

*Give Willingly to Obey
Yahweh's Commandments*



by

Jacob O. Meyer



Give Willingly to Obey Yahweh's Commandments

One of the most important spiritual lessons Almighty Yahweh wishes to teach us during our lifetime is that of GIVING. Almighty Yahweh GAVE gifts of much value to the human race. He gave us a magnificent creation and a reproductive environment to sustain our human existence. He GAVE us the gift of life. He placed within us a GIFT of knowledge. He GAVE to the world His only begotten Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. He GAVE us grace to keep the law, and He GAVE us an opportunity to inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh and to live with Him throughout all eternity. These GREAT GIFTS cannot be valued, because they are **priceless**.

Yahweh gave to us great gifts before we ever thought to give to Him.

The opposite of giving represents

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust does consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also . . . No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. You cannot serve Yahweh and mammon."

Matthew 6:19-21, 24

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one of the basic characteristic traits of human nature. The average individual is inherently SELFISH, AVARICIOUS, and GREEDY. Normally he thinks first, and usually exclusively of "#1"—HIMSELF.

But, Almighty Yahweh wants us to orient our considerations differently. **Almighty Yahweh wants us**

to think of Him and His True Worship first. Then, He wants us to consider our fellowmen second, especially those of the household of faith. *"So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially them that are of the household of faith."* (Galatians

6:10). He wants us to think about ourselves last.

Almighty Yahweh carefully planned how He would educate man to be generous and giving. Almighty Yahweh commanded that man adhere to a program of giving tithes and offerings back to Him. Just as we teach our children not to be selfish and greedy, but generous, giving, and sharing, just so our Father in heaven must also educate His spiritual creation.

Yahweh Owns All

In Yahweh's law we find a commandment that is almost universally broken today. *"And the land shall not be sold in perpetuity; for the land is mine: for you are strangers and sojourners with me. And in all the land of your possession you shall grant a redemption for the land."* (Leviticus 25:23-24).

Do you see how Almighty Yahweh reserves complete title to all the land on earth? This is His creation, and He has total rights to it. If Yahweh's Kingdom laws were recognized by all people on this earth today, we could not sell the land, but merely rent it for a certain number of years until the Jubilee, when it would revert again to its original owner.

If these laws were put into practice, *what a difference it would make!* The capitalistic system that dominates our society today would be terminated in favor of a free enterprise system. There would be no exorbitant interest rates demanded for borrowed money. Immediately the economic system (under which the Kingdom of Yahweh government will be functioning) would become healthy and viable as never before, just as Yahweh intended.

If Almighty Yahweh retains ownership of all the earth, then He expects some rent to be returned for our use of His bountiful creation. He has scripturally legislated a tithe, meaning 10 percent of our increase, which He has designated to

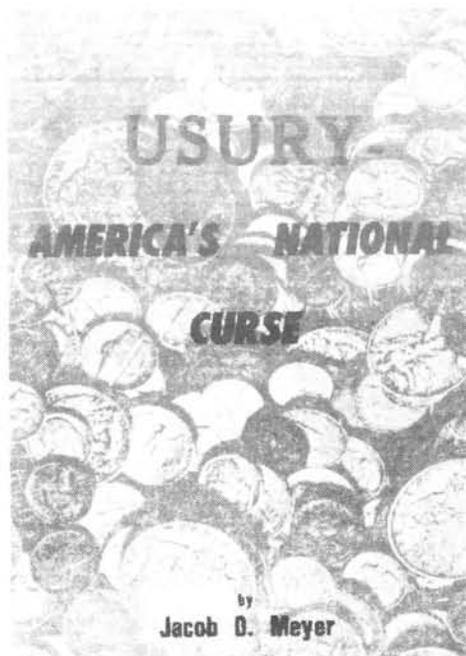
be paid into the Headquarters treasury of His True Worship so that **all people on the earth will have an opportunity to hear of the glory of Almighty Yahweh.**

He has promised to bless all those who faithfully keep his commandment regarding tithing. Do you see how if we sincerely obey each one of these commandments faithfully, especially understanding that this is Yahweh's creation, we will be blessed by our Heavenly Father if we obey? Conversely, we will be cursed if we disobey. Since Yahweh owns all, He may establish any kind of system He deems best. But, how man has rebelled!

Objections to Tithing

When someone wishes to do something, he will find ways to do it. For example, if a meeting is held that we wish to attend, we will go, but if we don't want to attend we will invent all kinds of excuses not to go. So it is with any of the biblical doctrines. Those who want to obey Yahweh will faithfully find ways to implement the terms of His covenant in their lives.

Tithing is no exception. Man wants to keep all the material possessions he accumulates, unless he is truly converted. When true conversion takes control of an indi-



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vidual, he will sincerely dedicate his life to serving Yahweh even though it may require some degree of sacrifice to implement His laws.

Some people try to proof-text their objections to tithing by some verse of obscure Scripture. However, in this article we shall refute those contentions with sacred scriptural knowledge.

