

RESISTING ARREST

"FAITH OVER FEAR" SERIES – PART 2

ASSOCIATE PASTOR STEVE FLEMING

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HEBREWS 11:6 NLT

...it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

JOHN 12:42-43 NIV

Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; [43] for they loved human praise more than praise from God.

'RESISTING' LOOKS LIKE:

PROVIDE PREPARE POSITION PROTECT PRONOUNCE

SURRENDER SAYS: "I AM _____"

Abraham's example (Genesis 12-22):

- "Go, to a land I will show you"...so Abram went (Gen. 12:1,4; 13:1-2)
- **handed over** the preferred destination (Gen. 13:8-12)
- **risked** his household as protection for others (Gen. 14:14-16)
- **submitted** the tithe, the profit (Gen. 14:18-24)
- **surrendered** his name (Gen. 17:3-5)
- **entrusted** his body (Gen. 17:10-17)
- **delivered** his son/future (Gen. 22)

PATTERNS FIRST FRUITS SABBATH MANNA TITHING

GENESIS 17

...The Lord appeared to Abram and said:

_____ **YOUR FINANCES**

_____ **YOUR FAITH**

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-13 NIV

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. [7] Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. [8] And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. [9] As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." [10] Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. [11] You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. [12] This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. [13] Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

TITHING 101

Tithing is the practice of paying **the first 10% of my financial increase toward my local church family**. "Tithe" means 10%. It is based in the conviction that **all I possess** is from God. He owns it all and He requires that I demonstrate my dependence on Him, and my participation in the local church family where He has placed me, by **surrendering 10% of my income**.

FOUR OBSERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY FOR AN ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING:

1. JESUS COULD HAVE ABOLISHED TITHING. INSTEAD, HE AFFIRMED IT AND EMPHASIZED IT AS A MATTER OF THE HEART.

MATTHEW 23:23 NLT "...you Pharisees...Hypocrites! For **you are careful to tithe** even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. **You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.**"

2. WHENEVER JESUS REFINED NEW REQUIREMENTS OF OLD TESTAMENT LAWS, HE EXPRESSED HIGHER, NOT LOWER EXPECTATIONS.

MATTHEW 5:21-22,27-28 NIV "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, '**You shall not murder**...But I tell you that **anyone who is angry** with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment...it was said, '**You shall not commit adultery**.' But I tell you that **anyone who looks at a woman lustfully** has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

THE COVENANT OF GRACE EXCEEDS THE COVENANT OF THE LAW! THE LEAST WE SHOULD GIVE IS 10%. Is it a COMMAND? IT'S A PRACTICE **JESUS SAID YOU SHOULD EMBRACE.**

3. TITHES IN THE LAW OF MOSES DEMONSTRATE PRINCIPLES FOR US TO FOLLOW. These 3 tithes amounted to 23.4% of a person's annual income! The **MOTIVATION, not the details, of the 3 tithes** are still embraced in the church and reinforced in the New Testament teachings.

- **LEVITICAL TITHE** (SEE NUMBERS 18:21-32) **BENEFITED THOSE DEVOTED TO MINISTRY** (10% OF ANNUAL INCOME) **It is clearly Biblical for Church budgets, built with tithes, to provide for those who devote their lives to ministry.**

1 TIM 5:17-18 "Elders...should be respected and paid well..." 1 COR 9:7-11, GAL 6:6, MATT 10:42

- **FESTIVAL TITHE** (SEE DEUT 14:22-26) **FACILITATES CELEBRATION, WORSHIP, & FELLOWSHIP AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE** (10% OF ANNUAL INCOME) **This doesn't endorse partying with God anyway you want. Look closer. It's teaching people to make a choice to fellowship with others. Tithes facilitate church family activity, events, etc.**

1 COR 16:1-2, ACTS 2:44-46, ACTS 4:32, GAL 6:10, ROM 12:13, 1 PETER 4:8-10, 1 TIM 6:17-19

- **CHARITY TITHE** (DEUT 14:28-29) **BENEFITS THE POOR, FOREIGNER, WIDOW, ORPHAN** (10% EVERY 3 YEARS) **Almost all scripture teaching us to help the needy refer to those in the church. Church budgets, built with tithes, should also benefit the poor beyond our walls.**

JAMES 1:27, GALATIANS 2:10

4. TITHING ORIGINATED BEFORE THE LAW OF MOSES. When Abram, then later Jacob, received God's blessing, each of these men expressed **gratitude and surrender** to God by giving 10% of their riches. (GEN 14 & 28). **These accounts teach us so much about how to surrender!**

HOW SHOULD I TITHE?

GENESIS 4:2-5 NLT "...Cain presented **some** of his crops...Abel brought...the **best portions** of the **firstborn** lambs...The Lord **accepted Abel** and his gift...he **did not accept Cain** and his gift...

Abel made a priority of giving His best to God! Cain brought "some". When you tithe, bring your first tenth with gratitude. Give to God first. Trust Him to provide. This takes faith. God likes faith.

MORE QUESTIONS ARE ADDRESSED ON ANOTHER HANDOUT AT 'GIVE STATIONS'.

DO I HAVE TO TITHE TO MY CHURCH?

CAN'T I GIVE 10% TOWARD ANY NEED I SEE?

AM I CURSED UNTIL I TITHE?

WAIT, WHAT?! IS THAT A THING?

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHEN I TITHE?

BESIDES HAVING LESS MONEY?!?!)