh.

Chapter 9:

Bring Yahweh Spiritual Tithes



Malachi 3:10 “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, and let there be food (bread—*pure and fine bread*—not polluted bread of a carnal mind filled with evil deeds and doctrines) in My house. And please prove Me in this, said יהוה (Yahweh) of hosts, whether I do not open for you the windows of the **HEAVENS**...”

John 6:33 “For The Bread of Elohim is He (Yahshua) Who comes down **out of the heaven**...”

John 6:38 “Because I (Yahshua) have **come down out of the heaven**...”

John 6:41 “...I am The Bread which **came down out of the heaven**,” (Yahshua Messiah, The Bread of Life **IS** this blessing)!

WAIT A MINUTE! Did you get that? It certainly bears repeating. When the windows of heaven are opened up and a blessing is poured out, that blessing is Yahshua—the Bread of Life. How sad that the Church has limited our blessing to some *lifeless* unit of monetary measure that cannot save, heal, deliver, protect, or bring lasting joy.

Ephesians 3:20 “Now unto Him that is able to do **EXCEEDING ABUNDANTLY** (Gk:

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Superexcessively—superabundantly, super exceedingly, super aboundingly) ABOVE ALL THAT WE ASK OR THINK, according to the power that worketh in us” (KJV).

Yahweh is saying to us: “Give Me your pure bread offerings of a ‘**broken heart, crushed / contrite spirit, and attitude of obedience,**’ and I will give you, ‘**The TRUE BREAD OF LIFE from HEAVEN.**’ ”

Yahshua Messiah is the True Bread in Yahweh’s house. He is the perfect example of LOVE, LIGHT AND LIFE. Yahshua is the ultimate, the apex, the primer, the zenith, the HIGHEST OF EVERYTHING! He is our **Perfect** example! Yahshua is the **Tree of Life**, the **Hope of Glory**, the **Saviour of the World**. All that we (and the entirety of the universe) will ever need for all eternity is found in **Him**! But Yahweh demands purity. All the polluted bread must go:

1 John 3:1-3 “¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called **CHILDREN OF ELOHIM** (Yahweh)! For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved ones, now we are **CHILDREN OF ELOHIM** (Yahweh). And it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He (Yahshua) is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as

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He is. ³And everyone having this expectation in Him **CLEANSSES HIMSELF**, as He **IS CLEAN**.”

And the priests of Christendom would have us believe that Yahweh’s message through Malachi is a quest for MORE MONEY! Simply Unbelievable!

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Luke 21:1-4

“¹And looking up He (Yahshua) saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, ²and He saw a certain poor widow putting in two mites. ³And He said, ‘Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all. ⁴For all these out of their excess have put in offerings for Elohim, but she out of her poverty has put in all that she had to live on.’ ”

Chapter 10:

The Lesson Of Malachi



Obedience to Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions (Torah / Law) given to Moses for ALL people, along with the Sacrifices and the many Ordinances, was to bring *physical prosperity, safety from enemies, healthy children, and a long life in the land*, followed by physical death. Malachi brings us from obedience to physical Laws in the land, all the way down to the return of Messiah in fiery judgment upon mankind. Yahweh **never** wanted animal sacrifices, but rather the sacrifices of a “**broken and crushed / contrite heart and spirit.**”

Yahweh tells us through Malachi that we should bring all our tithes (spiritual tithes and offerings) to Him and He will bless us with a blessing that cannot be contained.

The physical tithes that were brought to the storehouse, from which portions were sacrificed to Yahweh, brought temporary, physical blessings on earth. For all those who will bring all their spiritual tithes and offerings to Yahweh’s house, Yahweh promises One permanent, SPIRITUAL Blessing from heaven—Yahshua Messiah. He is that One and only **True Bread** of Never-Ending Life.

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We Obey a Spiritual Law and Our Sacrifices are Spiritual

The end-time fulfillment of Malachi **DOES NOT** pertain to the Law of Moses, which is the oldness of the letter rather than the newness of the Spirit. Just as there is no more sacrificing of animals at the Temple in Jerusalem, likewise there is no tithing of animals at the Temple—nor is there tithing of any kind.

Romans 8:2 “For the Torah of the **SPIRIT OF THE LIFE** in Messiah יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahshua) [this is not the Law of Moses] has set me **FREE FROM THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH.**”

NOTE: This is what was nailed to the cross, the law of sin and death; not the Torah (Law) which is Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions.

Here are a few more sacrifices of the spirit which are always acceptable in Yahweh’s presence:

Psalms 100:2 “...I offer in His Tent with shouts of **JOY**...”

Psalms 119:172 “Offer slaughterings (sacrifices) of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, And trust in יְהוָה (Yahweh).”

Psalms 107:22 “And let them bring slaughterings (sacrifices)

The Lesson Of Malachi

of **THANKSGIVING**, And relate His
(Yahweh's) works with **REJOICING**."

Yes dear ones, these are the sacrifices, offerings, and
tithes of a broken heart and a crushed / contrite spirit.

As we can see, the Christian clergymen have devised a
clever way to change one of Yahweh's Laws regarding
tithing of farm products for the Levites to a man-made law
that exacts ten percent of **EVERYTHING FROM
EVERYBODY**. **WOE BE TO THOSE DOING THIS!!!**
REPENT!

**Love Not The World Neither
The Things In The World.**

Instead of following the Apostle Paul's example of
humility and service, all too many leaders in Christendom have
become the very personification (example) of materialistic
exhibitionism, egotism, and control.

Once content with a good quality \$200 watch, now they
need a \$2000 Rolex. Once happy with \$300 suits, now they
need \$3000 suits. Once content with a brand new \$30,000
car, now they need an \$80,000 top-of-the-line luxury car.
Once happy with a beautiful and roomy \$200,000 home, now
they need a \$2,000,000 mansion on the hill. Once happy that
the \$500,000 mortgage on their church building is paid, now
they need a \$5,000,000 cathedral with gold-gilded
everything. Once happy to fly first class everywhere they
travel, now they need their own private \$10,000,000
executive jet. Just look at how many men of the cloth are

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building “*their*” kingdoms on earth on the backs of the “sheep.” And it seems like the next generation coming behind them have even greater appetites.

Granted, there are indeed tens of thousands who do not believe it possible to aspire to such dizzying heights of materialism and are content to have sizably smaller kingdoms, but it is still the same foul spirit of “lust,” “power,” and “worldly materialism” at work in many of their lives. Those in leadership who teach Yahweh’s people that it is His Law for them to tithe ten percent of their salaries to the Church and if they don’t Yahweh will curse them—are teaching false doctrine, and it is a SIN! They are not only fleecing the sheep, but they are causing the sheep to stumble.

Have you ever heard one of these prosperity ministers give a powerful sermon on 1 John 2:15-16?