Some people believe they cannot tithe until they are out of debt. But, that is no valid excuse. Most people are in debt, and they will find ways to remain in debt if such an objection can be supported from the Scriptures. But, it cannot be supported. Actually, by tithing, one finds it necessary to make out a budget, and in this way he pays much closer attention to his personal finances. He soon finds he can both tithe, in addition to paying his debts. We must recall that Almighty Yahweh has promised to bless all who obey His laws. Do we have the faith to trust Him, or do we yet doubt? If we do not even have the faith to trust Yahweh to supply our temporal needs, do we really trust Him to save us?

Some objections take the direction that since the Levitical priesthood no longer exists, no tithing law is currently in effect in this New Testament era. We shall show that the Melchizedek priesthood has superseded the Levitical, and we now tithe to Almighty Yahweh through Yahshua the Melchizedek priest. The Melchizedek priesthood is spiritual, the Levitical was simply carnal and temporal.

Another objection insists that since the Temple was destroyed, the tithing law is no longer in existence because it was a part of the sacrificial system. The usual "punch line" says that in the New Testament era the Heavenly Father now demands 100 percent of our dedication, not a mere 10 percent. The answer to this objection is that no one would or could give up 100 percent of his possessions, supplies, goods, and income. Yahweh doesn't ask that; He only asks 10 percent. We cannot add to the Word. These

and other objections will be addressed in this article.

The Author's True Life Experience

Usually the churches of nominal Christianity teach giving, but they give only lip service to tithing. Such was the policy of the group to which the author once belonged.

After learning the truth of the sacred Scriptures which clearly

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proved that the breaking of the commandments of Yahweh is sin, the author determined to stop sinning by keeping Yahweh's commandments contained in His moral law. He proved to himself that the sacrifice of Yahshua on the torture stake completed the requirements of blood sacrifice.

But, the author had debts to repay from money he had borrowed. After the internal struggle within his heart that seems customary in people learning the truth, he decided to tithe first and pay the bills afterward. Having been raised in a home where thriftiness was taught as a virtue, he knew how to economize. Therefore, all spending for the month was carefully scrutinized and a tight budget maintained. Wonder of wonders! When the tithe and offering check was

written out and all the bills were paid, a small balance remained in the checking account!

That was over 20 years ago. Since then the Meyer family has sought to remain faithful at all times in returning to Yahweh what is rightfully His. We hope that this article will motivate you to make a similar commitment.

Tithing—A Biblical Term

The word **tithe** is a Middle English word derived from the Old English word **teothe**, meaning "a tenth." The English definition means "one tenth of the annual produce of one's land or one's annual income, paid as a tax or contribution to support a religious organization or its clergy." In the Hebrew text the word is found as #4643 in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, **ma'aser**. It is from the Hebrew word for the number 10 (**eser**), and especially means "a tithe" or "ten percent."

A second word found in the Hebrew text is #6237, **'asar**, and means "to accumulate; also, to tithe, i.e. take or give a tenth."

In the Greek New Testament the word **tithe** also appears. One word used is #586, **apodekatoo**, from #575 and #1183, "to tithe (as debtor or creditor)." #1183, **dekatoos**, from #1181, **dekate**, "a tenth, i.e. a percentage or technically tithe."

It should be *very obvious* then that **the word is well attested in both Hebrew and Greek texts**. We must understand that it appears there, and that it means a tenth.

Now, all we must remember is to **accept whatever the Scriptures tell us in regard to that tithe or ten percent and obey**. Carnal man develops problems with obeying Yahweh's Word, because he is selfish. We must change and become more spiritual, subordinating our will to Yahweh's.

The Patriarchs Tithed Faithfully

The first time the word **tithe** appears in the sacred Scriptures is

in Genesis 14. Abraham, the father of the faithful, became involved when the five eastern kings came and attacked the cities of the Plain. Lot, his nephew, was living there, and these five kings took Lot captive. Abraham mustered the men of his camp into military duty and pursued after the kings. When he found them he defeated them, and regained the property they had seized, along with Lot and all his goods.

On Abraham's return from that battle, Melchizedek, the priest of El Elyon, met him with a victory feast. Melchizedek blessed Abraham, and Abraham recognized him as Yahweh's representative on this earth. Abraham gave him the tithes of everything. This would not only include the booty of war, but also probably additional tithes that he had accumulated.

Sometimes we hear of objections against tithing wherein misguided ministers appeal to Israel's first victory over the Midianites in Numbers 31 for support against the tithe. There we find that Yahweh directed that an offering of considerably less than a tithe should be contributed by the victorious Israelites.

However, the correct explanation here is not one of paying an individual tithe, but rather that Yahweh's assembly should return to Almighty Yahweh the first-fruits from a victory He had so generously given them. If you will remember, at the battle of Jericho (Yahshua 6) Almighty Yahweh commanded that everything in the city should be devoted to Yahweh. This is far greater than a tithe. *"And the city shall be devoted, even it and all that is in it, to Yahweh: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. But as for you, only keep yourselves from the devoted thing, lest when you have devoted it, you take of the devoted thing; so would you make the camp of Israel cursed, and trouble it. But all the silver, gold, and*

vessels of copper and iron, are holy to Yahweh... And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was in it; only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of bronze and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of Yahweh." (Yahshua 6:17-19, 24). Jericho represented Israel's first victory in the Promised Land, whereas the battle against Midian was the first major victory

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by a united Israelite army.

