To Tithe or Not?

**Message Study Notes for 8th August 2021**

**What does tithing mean to you?**

Tithing is the Old Testament instruction to give 10% of your income.

**What is your response to the following statements all recorded as messages from some churches?**

* You can't be healed unless you tithe.
* You can't be blessed unless you tithe.
* If you don't give 10% you are robbing God.

**How would those statements affect people who need healing, or want God’s blessing, or have little money?**

Christians must look at everything - including tithing - in the light of the cross and resurrection.

**If a church says ‘Tithe to us, and God will pay you back threefold,’ what do you think is the motivation behind either giving money or teaching that message?**

In the Old Testament, people tithed spices and grain offerings, and tithed a portion of their income to support the Temple priests - the Levites.

**Read** **Matthew 23 verse 23**

**What did Jesus say was more important than tithing? Why?**

Jesus isn't telling Christians to tithe. He’s chastising certain Jewish people in their interpretation of the LAW. But Christians are not under Law.

**Read** **Luke 18 verses 9 to 14.**

**Is Jesus saying that God pleased with their tithing? If not, why not?**

None of the epistles tell Christians to tithe.

**If the Old Covenant says ‘give 10%’ should Christians always give more? Any reasons why not?**

The gospel is that we are to give freely, from the heart, not compelled.

**Read** **2nd Corinthians 9, verse 7.**

**How can Christians find a motivation to give that comes not from pressure OR through reluctance?**