“¹⁵Do not love the world nor that which is in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶Because all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world.”

Do you find it interesting how some teach this from the pulpit and yet do the very thing the Scriptures speak against? These are known as hypocrites. If they cannot teach this one simple thing correctly, how can we trust them with the rest of the Scriptures?

The Lesson Of Malachi

Here are a few more Scriptures referring to hypocrites. When you see what the Scriptures have to say about them, you will realize that there is nothing new under the sun:

- ❖ Job 15:34, 36:13
- ❖ Isaiah 33:14
- ❖ Matthew 6:2, 5, 16, 15:7, 16:3, 22:18, 23:13, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29, 24:51
- ❖ Mark 7:6
- ❖ Luke 11:44 and 12:56

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Acts 11:27-30

“²⁷And in those days prophets came from Yerushalayim to Antioch. ²⁸And one of them, named Ḥagāb_ (Agabus), stood up and indicated by the Spirit that there was going to be a great scarcity of food over all the world – which also took place under Claudius Caesar. ²⁹So the taught ones, each according to his ability, decided to send relief to the brothers dwelling in Yehudāh (Judaea). ³⁰This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabāh and Sha’ul (Paul).”

Chapter 11:

Money And The Believer



There is not one example of anyone tithing MONEY to anyone in all the written Scriptures! The only reference to “*money*” with regards to tithing has absolutely nothing to do with paying TITHES OF MONEY. It is found in Deuteronomy 14:

“²⁴But when the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to bring the tithe, or when the place where יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses to put His Name is too far from you, WHEN יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim is blessing you, ²⁵THEN you shall give it in silver, and shall take the silver in your hand and go to the place which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses. ²⁶And YOU shall use the silver for whatever YOUR being desires: for cattle or sheep, for wine or strong drink, for whatever your being desires. And YOU shall eat there before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim, and YOU shall rejoice, YOU and YOUR household” (Deuteronomy 14:24-26).

TITHING IN THE CHURCH

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Let's look at those verses again with some explanation provided to gain a clearer understanding of what is actually being said:

“²⁴But when the way is too long for you (speaking of the place where Yahweh placed His Name to be worshipped, especially during the fall Feast harvest of Sukkot [Booths / Tabernacles] in Jerusalem), so that you are not able to bring the tithe (the tithe of their farm produce), or when the place where יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses to put His Name is too far from you, WHEN יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim is blessing you,

²⁵**THEN** you shall give it in silver (you can sell your farm produce for silver and carry it rather than your farm produce), and shall take the silver (to the preachers? to the church? **NO**...) in your hand and go to the place which יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim chooses.

²⁶And **YOU shall use the silver for whatever YOUR being desires:** for **cattle** or **sheep**, for **wine** (the Hebrew for wine, Strong's 3196 is יין yayin—wine as fermented. This is not grape juice as some teach) or **strong drink** (the Hebrew for strong drink, Strong's 7937 is שכר shakar—A primitive root; to become tipsy; in a qualified

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sense, to satiate with a stimulating drink. This is definitely NOT grape juice), for **whatever your being desires**. And **YOU shall eat there before יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim,** and **YOU** shall rejoice, **YOU and YOUR household**” (Deuteronomy 14: 24-26).

Farm products could be sold and turned into money when long travel was necessary. But at the destination where Yahweh placed His Name, **the money was spent on food for the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, the poor,** etc. **It was NOT presented to the Levites as a monetary gift.**

Here is an easy to understand Scripture explaining what the purpose of the tithe was:

Deuteronomy 14:29 “And the Lẽwite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you (Yisra’ẽl), and the sojourner (stranger) and the fatherless and the widow who are within your gates, shall come and **EAT** (food from the land) and be satisfied, so that יהוה (Yahweh) your Elohim does bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.”

Here’s what Christian Clergymen won’t tell you and hope you never find out:

- ❖ The tradesmen who made the baskets for harvesting, did not tithe.

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- ❖ 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 fields, did not tithe.
- ❖ The potters, who made the jugs for carrying water to the servants in the fields, did not tithe.
- ❖ The women, who made the garments for the field-workers, did not tithe.
- ❖ And certainly, the servants who worked in the fields 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**
- ❖ **TITHING WAS A LAW OF MOSES**

Yahshua Messiah was a carpenter by trade, and as such, YAHSHUA DID NOT TITHE!

Giving is Voluntary

The New Covenant teachings on giving are very simplistic—involving one's heart. Let us look at a few verses to see this:

Matthew 10:8b "...You have received without paying, give without being paid."

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Matthew 5:42 “Give to him who asks of you, and from him who wishes to borrow from you, do not turn away.”

Romans 15:26-27 “²⁶For it pleased those from Makedonia (Macedonia) and Achaia to make some contribution for the poor among the Set-Apart ones who are in Yerushalayim (Jerusalem). ²⁷For they were pleased, and they are their debtors. For if the gentiles have shared in their spiritual matters, their duty is also to serve them in material matters.”

Luke 6:38 “Give, and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over...”

Acts 20:35 “All this I did show you, by labouring like this, that you ought to help the weak. And remember the words of the Master יהושע, (Yahshua) that He said, ‘**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**’ ”

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 “⁶And this: He who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly, and he who sows on blessing shall also reap on blessing. ⁷Let each one [*give*]* as he purposes in his heart, not of grief or of necessity (Greek: ‘compulsion’ as in a commanded law), for Elohim loves a joyous giver.”
NOTE: *Words in square brackets are not

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in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

Follow these admonitions on giving and you will be blessed of Yahweh.

There is one very important Scripture we do not want to overlook here; it is found in 1 Timothy:

“And IF anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the belief and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8).

Numerous times I have heard different ministers on a particular mega TV, Institutionalized Network Station intimidate their viewers to contribute money that they did not have—even if they owed more money to creditors in monthly payments than their salaries could possibly pay. Yet they were still asked to make huge donations to these ministries under the guise of receiving a blessing in return.

Some contend that the more money one needs to meet his or her already staggering obligations, the more money that person needs to send in. Viewers are even told to pledge huge amounts of money that they do not have, and then to send in ten percent of the pledge and pay the rest off in installments. Have they no shame?

Does this make you sick to your stomach? It should. Judgment Day IS coming and for those who are engaged in

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this type of robbery from Yahweh's children for their own sordid gain—they will pay a heavy price.

**WOE BE TO YOU WHO ARE
ROBBING YAHWEH'S
CHILDREN!!!**

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Proverbs 11:25

“The generous being is enriched, And he who waters is also watered himself.”

Chapter 12: **Paying Church Bills**



The answer is simple, “Church bills should be paid the same way we all pay our living expenses—with a check.” Here’s the plain honest truth: Pastors **do not** need to lie to the congregation and deceive and pervert the Word of Almighty Yahweh in order to get the congregation to pay the Church’s expenses. All they have to do is just be up front and honest with the congregation and ask for what is needed.