In Numbers 31 the answer is that Israel gave a collective first-fruits offering for that victory. The entire group gave of the first-fruits to Almighty Yahweh from the whole amount of their booty. Then each person individually who received their share of that booty would undoubtedly have voluntarily tithed.

Abraham was a faithful man. He obeyed Almighty Yahweh's commandments. *"For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of Yahweh, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that Yahweh may bring upon Abraham that which he has spoken of him."* (Genesis 18:19).

"Because Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws." (Genesis 26:5).

Jacob Promised His Tithes to Yahweh

The next time the term "tithe" appears in relation to one of the patriarchs is at Bethel, when Jacob fled from his brother Esau, who had threatened to kill him. Near Bethel Jacob saw an awe-inspiring vision. He saw a staircase (usually translated ladder) which extended *from heaven to earth*, meaning that this was the place where communication between heaven and earth was established by Yahweh's angels. Then when Jacob awoke, this dream-vision had obviously made an indelible impression upon him.

"And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of the city was Luz at the first. and JACOB VOWED A VOW, saying If Elohim will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, and Yahweh will be my Elohim, then this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be Elohim's house: and OF ALL THAT YOU SHALL GIVE ME I WILL SURELY GIVE THE TENTH UNTO YOU." (Genesis 28:18-22).

Did Jacob fulfill his promise? He surely did!

When Jacob returned to the Holy Land he built an altar at Shechem in a parcel of land he had purchased (Genesis 33:20). Later, his entire camp journeyed to Bethel and he built an altar to worship Yahweh at Bethel (Genesis 35:7). Jacob was determined to sacrifice to Almighty Yahweh, and some of those sacrifices undoubtedly represented the tithes he had obligated himself to pay.

Hebrews 7 Proves Tithes

We all owe a personal obligation to Almighty Yahweh. We must pay

our rent or our tax to the Most High for the use of what He rightfully owns—His entire creation. Let us clearly understand how the writer of Hebrews plainly explains the necessity for tithing today. Some misguided people object to the tithing law for this New Testament age, because they wrongly combine it with the Levitical priesthood. Let us see if that contention can be supported. Turn now to Hebrews chapter 7.

“For the Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of El Most High, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him to whom also Abraham divided a tenth part of all (being first, by interpretation, King of righteousness, and then also King of Salem, which is King of peace; without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made LIKE the Son of Yahweh), remains a priest continually.” (Hebrews 7:1-3)

At the outset, this passage shows that the great King to whom Abraham tithed represents Yahshua the Messiah. The term tithing is mentioned in verse 2. But, no Levitical priesthood existed when Abraham gave his tithes to Melchizedek. Consequently, the author of the book of Hebrews intends to establish that Yahweh's tithe *antedates* the Israelite polity, just as the Melchizedek priesthood antedates the Levitical.

“Now consider how great this man was, to whom Abraham, the patriarch, GAVE A TENTH OUT OF THE CHIEF SPOILS. And they indeed of the sons of Levi that receive the priest's office have COMMANDMENT TO TAKE TITHES OF THE PEOPLE according to the law, that is, OF THEIR BRETHREN, though these have come out of the loins of Abraham: but he whose genealogy is not counted from them has taken tithes of Abraham, and has blessed him that has the promises. But without any dispute the less is blessed of the better. And HERE

MEN THAT DIE RECEIVE TITHES; BUT THERE ONE, OF WHOM IT IS WITNESSED THAT HE LIVES. And, so to say, through Abraham EVEN LEVI, WHO RECEIVES TITHES, has paid tithes; for he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him.” (Hebrews 7:4-10)

The writer of Hebrews continues that Abraham, the great patriarch, gave Melchizedek a tenth of the chief spoils of the war against the five kings. He then notes that the great Melchizedek represents Yahshua the Messiah. He insists that Yahshua the Messiah is now the High Priest who sits at the right hand of Almighty Yahweh (Psalm 110:4). Even Levi paid tithes in type, because Abraham faithfully contributed to Melchizedek. Therefore, the Melchizedek priesthood obviously antedated the Levitical.

We must remember that in the Old Testament Yahweh assigned the tithes to Levi. The writer of Hebrews is showing that this Levitical law has actually been set aside now to revert to the more original system. Since Melchizedek and Abraham preexisted Levi, the patriarchs Isaac, Jacob, and Levi were still unborn. Consequently, Abraham, in type representing the entire faithful Hebrew tribe, was paying tithes for his descendants also. ***Therefore, paying the tithes to the Melchizedek priesthood certainly antedates the tithes given to the Levitical priesthood.***

It is most important that we understand this significant truth. Since Almighty Yahweh owns this earth and all that is on it, he has requested to receive a rental or tax from those who use it. He Himself has the right to designate where, when, and to whom that tax or rental should be paid. In the book of Genesis, Abraham paid that tithe to Melchizedek. Later, under the polity of Israel, it was paid to the Levites, who performed the duties of the priesthood for Almighty Yahweh. Yahweh directed this change in Numbers 18. The priests and Levites performed the physical

labor of the ceremonies of Tabernacle and Temple worship. More importantly, they taught the Israelite people the laws and commandments of the way of Almighty Yahweh and His covenant.

