



**Intro/Review:** Generosity is a characteristic of God that we see all the way back to the beginning.

**You give to what you love!**

**God is love and He gave to what He loves.**

John 3:16” For God so loved that he gave His only begotten Son, that who so ever would believe on Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

In God’s example we learn that...

**Giving/Generosity is not an issue of Old Testament vs. New Testament.**

**It’s not an issue of Law vs. grace.**

**Giving/Generosity is rooted in love. God so loved that he gave.**

**Giving/Generosity is a demonstration of Honor. The tithe demonstrates His worthiness.**

**Giving/Generosity is an act of faith and obedience. Our trust in in Him not our resources**

**Our giving is a reflection of our revelation of His character.**

Genesis 14:17-15:21 “And the king of Sodom went out to meet him (Abram) at the valley of Shaveh (that is the Kings’s valley), after his return from defeating Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him. Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said:“Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” And he gave him [f]a tithe of all. 21 Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself.”22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I *will take* nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that *is yours*, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’ 24 except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their

portion.” **15** After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I *am* your shield, [a]your exceedingly great reward.” **2** But

Abram said, “Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I [b]go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3 Then Abram said, “Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one[c] born in my house is my heir!” 4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.” 5 Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” 6 And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. 7 Then He said to him, “I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it.” 8 And he said, “Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?” 9 So He said to him, “Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” 10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 Now as for you, you shall [d]go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.” 17 And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. 18 On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates— 19 the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, 20 the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21 the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.”

### **Vs. 17-20 The Tithe and Communion**

The tithe is a Communal part of our relationship with God! Its rooted in covenantal relationship.

Vs. 18 Melchizadeck provides communion. Bread & Wine

Vs. 20 Abraham gives the tithe.

**At the point of RELATIONSHIP the tithe begins...You give to what you love!**

**When we tithe we:**

- 1. Relate in worship**
- 2. Remember His faithfulness**
- 3. Release it unto Him**

**Notice: Abram tithed over 400 years BEFORE the law was commanded! He didn't tithe out of legal requirement or compulsion. He gave out of love & gratitude!**

**Like Able, he gave the first fruit, the tithe of his increase out of love to HONOR the Lord**

**Notice: Vs.22-24 Abram kept nothing for himself!**

**His heart was generous as his trust was in God.**

**When you know God is your source, you'll have no problem being generous.**

### **15:1 The Next Step of growth**

**AFTER Abram tithed his revelation of God continued to grow.**

There is something about the love, faith, trust and obedience demonstrated in tithing that facilitates spiritual growth.

Through relationship he had experienced the generosity of God, but he hadn't yet experienced the generational heart of God!

**Vs. 2-3 "I know you're the Generous God, but are the the Generational God?"**

**Vs. 4-6 To expand Abram's vision God required he have a change of position and perspective.**

**Conclusion: There is more that God wants to show you. More that he wants to reveal you and have you experience in Him. HE was generous, is generous and will be generous far above what you can ask think or imagine!**

**When we tithe it is an action step towards Him in love faith and obedience that reflects his Generational Generosity to this world.**

**Like Abram,**

**Will we:**

- 1. Move with God (vs.5) God took him outside...will we follow where He leads?**
- 2. Look up (vs.5) Get our eyes off from ourselves and set them upon Him.**
- 3. Acknowledge our dependence on Him (vs.5) Count the stars...IF YOU CAN!**
- 4. Believe Him (vs.6) Our belief demonstrated by obedient action**

**Take Communion**