We **ALL** know in order to meet in a building there are expenses. But Christian leaders should not lie to or deceive the congregation by putting a guilt trip on them and saying if they do not give their “*tithe*” plus an offering they will be cursed by Yahweh. Anyone who preaches this heresy is “*destroying the Word of Almighty Yahweh*” and will be held accountable for miss-handling His Written Word.

Why is it that most pastors do not simply ask their congregation to contribute toward paying Church expenses? It is because those who teach false doctrines, to exact money illegally from their congregation, do not have “real” faith to trust them to contribute voluntarily out of love. These leaders only know how to teach the Old Covenant Laws (regarding tithing), and do not know how to teach the New Covenant Laws, which are SPIRITUAL.

Most pastors see two options:

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- A. Teach people that they will be cursed if they do not tithe ten percent of their annual salaries, or
- B. Trust Yahweh in faith to provide the money from voluntary gifts given from the heart.

If operating in faith brought in more money than pronouncing curses, no one would ever hear a sermon on tithing again. And, in this scenario, if anyone were to suggest to one of these pastors that tithing is an Old Covenant Law that Christians must keep or be cursed, those same pastors would ridicule you to scorn for ever suggesting such an obvious **unscriptural doctrine**. They would be quick to make it known that tithing is not binding on New Covenant Christians **IF** they are honest. Is your pastor honest with you on tithing?

Many leaders will just do whatever is necessary to bring in the most money. And since unscriptural **threats of curses for not tithing**, and the promise of **blessings for tithing** brings in a steady supply of money; this has become their modus operandi. They will tell you to operate in faith but they don't have faith to trust the people to give out of a heart of love to supply the needs of the Church. Do you not find this troubling? Now that the light of His Truth has exposed the lie: Truly, Truly, the pastor as well as the whole congregation needs to repent and do what is right according to the Written Word of Almighty Yahweh.

It is my hope and intention here to see as many as possible set free from unscriptural hypnotic tactics of TV

Paying Church Bills

auctioneers and Christian Clergymen who “peddle” the Word of Almighty Yahweh like so much merchandise for sordid gain. It makes me sick to see this going on in the Christian Churches and with TV ministries. If I could, I would reach through that TV screen and grab a hold of them and shake them silly for teaching such a **NON-SCRIPTURAL** doctrine. **Yahweh is NOT happy** about His sheep being fleeced!

You may be thinking about those small congregations that do not even want a huge cathedral and the pastor who does not want to be rich or drive an expensive vehicle. All they want to do is preach the gospel and care for a local congregation. Surely it cannot be wrong for them to teach their congregation to tithe ten percent of their salaries to the Church, is it? **It is absolutely WRONG.** The size of *any* Church makes no difference. That’s like saying; I do not want to rob a bank, but I will go to the local grocery store and just take a few small things without paying for them! IT’S THE SAME CRIME, with the only difference being the amount stolen.

Do any of the Scripture references quoted previously regarding voluntary giving have *anything* to do with “*tithing?*” **Absolutely NOT.**

Tithing was Commanded by the Torah (Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions) on products of the land—**NOT MONEY.**

Thus far, we have learned that there is a difference between a tithe and an offering. We are not to give our tithes

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to any Institutionalized Church System. We are to set our tithes aside and use them to help the widows, orphans and destitute.

If you are being blessed where you worship, by all means give an offering to help pay the church bills. However, do not give blindly. Hold the church accountable for what they are using the money they receive each week from the congregation. This is our responsibility.

**Giving is voluntary from the
HEART.**

Chapter 13:

Giving Verses Tithing



The Apostle Paul vs. Christian Tithing

You will not find one place in the New Covenant where the Apostle Paul ever tithed. Also, you will not read anywhere that he taught anyone else to tithe, or to collect tithes. It is **NOT** in the text. Paul never accepted tithes.

If Paul were ministering today and someone approached him and were to offer him \$100 saying something like this: *“Hi Paul, my name is James and I believe in what you are teaching and want to support your ministry by making my payment to you according to the tithing law with regards to my thousand-dollar paycheck I received.”*

It is hard to know with 100% accuracy what Paul would say in this case, but his reply might go something like this:

*“Brother James, MONEY is not a tithable commodity according to what is written in the Torah. Furthermore, tithes can only be paid to the Levitical priests, and I am not a Levite. I am from the Tribe of Benjamin. Yahshua Messiah taught everyone to take care of the widow, the orphan and the destitute. For ‘**FREELY you have received, FREELY give.**’ I am sorry James, but I cannot accept*

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your money. Those who believe in what I am doing may make an offering to help support the ministry, but not a tithe as this is given to the widow, orphans and the destitute.”

Now if we take that same \$100 and give it to any number of the ministers in Christendom today; one might hear this from the clergyman:

“Well James, if this \$100 is your tithe, where is your offering? Do you not know that the tithe is commanded by the law? You have only given me what is commanded for you to give to the Church. You also need to give an offering on top of the tithe as this offering goes to pay for the upkeep of this building and ministry staff, etc.”

This is not an extreme example because unfortunately it does take place in most churches no matter what label hangs above the front door. There are many ministers who are “fleeing” the Body of Messiah Yahshua and not teaching their congregations the Truths written in His Word.

We can see from the previous example the different attitudes of the ones receiving the gift. Paul stands on what Yahshua taught him by instructing the would-be giver to give to the destitute, the widow and the orphan where as the pastor in this example is looking for a way to increase his bottom line. When we give to the needy, the widow and the

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orphan, we are giving to Yahweh. This is clearly taught to us in Matthew 25:

“³¹And when the Son of Adam (Messiah Yahshua) comes in His esteem, and all the set-apart messengers with Him, then He shall sit on the throne of His esteem. ³²And all the nations shall be gathered before Him, and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats. ³³And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the Sovereign shall say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the reign prepared for you from the foundation of the world – ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, ³⁶was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous shall answer Him, saying, ‘Master, when did we see You hungry and we fed [You]*, or thirsty and gave [You]* to drink? ³⁸And when did we see You a stranger and took [You]* in, or naked and clothed [You]*? ³⁹And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and we came to You?’ ⁴⁰And the Sovereign shall answer and say to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, in so far as you did it to one of the least of these My

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brothers, you did it to Me' ” (Matthew 25:31-40). **NOTE:** *Words in square brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

In the above verses Yahshua is clearly teaching us and pointing out to us by using Himself as our example that when we help the orphans, widows and destitute, it is as though we are helping Him. This is where our tithes are to go, to help those in need. This also includes family members who truly have needs.