Priests' Duty Primarily Teaching

Let us see this concept clearly explained.

“And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him, Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: YAHWEH IS WITH YOU, WHILE YOU ARE WITH HIM; and if you seek him, he will be found of you; but if you forsake him, he will forsake you. Now for a long season Israel was WITHOUT THE TRUE ELOHIM, and WITHOUT LAW: BUT WHEN IN THEIR DISTRESS they returned to Yahweh, the Elohim of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them.” (2 Chronicles 15:2-4)

The primary duty of the priesthood was to teach Israel the way of Yahweh. This is further explained in Deuteronomy 33:10. ***“They shall teach Jacob your ordinances, and Israel your law: they shall put incense before you, and whole burnt-offering on your altar.”***

Levi was granted the right to accept Yahweh's tithes, as long as the nation of Israel remained faithful. However, Almighty Yahweh changed the priesthood back to the original in the time of Yahshua the Messiah. This is prophesied in the book of Malachi chapter 2.

“And now, O you priests, this commandment is for you. If you will not hear, and if you will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, says Yahweh of hosts, then will I send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yes, I have cursed them already, because you do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will rebuke your seed, and will spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your feasts; and you shall be taken away with it. And you shall know that I have sent this commandment

unto you, that my covenant may be with Levi, says Yahweh of hosts. My covenant was with him OF LIFE AND PEACE; and I gave them to him THAT HE MIGHT FEAR; and he feared me, and stood in awe of my name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and unrighteousness was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many away from iniquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the MESSENGER of Yahweh of Hosts. But you have turned aside out of the way; you have caused many to stumble in the law; you have CORRUPTED THE COVENANT OF LEVI, says Yahweh of hosts. Therefore have I ALSO MADE YOU CONTEMPTIBLE AND BASE before all the people, ACCORDING AS YOU HAVE NOT KEPT MY WAYS, but have had respect of persons in the law." (Malachi 2:1-9)

Yahweh has made a covenant with Levi, promising that if they would remain faithful they would receive His blessings. They did not remain faithful, but broke the covenant with Yahweh. Therefore, Yahweh says that He would make them contemptible and base before the people. The word **base** (Hebrew #8217 in Strong's Concordance, *shaphal*) means "to humiliate" or "make low." This He did by setting aside the Levitical priesthood which was largely ceremonial, and exalting the Melchizedek priesthood of Yahshua the Messiah, and His Body today—Assemblies of Yahweh—which is mainly a teaching obligation.

Tithing—A Law of Yahweh

We must remember that 1 John 3:4 defines sin to mean the transgression or breaking of the law of Yahweh.

TITHING IS DEFINITELY ONE OF YAHWEH'S COMMANDMENTS. Once we come to this understanding there should

be no more resistance. "And all the tithe of the land whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is Yahweh's: it is holy to Yahweh. And if man will redeem any of his tithe, he shall add to it the fifth part of it. And all the tithe of the herd and of the flock, whatever passes under the rod, the tenth shall be holy to

Too many people take the commandment of tithing entirely too lightly. Obeying the law of tithing in itself brings blessings.

Yahweh. He shall not search whether it is good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he changes it at all, then both it and that for which it is changed shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed." (Leviticus 27:30-33).

You can plainly see that Almighty Yahweh has commanded that the first 10 percent of everything by which we increase must be returned to Him. He reserves for Himself the first tenth of all increase of the farm, orchard, and herd. Increase means yield. If we carry one bushel of seed into the field and it yields 20 bushels, the tithe is two bushels—not 1.9 bushels. The entire harvest was tithed.

We have no right to use any of the tithe for ourselves. Yahweh has reserved it for Himself. Therefore, if we at all use Yahweh's tithes on ourselves, we are breaking His commandments. WE ARE IN VIOLATION OF HIS

LAWS. In plain terms—we become sinners if we touch any of Yahweh's possessions. Because we are then stealing, we would be classified as thieves. Achan did that and was destroyed for his sin. Turn to the book of Yahshua, chapter 7, and read the account of such a sin and its punishment.

Too many people take the commandment of tithing entirely too lightly. Obeying the law of tithing in itself brings blessings. The income from the tithe must be accumulated in His storehouse and must be directed toward glorifying the Name, the authority, the position, and the person of Almighty Yahweh, who is our Father in heaven. He is the Creator. We are His creation. He is our Master. He desires that all the world should be taught His ways, and be informed about His Kingdom government and salvation. Therefore, the tithes must be applied by the Melchizedek priesthood to preach the Great Commission.

