

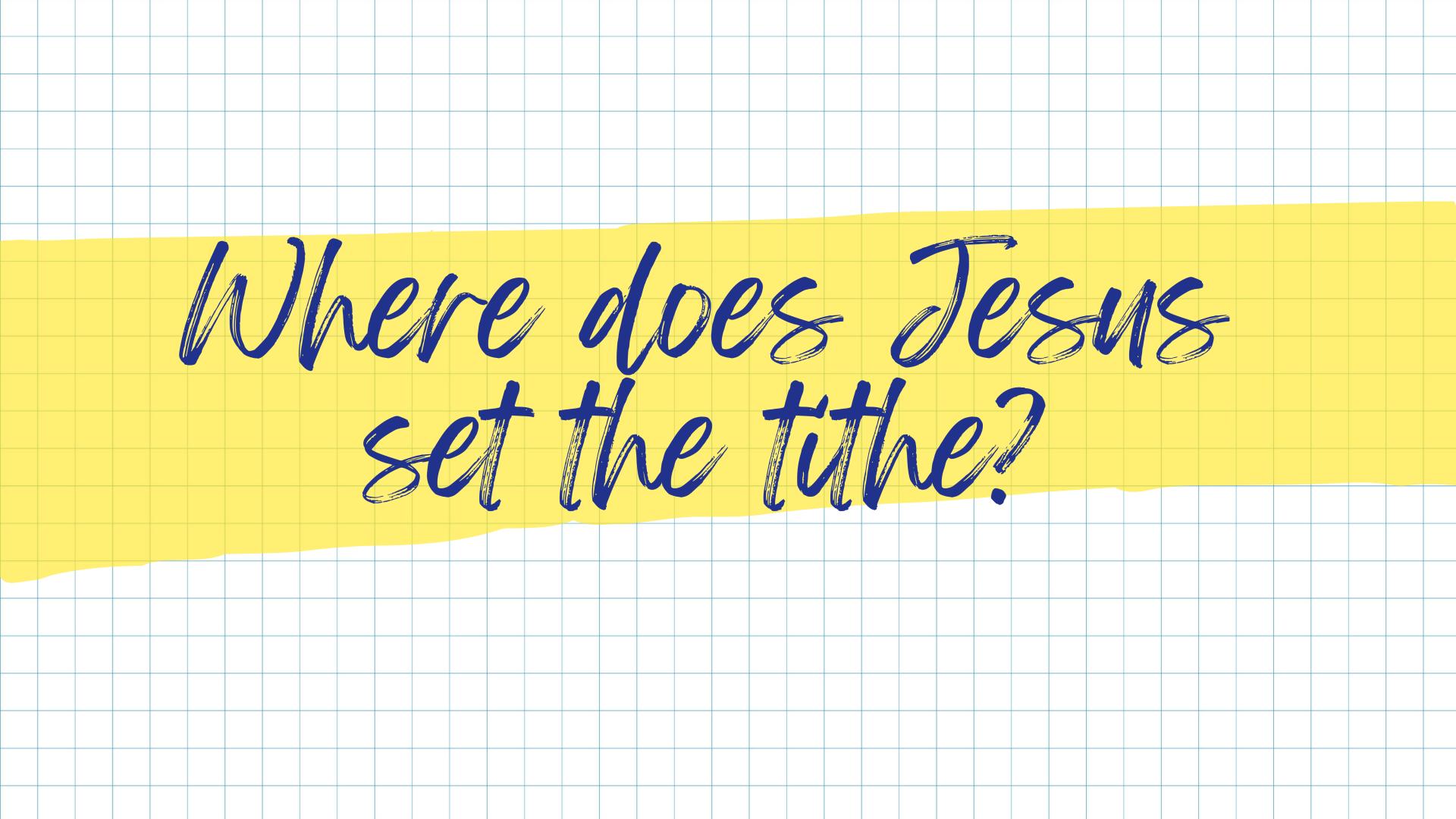
we are looking to give

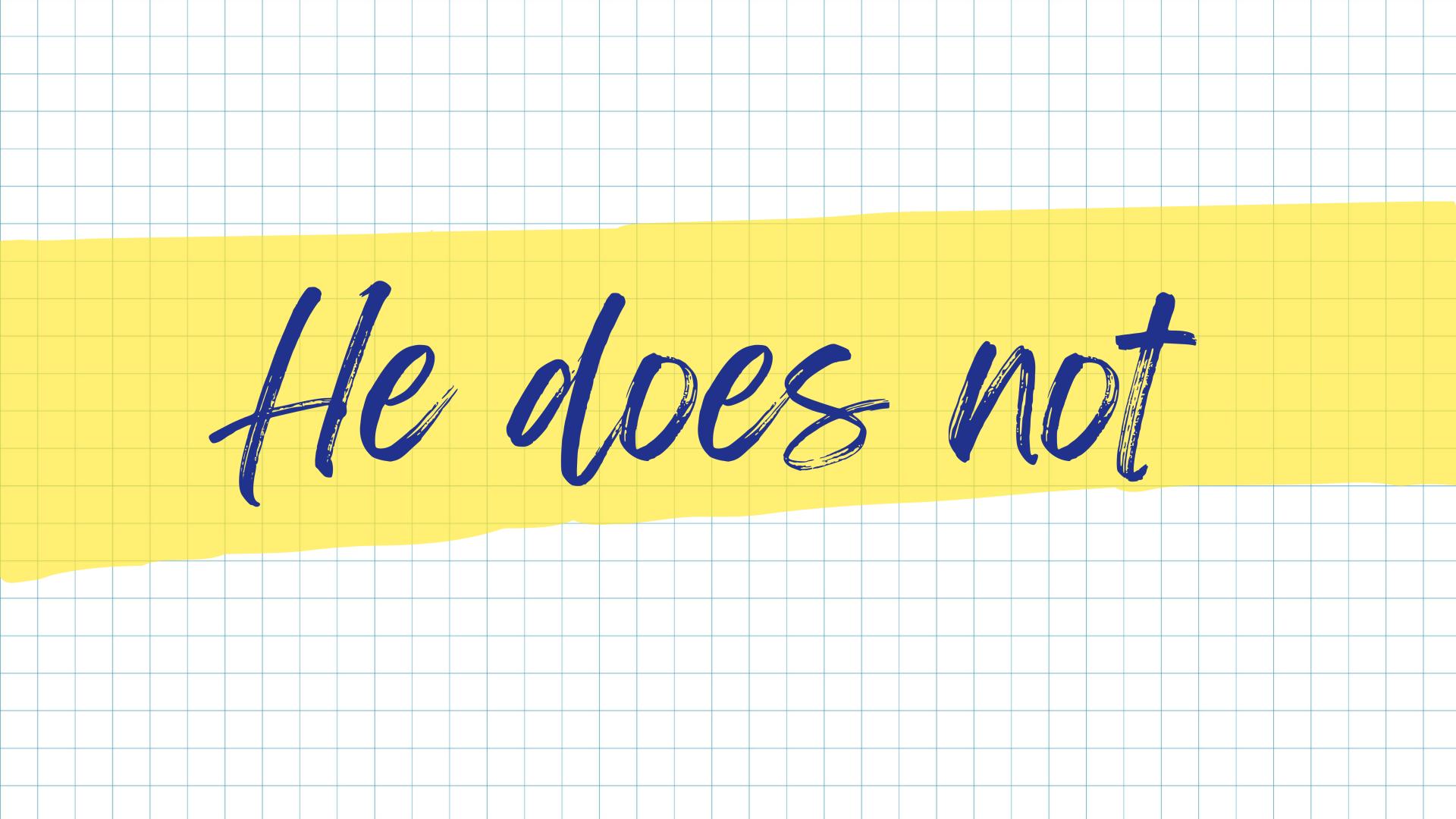
The first tithe was a gift of one-tenth of a family's produce, flocks, and herds. It was set aside during the year and then given annually to the Lord to support the Levites in their priestly service. The Levites had no other income source and no land ownership in Israel, so the first tithe was for them. The goods were brought to the Levites and kept in storehouses so that they could have provisions to live on.

Leviticus 27:30-33 Numbers 18:21-24

The festival tithe was a second tithe (one-tenth) that was used to sponsor religious feasts and festivals throughout the year. Since many of these festivals were conducted in Jerusalem, it was acceptable for the Israelites to sell their produce, flocks, and herds and bring money instead. When they arrived in Jerusalem, they would purchase whatever was necessary to celebrate during the festivals. These were grand religious celebrations, and no expense was spared to bring thanks and praise to God.

Deuteronomy 14:22-27





A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother."

"All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.

When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!

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Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

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As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