When we give to the Church of our choice, we need to ask ourselves: “*What are they doing with the money we are giving to them?*” This is good stewardship on our part. The Body of Messiah Yahshua needs to hold the Church accountable not only in what they teach, but in how they are using the money they receive each week from the congregation.

Very few Churches are using the money they receive to help the destitute, the widows and the orphans. Most use the money for the upkeep of the facilities and other things. Some Churches do set aside a portion of the money they receive from their congregation to assist the destitute, widows and orphans. Of those who do this, some have certain restrictions a person has to meet to receive the needed assistance; and thus many are turned away unless they meet those “*requirements.*”

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This is not what Yahshua taught. We must repent and help the destitute, the widows and the orphans. When we set aside our tithe money to help those in need, we are helping Him as He taught us in Matthew 25:31-40. By this, we know we are giving to Him.

Messiah's Only Two Examples of Tithes

Paul was inspired by the Spirit of Yahweh to declare that "...Elohim loves a joyous giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). Why was he not inspired to declare that, "Elohim loves a joyous *tithe-payer*?" Why does Paul **not even mention** the words *tithe*, *tithes*, or *tithing* in any of His thirteen epistles? Why do we not see Peter, James, John, or Jude mention *tithing* in any of their epistles? Why didn't the early Christian fathers mention *tithing* as a doctrine of the New Covenant Church?

Knowing there are no supportive Scriptures in the New Covenant on tithing to the Church, we have to ask ourselves "Why are innumerable thousands of evangelists, Christian theologians, Bible teachers, preachers, and clergymen teaching around the world that we, the Body of Messiah Yahshua, need to tithe ten percent of our salaries to them or we will be cursed with a curse?"

These questions should get us thinking about our own stewardship as well as asking questions of those who teach on "*tithing*." As members of the Body of Messiah Yahshua we have the authority and responsibility to make them accountable. We just need to step up to the plate and take

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action on this important matter that is being *wrongly* taught from the pulpit and by TV ministers.

There are only two times in the New Covenant where Yahshua mentions tithing. At the time of Yahshua's ministry there was a Temple and a Levitical Priesthood, therefore tithing was still in effect for the Hebrew people at that time. Now let us look at what Messiah Yahshua said about tithing in Luke 11:

“But **WOE** (deep distress, misery, grief, misfortune, calamity, sorrow, dismay) **to you Pharisees**, because you **tithe** the mint and the rue and every plant (some had farms; some had gardens), and pass by (ignore) the **RIGHT-RULING** (judgment) **AND** the **LOVE OF ELOHIM**. **These you should have done**, without leaving the others undone” (Luke 11:42).

Yahshua was pointing out to the Pharisees that they were neglecting, ignoring, and overlooking the written Word commanding them to help the destitute, widows and orphans who have real needs. If Yahshua were here today, He would say the same thing to all Christian leaders, because what He spoke to the Pharisees then also applies to the Clergy today. There is **NO** shadow of turning in Him. He is the same yesterday as He is today and He will not change tomorrow.

What kind of blessing did Messiah Yahshua pronounce upon those Pharisees for their “...**tithe the mint and the rue**

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and every plant...”? NO BLESING, just a startling “**WOE!**” We are given insight into the heart of a Pharisee in Luke.

Luke 18:11-12 “¹¹The **Pharisee** stood and began to pray with himself this way, ‘Elohim... ¹²I fast twice a week, I give **tithes** of all that I possess.’ ”

And just what kind of a blessing did Yahshua pronounce on this Pharisee for his “**tithe**?”

This Pharisee did not receive any blessing, or justification for what he was doing, but rather a promise that people like him will be “**humbled** (belittled, made low)” as we read in Luke 18:

“¹³But the tax collector standing at a distance would not even raise his eyes to the heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, ‘Elohim, show favour unto me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I (Yahshua) say to you, this man (the tax collector) went down to his house declared right, rather than the other (the Pharisee in verse 11). For everyone who is exalting himself shall be humbled, and he who is humbling himself shall be exalted” (Luke 18:13-14).

What does being an utter hypocrite and passing over “**Judgment and the Love of Yahweh**” have to do with “*tithing*?” This is the whole point. These gross sins have virtually **nothing** to do with tithing!

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Tithing to Yahweh was insignificant to the gross sins of failing to properly take the appropriate action to help the widows, orphans and destitute whom the Pharisees saw were in need. We recall reading in Matthew 25:31-40 where Yahshua used Himself as an example to teach us that when we help those we see in need, be they destitute, widows, orphans, strangers or even family members; we are helping Him and by this very act, we are showing our Love of Yahweh toward them.

Tithing was the smallest most inconsequential thing Yahshua Messiah could think of to show the utter hypocrisy of these Pharisees. They were very meticulous about tithing, and YET they would do the tithe thing and neglect judgment, love and mercy toward the widow, orphan and the destitute. They turned their back to those in need.

That same thing is happening in Churches today. This does not mean that everyone in the Church is guilty of neglecting those in need. However, when we give the Church our “*tithes*,” we are missing the opportunity to set it aside to help the needy; we are “*blindly*” believing the money will be used to help those in need, whether they are members of that Church or not.

That being said, we can see that not much has changed. The Christian Church gets our money and the destitute, widows and orphans are still in need. So, unless we redirect our “*tithes*” to help the needy and remove that from the Church’s responsibility, the results will remain the same.

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It was the Pharisees gross sins that brought “*woes*” and “*humility* (*abasements*)” upon them. They were not being condemned for correctly “*tithing*,” **they were condemned for not helping the destitute, widows and orphans.** Yahshua gave examples of two Pharisees, who were gross sinners deserving the worst possible chastisements, and then says that they were both tithe-payers.

Yahshua’s attention to the fact that they were both meticulous tithe-payers, proved the hypocrisy of these two Pharisees. They would pay strict attention to very minor details of Yahweh’s Teachings and Instructions written in the Torah, and yet totally abandon the very reason and purpose for the whole existence of the Instructions in the Torah—LOVE, MERCY, and JUDGMENT.

The Law of Moses regarding tithing produced from the land was still in effect during Yahshua’s ministry, and therefore, all of the nation of Israel who had land were to tithe from their land and give it to the Priests, Levites, strangers, fatherless, widows, poor, and even consume some of it themselves at Yahweh’s Annual Festival (Sukkot / Tabernacles).

However, this system with its Instructions and Temple were all part of the original assembly of Yahweh in the wilderness. Yahshua, however, did not tithe. Likewise, His Apostles did not tithe. Furthermore, neither Yahshua, nor His Apostles, nor Paul, ever taught new believers in Messiah Yahshua to pay tithes to the established Assembly of Yahweh.