When the nation of Israel came into existence, Almighty Yahweh designated the Levites to receive the tithes because they were given no inheritance among the tribes. You will recall the sequence of events in Numbers 16, which relates to the account of the Korah rebellion. Then in chapter 17, Almighty Yahweh declared that He would plainly demonstrate to the Israelite assembly who were His designated chosen representatives. It turned out that Yahweh designated the tribe of Levi when the rod of Aaron sprouted leaves, buds, flowers, and almonds (the early fruit). Such a sign could not be controverted.

Then in Numbers 18:21-24, we find that Yahweh assigned all the tithes in Israel to the Levites and priests. "And to the children of Levi, behold, I HAVE GIVEN ALL THE TITHE IN ISRAEL FOR AN INHERITANCE, IN RETURN FOR THEIR SERVICE which they serve, even the service of the tent of meeting. And henceforth the children of Israel shall not come near the tent of meeting, lest they



The Assemblies of Yahweh teaching message goes out by various means, including personal witness, published study materials, and radio broadcasts. We also own and operate an international shortwave station WMLK, to make the truth known and available to the whole world.

bear sin, and die. But the Levites shall do the service of the tent of meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations; and among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. For the tithe of the children of Israel, which they offer as a heave offering to Yahweh, I have given to the Levites for an inheritance: therefore I have said to them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance."

The Levites were given no separate territorial inheritance among the rest of the tribes. They had only a meager amount of personal property. Their every effort was directed toward service to Almighty Yahweh and teaching Israel the ways of the Most High. They represented Yahweh before the people.

Yahweh gave the Levites houses in certain villages and towns. They were given suburbs around those villages for their livestock. They maintained some draft animals for transportation over the roads, and to help cultivate their garden plots. Undoubtedly, the Levites had a few

cattle and sheep for their personal use. but first and foremost, their obligation was to be good Obadiahs—faithful servants of the Most High Yahweh. They were required to spend much time serving at Yahweh's Tabernacle and later also in the Temple. They served as the guards, because the headquarters of the worship of Yahweh was rich in gold, silver, and precious stones. The priests and Levites labored in the heavy work of sacrificing. They transported the Tabernacle from place to place, and they taught the people the way of righteousness, serving also in the Israelite government as the judges.

But, did you know that even the Levites were required to tithe? Although they received wages for performing the ministry of Yahweh, nevertheless, Almighty Yahweh directed them to pay their tithes to Aaron, the high priest.

Today we have a great High Priest, Melchizedek—Yahshua. All of Yahweh's ministers tithe to Him, even though they do Yahweh's work, just as do all the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh and the people of good will. From the wages the Elders receive for doing

Yahweh's work they return a tithe to Assemblies of Yahweh.

Melchizedek—Yahshua Receives All Tithes Today

Occasionally we hear how the ministers of nominal churchianity take great sums of the money contributed to the religious organization. The author has seen financial statements released by various religious denominations, showing that as much as 50 percent, or more, of the contributions goes to the pastor.

In Assemblies of Yahweh a different system is followed.

All the tithes and contributions of the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh and people of good will who support this ministry are deposited in a bank account **bearing the Name of Yahweh.** The Directing Elder of the organization serves as the steward over the tithes and offerings. From these tithes and offerings the various expenses of this expanding ministry of Assemblies of Yahweh are paid. This includes wages paid to those who labor in the work and in doctrine. The laborer is worthy of his livelihood. Yahshua says this in Matthew 10:10.

But rest assured that each one of the ordained Elders of Assemblies of Yahweh, as well as all those who labor in the various facets of the ministry at Headquarters, does something additional to help to supply his own personal needs. Assemblies of Yahweh pays only a living wage to those who are employed by the organization. This comprises only a modest sum.

The Elders of Assemblies of Yahweh all have their gardens or agricultural plots where they try to grow as much of their personal sustenance as they possibly can. We feel this is **only too little effort** that we can **contribute to the GREATEST organization on the face of the earth** so that it may move forward even more rapidly with each successive year. We wish that there were even more we could do.

Yahshua Commanded Tithing

IT IS A SIN NOT TO TITHE. If you do not tithe, you are violating Yahweh's laws. Yahshua the Messiah noted that where a man's treasure is, there his heart will be also. If you have a sincere, heartfelt interest in serving Almighty Yahweh, you will place your treasure at His command. Yahshua said, "**Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe the mint and anise and cummin, and have left undone the weightier matters of the law, justice, and mercy, and faith: but these you ought to have done, and not to have left the other undone.**" (Matthew 23:23).

Now let us also note similar instructions in Luke 11:42. **YAHSHUA HIMSELF COMMANDED THAT WE SHOULD TITHE.** He quite plainly expressed that His people will be a giving people. They will have love in their hearts for Almighty Yahweh and for their fellow men; therefore, they will tithe. As previously pointed out, the tithes are directed toward glorifying Almighty Yahweh and our Savior and Redeemer, Yahshua the Messiah, so that all people on earth will hear of their fame. All must learn how very important is the Name of Yahweh. The Name of Yahweh means "*to exist or live forever.*" Additionally, the Name of the Messiah is the only Name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12). Consequently, just as in ancient Israel, the modern-day Melchizedek priesthood proclaims the New Covenant and teaches the people of this world who sincerely want to know the way of righteousness through fulfilling the Great Commission. The expenses of fulfilling the Great Commission are supplied by the tithes freely given by those who are faithful to Almighty Yahweh and His Messiah Yahshua.

Yahshua the Messiah commanded: "**Give, and it shall be given to you;**

good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom. For with what measure you measure it shall be measured to you again." (Luke 6:8)

*"And now I commend you to Yahweh, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build up, and give you the inheritance among all them that are sanctified. I coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to them that were with me. In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring you ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Master Yahshua, that he himself said, **IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.**" (Acts 20:32-35)*

Has not Almighty Yahweh given you abundant blessings? Look around yourself and take stock right now! Has He not supplied you abundantly with the material, temporal blessings of this creation? He has given you the best of everything to make life comfortable. But additionally, and more importantly, He has revealed His truth to you, and this is of far greater value. Should you not also contribute generously so that others may hear of the glory of Yahweh and His Messiah? **You must confront this question personally and be honest with yourself in Yahweh's sight.**

Solomon taught us in Proverbs 3:5-10 that we should honor Yahweh **FIRST.** "**Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and lean not upon your own understanding: in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear Yahweh, and depart from evil. it will be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones. Honor Yahweh with your substance, and with the **FIRST-FRUITS OF ALL YOUR INCREASE: so shall your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats shall overflow with new wine.**"**

Does your conscience bother you as you read these scriptural pas-

sages? Or, do you obey them from the heart? Assemblies of Yahweh Elders do not apologize for teaching tithing! It is clearly a doctrine proven from Yahweh's Word. We preach this doctrine strongly, and we believe that all those who desire to be faithful to the Word will voluntarily and cheerfully offer their tithes to Yahweh.

Paul Taught Tithing

Contrary to what most people think, the Apostle Paul did not teach that the Law of Yahweh was done away with or annulled when the Savior died upon the tree of Calvary. As a matter of fact, **HE TAUGHT THE EXACT OPPOSITE!** See Romans 3:31 and 1 Corinthians 7:19.

Paul also strongly taught tithing. Although he himself worked and labored to supply his own livelihood so that he would not be a burden to those to whom he preached, he nevertheless insisted that after his converts to Messianic worship had learned the truth, they should humbly obey the law of Yahweh.

How would you like to make do without a paycheck for over four years? The author of this article did that! When this ministry began in 1966, there was no money to pay wages. It was the sincere desire of the Meyer family that all the world should hear of the glory of Almighty Yahweh and His majestic Name and the saving Name of Yahshua the Messiah.

Consequently, it was the determination of the author to **BEAR FRUIT FIRST, BEFORE ACCEPTING A WAGE FOR DOING YAHWEH'S WORK.** For over four years the author plowed back **ALL THE INCOME INTO THE MINISTRY.** Radio time was purchased; a magazine was published. He did the work of Yahweh in his spare time, while he held a full-time job with which to supply the needs of his family. We praise Almighty Yahweh for the way He blessed at all times and caused His truth to prosper.

Too frequently people assume that preaching is merely an easy living. Actually, the author does not get paid for preaching at any time, only for the administrative work he performs for Assemblies of Yahweh. Yahweh's work is indeed a hard and diligent labor, but, a labor of love which we cheerfully offer to Almighty Yahweh and His Messiah, Yahshua. Just like the Apostle Paul, the author wished to contribute MORE so as not to be a BURDEN upon a small "mustard seed sized" ministry. Furthermore, no ordained Elders of Assemblies of Yahweh are today paid for preaching, as a matter of fact.

"Do I speak these things after the manner of men? Or does not the law also say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, You shall not muzzle the ox when he treads out the grain. Is it for the oxen that Yahweh cares? Or does he say it assuredly for our sake?"

Yes, for our sake it was written: because he that plows ought to plow in hope, and he that threshes, to thresh in hope of partaking. If we sowed to you spiritual things, is it a great matter if we shall reap your carnal things? If others partake of this right over you, do we yet more? NEVERTHELESS WE DID NOT USE THIS RIGHT; BUT WE BEAR ALL THINGS, THAT WE MAY CAUSE NO HINDRANCE TO THE GOOD TIDINGS OF THE MESSIAH. Do you not know that they that minister about sacred things eat of the things of the temple, and they that wait upon the altar have their portion with the altar? EVEN SO DID YAHWEH ORDAIN THAT THEY THAT PROCLAIM THE GOOD TIDINGS SHOULD LIVE BY THE GOOD TIDINGS. BUT I HAVE USED NONE OF THESE THINGS; and I write not these things that it may be so done in my case; for it

would be good for me rather to die, than that any man should make my glorying void." (1 Corinthians 9:8-15)

Every true minister of the Most High will wish to sacrifice, not to live like a king in this worldly system.