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Mixing the Old with the New

The Christian Clergymen today do not want the New Covenant to replace the Old. They want to put the **New Wine** (of the New Covenant), in the **Old Bottles** (of the Old Covenant). And they want to put the **New Cloth** (of the New Covenant), on the **Old Cloth** (of the Old Covenant). And what did Yahshua tell us would be the result of such an unharmonious and unequal yoking?

Mark 2:22 “And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, otherwise the new wine bursts the wineskins, and the wine runs out, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine is to be put into fresh wineskins.”

If we look back nearly two thousand years since Messiah Yahshua was here, we see the Church is still trying to combine the Old with the New and make them one and the same today. The result of this is un-Scriptural tithing and misleads the Body of Messiah Yahshua.

We have to ask ourselves “Why is it when it comes to tithing that the Christian Clergymen prefer the Old Covenant to the New?” The answer to this question comes straight from Messiah Yahshua Himself:

“And no one, having drunk old wine (lived by the Old Covenant), immediately desires new [wine]*, for he says, ‘**The old is better**’ ” (Luke 5:39). **NOTE:** *Words in square

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brackets are not in the original manuscripts. They have been added by the translator for clarity.

Not only has the Church been blinded by the new wine, they have also become intoxicated from the old wine, concerning tithing, to the point that they have no idea what it's purpose was for in the first place. Yahshua said:

“Blind guides—STRAINING OUT A GNAT (being attentive to TINY insignificant things like paying tithes on mint and pepper pods) **and SWALLOWING A CAMEL!** (totally neglecting the weightier matters of the Torah which are of **HUGE significance**, like judgment, faith, mercy, and the love of Yahweh)” (Matthew 23:24).

How many millions of sermons are geared toward *“straining out gnats”* on Sunday morning so that the pastors can *“swallow camels”* all week long?

How Paul Financed His Ministry

Worldliness in the Christian Church today is not looked upon as something that is *“shameful,”* but rather as being *“stylish.”* Power, wealth, and notoriety are no longer things to be repented of, but are now things lusted after and pursued with great vigor. Young aspiring Christian leaders are not thought to be vain or ambitious when seeking worldliness, but are thought of as being enthusiastic for the work of Messiah Yahshua. Let's look at Paul's example:

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2 Thessalonians 3:7-9 “⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, for we were not disorderly among you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but **WORKED WITH LABOUR AND TOIL NIGHT AND DAY, IN ORDER NOT TO BURDEN ANY OF YOU**, ⁹not because we do not have authority, but **TO MAKE OURSELVES AN EXAMPLE**, for you to imitate us.”

Ask yourself, “*How many pastors, preachers and Christian theologians truly follow Paul’s example?*” You be the judge.

1 Thessalonians 2:9 “For you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship, for **LABOURING NIGHT AND DAY, IN ORDER NOT TO BURDEN ANY OF YOU**, we proclaimed to you the Good News of Elohim.”

Paul is a **perfect** example of how pastors and others in Christian leadership **SHOULD** work. All those who serve Yahweh would do well to follow his example of **NOT** being a burden to those they serve. Here is another example from Paul:

Acts 18:3 “And because he (Aquila) was of the same trade, he (Paul) stayed with them and was working, for they were **tentmakers** by trade.”

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Acts 20:33-35 “³³I have coveted no one’s silver or gold or garments. ³⁴And you yourselves know that **these hands supplied my needs, and for those who were with me.**

³⁵All this I did show you, by labouring like this, that you ought to help the weak. And remember the words of the Master יֵשׁוּעַ (Yahshua), that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

Do not be deceived, there are a host of men and women in the ministry who covet your gold and silver. Many ministries are little more than highly sophisticated Hollywood-produced, tithe-collecting infomercials. The “*Church*” has turned into “*Big Business.*”

If you do not think Churches (large or small) have become “businesses” then pull out your phone book and call some of them in the evening when you know no one is there and listen to their voice message. I did and it went something like this “Thank you for calling XYZ Church. Our **business** hours are from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.” There you are. It is a “*business.*” It has lost its main purpose. They all should repent and stop fleecing the flock of Messiah Yahshua.

Now we will look at one last example of how Paul ministered and financed his ministry:

1 Corinthians 4:9-16 “⁹For I think that Elohim (Mighty One / God) has exhibited us, the emissaries, last, as appointed to death, because we became a spectacle to the world,

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both to messengers and to men. ¹⁰We are fools for the sake of Messiah, but you are wise in Messiah! We are weak, but you are strong! You are in esteem, but we are not appreciated! ¹¹Until the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are scantily clad, and beaten, and homeless, ¹²and **labour, working with our own hands**. Being cursed, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer; ¹³being insulted, we help. We have been made as the filth of the world – dirt wiped off by all until now. ¹⁴I do not write this to shame you, but to warn you as my beloved children. ¹⁵For if you should have ten thousand instructors in Messiah, yet not many fathers, for in Messiah יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahshua) I have brought you forth through the Good News. ¹⁶Therefore I appeal to you, to **BECOME IMITATORS OF ME.**”

Cheerfully giving from one's heart is a virtue. However, **FRAUDULENTLY FLEECING THE FLOCK** by **EXACTING 10%** of parishioner's paychecks under fear of breaking an Old Covenant Law of tithing **IS A SIN!** You may ask, “How is this a sin?” One of the Ten Commandments is being broken here. It is “You do not steal” (Exodus 20:15). When ministers “*fraudulently*” steal “*tithes*” from the congregation; they are stealing from the destitute, widows and orphans not to mention Yahweh. We

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in the Body of Messiah Yahshua are to set aside our “tithe” to help those in need. The tithe **DOES NOT** belong to *ANY* Institutionalized Church System.

Do not get me wrong, I am not against any minister making an honest living. However, I do believe that when many of these modern televangelists (and others) *feel the need* to have everything they own gold gilded, just maybe their greed and vanity starts to destroy their effectiveness as dispensers of Yahweh’s Truths.

There is NO NEED for people in the Church to feel guilty over tithing. It is time we rid ourselves of a guilty conscience. By now you have been given sufficient Scriptural truths to enlighten your understanding that will make you free from guilt.

Take your tithe money and set it aside to help the widows, orphans, destitute, stranger and family members who are in need. **DO NOT** give your tithe to the Church. You may give a love offering to help pay for your church’s expenses as the **Holy Spirit** moves you. **DO NOT** give more than you have to give. Yahweh **DOES NOT** want you going into debt to give to the Church. If you do not have the money to give to the Church, then **DO NOT** give anything. Yahweh **IS** in control.

IF the Church you are attending is rightly teaching Yahweh’s Word, He will see to it that the Church’s needs are met. **IF** the Church is **NOT** rightly teaching His Word, the needs of the Church will be lacking.

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You may be called to move on to a congregation where truth is being taught, and for some it may be hard because of close relationships. However, for us to “*mature*” in Messiah Yahshua, we must do whatever it takes to continue down the path of righteousness (truth).