Do You Rob Yahweh?

The subheading above might shock many of our readers. Surely, we would NEVER rob Almighty Yahweh—or would we?

Certainly, no one would think to take a gun and point it at Almighty Yahweh to rob Him. But, sin is easier to commit than that.

Almighty Yahweh gives all of His people a certain amount of material things to supply means of livelihood. Almighty Yahweh gives us the material possessions first. He entrusts each of us with a portion of His creation. Then he expects us to be honest. He has inaugurated an honor system whereby we return to Him the rent of the tax voluntarily, to test our honesty. Are you like some of the people *who do not follow this scriptural system of integrity and honor which leads to blessings?*

"Will a man rob Elohim? Yet you rob me. But you say, In what have we robbed you? IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS. You are cursed with the curse; for you rob me, even this whole nation. BRING THE WHOLE TITHE INTO THE STORE-HOUSE, that there may be food in my house, and PROVE ME NOW WITH THIS, says Yahweh of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour for you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field, says Yahweh of hosts. And all nations shall call you happy; for you shall be a delightful land, says Yahweh of hosts." (Malachi 3:8-12)

When you obey Almighty

Does Sin Rule Your Life ?

Too often, people fight against sin, trying to live a righteous life without knowing what sin or righteousness is.

Do you know Yahweh's definition of sin? It is clearly stated and explained in your Bible. This free study article can lead you to find those verses of definition in your Bible.

Be sure to request your copy of the article today.



For your free copy of this article, write:

Assemblies of Yahweh
P.O. Box C
Bethel, PA 19507

Yahweh He will bless you. If you disobey Him, He will curse you. Yahweh Himself has promised these things. Tithing is a commandment from Almighty Yahweh Himself. He has directed us to **bring all the tithes into the STOREHOUSE** (ONE SINGULAR STOREHOUSE). We cannot scatter the tithes around to various groups that are not preaching the *whole counsel of Yahweh*. *The whole counsel of Yahweh includes His Name, His law, and the forthcoming judgment upon sin.*

Additionally, did you notice the point Yahweh makes that **this is how you may prove His existence?** Why not HAVE FAITH RIGHT NOW AND PROVE YAHWEH'S LOVE FOR YOU? Obey Him and tithe!

You must make the decision regarding **WHO** or **WHICH ORGANIZATION** is preaching Yahweh's pure truth. Then YOU MUST SUPPORT THAT GROUP. We believe the only group on the face of this earth today that is completely fulfilling the Great Commission and keeping the scriptural commandments is Assemblies of Yahweh. This organization, although still infinitely small by worldly standards, nevertheless, is obeying Yahweh's commandments and fulfilling the Great Commission by heralding the Kingdom message as far as Yahweh provides the funds.

Assemblies of Yahweh Programs

Here is a partial list of the ways Assemblies of Yahweh is using the tithes that are brought into the storehouse:

- **The Sacred Name Broadcaster**—*Monthly publication of timely articles on Bible doctrine, health, family life and prophecy.*

- **The Narrow Way**—*A bi-monthly newsletter and co-worker magazine reporting the progress and programs of*

Assemblies of Yahweh around the world.

- **The Sacred Name Broadcast**—*A radio program placed weekly on commercial radio stations around the world to bring biblical truth to those who have not yet learned Yahweh's way.*

- **The Field Ministry**—*Assemblies of Yahweh congregations are located in many cities, towns, and villages around the world, where Yahweh has raised a gathering of saints of like precious faith. We also have several branch offices serving distant regions.*

- **The Cassette Tape Program**—*A 1½ hour cassette tape of sermon and service produced each week for families who do not have a local congregation.*

- **WMLK**—*The international shortwave radio station of Assemblies of Yahweh providing Yahweh's truth to much of the world via daily broadcasting.*

- **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition**—*The Names of Yahweh and Yahshua restored to the Bible. This version fills the need for an accurate version of the Bible with the Sacred Names.*

- **Correspondence Course**—*A course of study in the Bible, by correspondence, available free of charge.*

- **Keys to Knowledge**—*A series of tracts presenting many important points of Bible truth, in brief and introductory form.*

- **In-Depth Publication for further study**—*A broad range of Bible topics are thoroughly presented in this collection of articles reprinted from The Sacred Name Broadcaster. We will gladly supply a full list upon request.*

- **Book Publications**—*A continuing program of compiling and publishing material for deeper study in the Word. Currently*

available is Commentary on Galatians, and the songbook, with several titles in the publication process.

- **Obadiah School of the Bible**—*A ministerial training school at the Home Offices, also available for study by members who desire to increase their biblical knowledge.*

- **Dalet School**—*An elementary and secondary school for children of Assemblies of Yahweh members. Currently, the pilot school at the Home Office is preparing and refining the educational program to make it available for outlying Dalet Schools to be located near the larger congregations around the world.*

- **Youth Tapes**—*Each month a cassette tape is distributed to families with children with two lessons for their study of the Bible.*

- **Sacred Name Broadcaster Cassette Tapes for the Blind**—*This service is provided free of charge to the blind. The monthly issues of The Sacred Name Broadcaster are dictated and placed on tape for those who cannot read. It is also available, for a nominal fee, for those who would like to receive these tapes to listen to while driving, working, etc.*

Although Assemblies of Yahweh is small, it is our objective to serve Almighty Yahweh by doing all we can to spread His truth. Have you known the full scope of this ministry before? Look at the list again. We could never accomplish all these things without faith and dedicated sacrifice. Won't you sacrifice with us to maintain and expand this end-time effort? Make your commitment now to tithe regularly.

Why not do as the people of Judah did in the days of Nehemiah in the return of the Diaspora from Babylon? **"They joined to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in Elohim's law, which was given by Moses the servant of**

Elohim, and to observe and do all the commandments of Yahweh our Sovereign and his ordinances and his statutes... and that we should bring the first-fruits of our dough, and our heave-offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, the new wine and the oil, to the priests, to the chambers of the house of our Elohim; and the tithes of our ground to the Levites; for they, the Levites, TAKE THE TITHES in all the cities of our tillage.” (Nehemiah 10:29, 37)

What great dedication these Jews had for Yahweh's Word! Do you also have that similar dedication so that you will obey from the heart?

Are You Robbing Yahweh— In Offerings?

You will note again that Almighty Yahweh contends with Israel for robbing Him of offerings. In addition to the tithes, Almighty Yahweh has instructed that we should bring Him freewill offerings, so that we will demonstrate what great esteem we have in our hearts for Him. **Offerings can only be given after the tithes have been paid.** People tend to call their offerings tithes, but they frequently don't tithe in the first place!

One of the most outstanding biblical illustrations of sincere and generous offerings can be found when Israel erected the Tabernacle. **“And Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which Yahweh commanded, saying, Take from among you an offering to Yahweh; whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, Yahweh's offering: gold, and silver, and bronze... and let every wise-hearted man among you come, and make all that Yahweh has commanded... And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and brought Yahweh's offering, for the work of the tent**

of meeting, and for all the service of it, and for the holy garments. And they came, both men and women, as many as were WILLING-HEARTED, and brought brooches, and ear-rings, and signet-rings, and armlets, all jewels of gold; even every one that offered a wave offering of gold to Yahweh... The children of Israel brought a freewill offering to Yahweh, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all the work, which Yahweh had commanded to be made by Moses... And they spoke to Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which Yahweh commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.” (Exodus 35:4-5, 10, 20-22, 29; 36:5-6)

What a joy it would be today if each person who professes faith in Yahweh and who claims to be spiritual would voluntarily fulfill his obligation and faithfully bring his tithes and his offerings to Almighty Yahweh and offer them joyfully to the great Melchizedek, Yahshua Messiah. Assemblies of Yahweh could be built up to the point where this witness would soon be as effective as Yahweh wills in the last days.

But, usually people's attitudes frequently are selfish. They grasp at and greedily cling to all the material things Almighty Yahweh so generously gives them. They forget that their blessings come directly from the Most High. **“For she did not know that I gave her the grain, and the new wine, and the oil, and multiplied to her silver and gold, which they used for Baal. Therefore WILL I TAKE BACK MY GRAIN IN THE TIME OF IT, AND MY NEW WINE IN THE SEASON OF IT, AND WILL PLUCK AWAY MY WOOL AND MY FLAX WHICH SHOULD**

HAVE COVERED HER NAKEDNESS.” (Hosea 2:8-9) What Yahweh has said, He will certainly do! Must you also suffer when He does? One day soon the people of this world will really see how much Yahweh has freely blessed them when He takes back all that is rightfully His.

We are almost at that point, when Almighty Yahweh will take back these blessings. The tribulation looms directly ahead. He has also threatened that in the last days He would withhold the rain and bring about a great drought. Let us be faithful, that Almighty Yahweh will supply all those who are obedient with sustenance during that Great Tribulation time, just as EliYah was given drink and fed supernaturally during the 3 1/2 years wherein Almighty Yahweh brought judgment upon wayward Israel for breaking His commandments and worshiping Baal. On which side will you be? Just remember, when Yahweh's judgment falls—you have now been warned.

Summary

Almighty Yahweh has given you a clear choice. He has laid before you the option of keeping His commandments and entering into His covenant, or rejecting them out of hand.

You have seen the Scriptures which tell us how we must return to Almighty Yahweh the tithes of the things He has given to us and to bring Him special offerings.

Now the choice is yours. You can obey, or you can refuse and spurn His commandments.

If you have any further questions, we will be happy to answer them for you.

But, right now, don't fail to heed these scriptural words. Keep Yahweh's commandments. BEGIN RIGHT NOW to render to Him your faithful tithes and your offerings. learn that Yahweh is real and exists, and that he blesses all those who obey Him. Don't delay! Make your commitment right now and then keep your Word faithfully.