My wife and I have experienced this very thing in the past, and although it was hard to leave because of close friendships, Yahweh has shown me that by doing so, I put Him first and that my relationship with Him is worth far more than those I have left. It does not mean that I cannot still fellowship with them. It only means He has called me to a closer relationship with Him.

However, what I’ve observed is not everyone has the same zeal for truth. Many times when I shared the truths Yahweh revealed with those I love; it pushed them away from me. We no longer had more things in common, but fewer things in common.

This is the way His Word works and this is why I stated at the beginning of this book “It is better to be divided by Truth than united with Error.” We must continue to move forward—maturing in Messiah Yahshua. Our relationship with Yahweh is far more important than all other relationships we develop throughout our lifetime.

It is my sincere hope and desire that all who have been under the unscriptural burden of Christian tithing will feel free at last to follow their heart in giving to whomever they

Giving Verses Tithing

desire as Yahweh prospers them. The Apostle John tells us that Truth is Freedom:

“and you shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you FREE” (John 8:32).

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Luke 6:38

“Give, and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over shall be put into your lap. For with the same measure with which you measure, it shall be measured back to you.”

Chapter 14:

Testimony On Tithing



This chapter is the result of an email sent to me by a brother in Messiah Yahshua who pointed me to an article on the Internet. I read Dr. Frank Chase Jr.'s article on tithing and asked for his permission to use some of what he wrote in his book. He has given me permission to do so. His website is noted in this chapter for those who would like to read his complete article. Presented here is some of Dr. Frank Chase Jr.'s article:

“I have been buried in study about this topic and have concluded that the tithe teaching lacks scholarship and cannot be biblically proven in the New Covenant beyond a shadow of doubt. The tithe teachers in the body of Christ who force or mandate tithing would not withstand a cross-examination on a witness stand by a counsel of scholars, Elders and theologians who have studied to show themselves approved and rightly divided the Word of Truth.

...tithing is.....unethical...

I now realize through prayer and great trepidation that my time at XXX Church has come to an end because of forced tithing

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methods that are wanting. When I decided to change my theology on tithing, I did it with knowledge that I would be at odds with much of the Christian community who are simply ignorant of the biblical and secular history, the land, the language, and the literature of the Jewish Levites and Priests for whom tithing was established in the Old Testament financial system because they had no land inheritance in Canaan.

I've searched the scriptures, read books, examined history on this tithing issue and have found that tithe teaching as propagandized in the Body of Christ today is categorically unscriptural and is tantamount to spiritual and financial extortion akin to mafia tactics.

A student who never questions what their Rabbi says would not be considered an excellent student.

...know that my thoughts on this issue are only directed at the doctrine of tithing and the lack of study by those who try to teach something they have never given serious study. I know people will say, tithing was before the law, but make sure the people also know that Abraham was not commanded to

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give it, and what he tithed came from the spoils of war. Plus he was already made rich based on a promise God made to him not because God commanded him to tithe. There is no biblical record that Abraham tithed any of his personal wealth and the nail in the coffin is that the Bible records that he only tithed once and no other text records he ever tithed again. Using Abraham as proof text is somewhat weak to build a foundation of tithing for the New Covenant.

Let me make myself perfectly clear. If a person of their free will decides to give a percentage of their income then of course that is their decision based on Grace and not out of fear of a curse ripped from a text and given new meaning. But as soon as giving is called a tithe that's mandated, forced, or becomes a requirement based on Malachi chapter three or Matthew chapter 23 or some other dubious implied command from the Bible, it represents poor hermeneutics and sloppy exegesis. Tithe teachers who hold Malachi 3 to the heads of God's people like a 357 magnum and pull the trigger with a curse upon them have committed the greatest betrayal of GRACE and the work of Christ on the cross that almost rivals Judas' betrayal of Christ with a kiss. No one has ever been able

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to explain why there are ghettos and inner cities still full of generations of tithers who remain one paycheck away from the soup kitchen. Saying we've been blessed by tithing does not make it true Biblically. We are blessed because of the New Covenant Principles of giving, not paying tithes. None of the epistles or letters written by the Apostles instructed or exhorted New Covenant believers to tithe, not as a law, a principle or even as a voluntary practice.

In the Old Testament tithing is compulsory and does not translate to grace giving under the New Covenant. The tithe teachers throughout history have taught tithing on a weak foundation of proof text or proof texting methodology. By definition and the verses, I've heard used to extract tithes from people using slick fund raising techniques over my 30 years do not understand that, "a proof text is a verse or short passage from the Bible used by someone as part of his / her proof for a doctrinal belief he wishes to substantiate to others. However, since verses and passages may rely extensively on the context in which they appear for correct interpretation, pulling these verses out of their context and having them stand alone

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in “proof” can at times be very misleading. In addition, a set of such proof texts can completely ignore other passages which, if added to the mix, might well lead to an entire different conclusion. Someone who relies strongly only on a list of proof texts in order to make a doctrinal argument may have a very weak case for his argument. Noting that a religious teacher relies heavily on proof texting is viewed in theological circles as very negative in evaluation.

According to the Jewish Mishnah and the Talmud writers, tithes were always defined as everything eatable (food), and everything that was stored up or that grew out of the earth. In the Old Testament money was not a tithable commodity only crops, produce and cattle. For 1600 years after the tithe was established it remained a food item up to Mat 23:23 of Jesus’ time. And upon careful examination, the Pharisees extended the tithe of the Mosaic Law in the Talmud to include spices of anise, cumin, and mint, which was never a part of the original Law of Moses or the first five books of the Bible.

The New Covenant is filled with “free-will” giving principles only. Because of that, giving could range from 0 to 100 percent based on what a person has, not what a person does not

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have; not under compulsion or reluctantly but by ability and by the Holy Spirit's prompting.

...my heart aches at the carnage of mixed messages the tithe teaching Community has left behind and the many shattered lives and new converts who will be damaged by this grace less teaching in the future.

Shalom,

Dr. Frank Chase Jr.”

Here is the link to the full article by Dr. Frank Chase Jr.:

<http://blackchristiannews.com/bloggers/2009/12/how-to-resign-by-dr-frank-chase-jr.html>

By BCNN1 on December 13, 2009 11:35 PM

Conclusion



Y**AHWEH DOES NOT NEED OR WANT TEN PERCENT OF ANYTHING WE HAVE. Yahweh wants one hundred percent.** Yahshua Messiah died for ALL OF US, and He wants ALL OF US, not just a percentage! **In other words, Yahweh doesn't want your money; He wants YOU!**

I would not give another penny to televangelists who “*peddle*” the Word of Almighty Yahweh like some cheap merchandise for money. And the amount of money they extort from the public is colossal. You have to ask yourself, “What in the world do they do with all that money?”

Never have **SO MANY...**
accomplished **SO LITTLE...**
with **SO MUCH!**

The real missionaries of the Gospel of Yahshua Messiah have not flown first class to cushy hotels in exotic lands to teach the natives while dressed in their \$3000 suits! The **REAL MISSIONARIES** were often down in the trenches with few if any luxuries. And such dedicated dispensers of Yahweh's Word can still be found. These are the ones that are in need of financial support. They are truly “*worthy of their hire.*”

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HELP THE NEEDY, NOT THE GREEDY

Give to the FATHERLESS, the ORPHANS, the STRANGERS, the WIDOWS, the POOR, and the NEEDY, the HOMELESS, and the BEGGAR on the street as Yahweh gives to you the wherewithal. 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 you are tipping someone, let it be a reflection of the One living in you that you are representing Him in your Christian walk. **Yahweh IS a generous Mighty One**—may you become generous like Him. Develop a “*love for giving*.” Paul tells us in Acts 20:

“...you ought to help the weak. And remember the words of the Master יֵשׁוּעַ (Yahshua), that He said, ‘**IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE**’ ” (Acts 20:35b).

I hope this book has helped free you of the “*bondage*” placed upon you by Christian Clergymen who **DO NOT UNDERSTAND** Scriptural Tithing.

About The Author



My journey into the Hebrew Roots of the original faith began about thirteen years ago. My spiritual background is mostly in Non-Denominational Churches with two Baptist Churches mixed in. I have been a believer in Messiah Yahshua now for over 30 years.

The last Church I was in before Yahweh pulled me out was a Non-Denominational Church. I have heard many good sermons from the pulpit on different topics from the Scriptures. This reminds me of a wise saying I heard many years ago:

*“Eat off the plate of many...
Spit out the bones...
And savor the rest.”*

Interpretation:

“Eat off the plate of many...”

This means, listen to other teachings be it reading, listening or watching.

“Spit out the bones...”

When you come across something that you read, hear or see that you know is not a correct teaching and it does not line up with Scripture, it is a bone. Spit it out—

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reject it and move on.

“And savor the rest.”

That which remains is not bones. Think about it. Meditate on it.

I remember having a conversation with someone many years ago, just before Yahweh started drawing me into the Hebrew Roots, and I told this person that I was called to a higher calling. I had not been thinking anything whatsoever along these lines when this popped out of my mouth. At that time, I thought—*“Where did that come from?”* But I have since realized that Yahweh has a purpose for everyone’s life that He calls. We just have to obey the call.

I am no one special other than I know I belong to Yahweh and His family. For this I am thankful and blessed.

When Yahweh called me, He called me into a deeper understanding of His Word. I remember when I would get up very early in the morning to have *“quiet time.”* This was before anyone in my family was awake; I would read the Scriptures and pray. One morning during my *“quiet time,”* I thought to myself, *“I am getting a handle on the Scriptures.”* From that thought I asked Yahweh, *“Just how deep is Your Word?”* Instantly before my eyes, He gave me a vision. I was stooped over looking into the mouth of a large well. While looking down the mouth of

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this well I was not able to see the bottom. Right then I knew I would never get to the bottom of His Word.

Only in the past five to six years has He taken me into some of the deeper understandings of His Word. At this point, I am thankful that I have not arrived. I am like an Indiana Jones; I love digging through His Word as there are many treasures buried there. All we need to do is dig for them. His Word will never be dull and boring to me; it's like a treasure hunt and I so enjoy the excitement of searching His Word to find new treasures.

Yahweh has crossed my path with several blessed Hebrew Roots teachers over the years. I have learned a great deal more from His Word because of their understanding of the Scriptures from a Hebrew Mind Set which is very different from the Greek Mind Set—taught in Bible Colleges and Seminaries.

Yahweh has shown me that it is important to read and study the Scriptures using the meanings from the original language which is Hebrew. There is far more depth of understanding when we learn to do this.

Shortly after Yahweh pulled my wife and me out of the Christian Institutionalized Church System, He put us into a Messianic Jewish Synagogue. We were there for a season and then He pulled us out of there and kept us at home to further His education in us. Our experience was similar to Moses after he left Egypt and Paul after his conversion to the original Hebrew Faith of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

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We spent a few years reading and studying the Scriptures at home. Then Yahweh moved us into a first century assembly environment—home fellowship group. We meet in different peoples' homes every Sabbath (Saturday).

I have found there are hundreds of these home fellowship groups around the country that honor the Sabbath every Saturday. No doubt the dynamics of each group is different and that's okay.

Typically, we start off the Sabbath with friendly conversations—finding out how everyone's week has been and getting to know any new people. Then we pray over any prayer requests. After prayer, then we blow the shofar, which sets the Sabbath apart from all other days of the week.

After blowing the shofar, we usually watch a one to two hour Torah teaching from a DVD, break for lunch and then reassemble. Then we go through the Torah readings for that Sabbath. We take turns reading so everyone will have an active part in reading His Word. As we read if someone has a question or comment, they are able to address it right then. This is how we all learn from one another. No one person has all the answers to the myriads of questions that pop-up in our heads when reading the Scriptures.

I have seen over the past few years now where this type of environment is conducive to weaving a close knit

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family that “*truly*” cares for one another. We all love coming together each Sabbath and on Yahweh’s Feast Days throughout the year. We are all of one accord, one mind in Messiah Yahshua. This does not mean we all agree on everything we talk about and that is okay. We are all in the process of searching for His Truths from His Word. If you are interested in learning more about Yahweh’s Sabbath and Feast Days, please email me at eddie_rogers@messiahstruth.com.

Because of my deep love for Yahweh and my brothers and sisters in Messiah Yahshua, I saw that many do not truly understanding Biblical “tithing.” This book comes out of a burden to help my brothers and sisters in Yahshua to know the Truth on what tithing is and how to apply it to their lives in these end of days.

I will clearly state that I am by no means a Hebrew or Greek scholar. However, I use the available tools I have to study Yahweh’s Word. Listed in the back of this book, you will see a list of resources for those interested in getting a deeper understanding of Yahweh’s Word as well as some helpful websites.

I am a happily married man to my soul mate, Gayle, now for 42 years. We have one son, Kristopher (Kris), who is a blessing to us both. Over the years, we have shared with our son the Truths we see in the Set-Apart (Holy) Scriptures and encourage him to do the same. As a result, he is doing his own research into the Scriptures. He is reading the Scriptures for himself and finding some of

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the same things we shared with him to be true. I continue to share with him how “*real*” the Scriptures have become to us compared to what we experienced in the Christian Church. He, like me, is searching these things out for himself and is finding some of the same things we have found.

I encourage you to draw closer to Almighty Yahweh and cry out to Him like I did for His Truths from His Word no matter how good or difficult it may be to accept it. Be ready to make some life-style changes. For me, it is an ongoing exciting journey which I would not trade for anything.

Be encouraged and seek Him with ALL your heart. Be sincere in your petition and be ready to make changes in your life for the eternal blessings now and in the future.

A Priestly Blessing To You

Numbers 6:23-27 “²³...This is how you bless the children of Yisra’ël. Say to them: ²⁴יהוה (Yahweh) bless you and guard you; ²⁵יהוה (Yahweh) make His face shine upon you, and show favour to you; ²⁶יהוה (Yahweh) lift up His face upon you, and give you peace.”
²⁷”Thus they shall put My Name on the children of Yisra’ël, and I Myself shall bless them.”

When invoking (speaking) the Priestly Blessing upon the Body of Messiah Yahshua, the Name of Yahweh is being placed upon them according to verse 27 to those who receive this blessing. Then Yahweh blesses His Set-Apart (Holy) people (all grafted-in Israelites).

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James 2:15-16

“¹⁵And if a brother or sister is naked and in need of daily food, ¹⁶but one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,’ but you do not give them the bodily needs, what use is it?”

Resources



Strong's Concordance

World Publisher

ISBN # 0-529-06334-4

The Companion Bible

Kregel Publications

ISBN # 0-8254-2099-7 (Enlarged type hardcover)

Interlinear Bible

Sovereign Grace Publishing or Hendrickson Publishing (same edition by Green)

ISBN # 1-878442-81-1

ISBN # 978-1-56563-977-5 (number for new edition)

Englishman's Greek and Hebrew Concordances

(2 separate volumes) Hendrickson Publisher (Wigram)

Greek ISBN # 0-013573-23-X

Greek ISBN # 978-1-56563-207-3 (number for new edition)

Hebrew ISBN # 1-56563-208-7

Hebrew ISBN # 978-1-56563-208-0 (number for new edition)

The Greek-English Concordance to the

New Testament

Zondervan

ISBN # 0-310-40220-4

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Encyclopedia Britannica

1963 Edition

Volume 22

Concordant Version of The Old Testament

Concordant Publishing

ISBN # 0-9104-2424-1

The American Heritage College Dictionary

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

ISBN # 9780547247663

Hebrew and Greek Lexicon

Thayer's or Brown, Driver, Briggs-Gesenius

Greek Thayer's ISBN # 0-913573-22-1

Hebrew Gesenius ISBN # 0-913573-20-5

Concordance to the Septuagint

Publisher - Hatch and Redpath

ISBN # 0-8010-2141-3

Etymological Dictionary of Biblical Hebrew

by Matityahu Clark

ISBN # 1-58330-431-2

Kleins Etymological Dictionary of the Hebrew Language

by Ernst Klein

ISBN # 965-220-093-X

The Ancient Hebrew Lexicon of the Bible

by Jeff A. Benner, VBW Publishing

ISBN # 1-58939-776-2

Visit Dr. Benner's web site at www.ancient-hebrew.org/

Resources

Hebrew Word Pictures

by Dr. Frank Seekins www.livingwordpictures.com/?

Cruden's Compact Concordance

by Alexander Cruden

ISBN # 0-319-48971

Understanding the Difficult Words of Jesus

by David Bivin and Roy B. Blizzard

ISBN # 156043550X

The Emphasized Bible

by Joseph Bryant Rotherham

ISBN # **O-8254-3601-X**

Exegeses Parallel Bible

A literal translation and transliteration of Scripture

by Herb Jahn

ISBN # 9780963195135

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2 Corinthians 9:6-8

“⁶And this: He who sows sparingly (very little) shall also reap sparingly, and he who sows on blessing (freely as he has) shall also reap on blessing. ⁷Let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not of grief or of necessity, for Elohim loves a joyous giver. ⁸And Elohim is able to make all favour overflow toward you, that you, always having all you need in every way, have plenty for every good work.”

Beneficial Websites



1	www.godslearningchannel.com (God's Learning Channel)	Hebraic TV
2	www.messiahstruth.com (Craig, Murline & Eddie)	Hebraic Roots Hub
3	www.wildbranch.org (Brad Scott)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
4	www.wisdomintorah.com (Rico Cortes)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
5	www.billcloud.org (Bill Cloud)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
6	www.passionfortruth.com (Jim Staley)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
7	www.m7000.com (Avi Ben Mordechai)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
8	www.hebroots.org (Eddie Chumney)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
9	www.aoodawakening.tv (Michael Rood)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study

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10	www.restorationoftorah.org (Tony Robinson)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
11	www.lionlamb.net (Monte Judah)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
12	www.seedtime2harvest.com (Thurston Ben McCutchen)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
13	www.ancient-hebrew.org (Jeff & Denise Benner)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
14	www.profoundprophecy.com (Scott Dryer)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
15	www.joinedtohashem.org (Mike Clayton)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
16	www.elshaddaiministries.us (Mark and Vicki Biltz)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
17	www.wildbranchministries.com (Mike & Sheila Galeotti)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
18	www.jerusalemerspective.com (David Bivin)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
19	www.nazarite.net	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
20	www.coyhwh.com	Hebraic Roots Bible Study

Beneficial Websites

21	www.Elijah.com	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
22	www.sabbathtruth.com	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
23	www.biblicalholidays.com	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
24	www.torahzone.net (Lew White)	Hebraic Roots Bible Study
25	www.fossilizedcustoms.com (Lew White)	Pagan Customs
26	http://joyfulsoundministries.com (Henry Gruver)	Henry Gruver Visions
27	www.wyattmuseum.com (Ron Wyatt)	Biblical Archeology
28	www.e-sword.net (Rick Meyers)	Free Bible Study Software
29	www.isr-messianic.org (The Scriptures Translation)	Hebrew Roots Bible
30	http://ebible.org/hnv/	Hebrew Roots Online Bible
31	www.copper-scroll-project.com/index.html (Jim Barfield)	Israel Biblical Treasure

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32	www.stevequayle.com/index1.html (Steve Quayle)	New World Order Exposed
33	www.prophecynewswatch.com	Current Prophecy News
34	http://watch.org	Bible World News
35	www.wnd.com (WorldNetDaily)	Biblical World News
36	www.hebcal.com/sedrot (Michael J. Radwin)	Torah Readings Schedule
37	www.arn.org	Scientific Creation
38	www.creationevidence.org	Scientific Creation
39	www.creationists.org	Scientific Creation
40	www.creationresearch.org	Scientific Creation
41	www.creationresource.org	Scientific Creation
42	www.icr.org	Scientific Creation
43	www.biblicalastronomy.com	Biblical Astronomy
44	www.wilburministries.com (Paul Wilbur)	Hebraic Worship
45	www.sidroth.org	Audio Video Miraculous
