

Vision 2026:

Advance

Introduction: You may be seated, I will read a text later.

Now, if you are watching today & are checking out Christianity, or maybe returning to the faith of your childhood, or maybe you're not even sure there is a God, I'm glad you are here. You are welcome with your doubt, uncertainty or questions & we pray God will reveal the truth about Himself to you.

Now, lets look at the text together.

Are you Tipping or Tithing?

A. {Talk about there are always leftovers. – In a bowl where “something” has been stirred or mixed, you can never get everything out. –}

a. Imagine your favorite meal—pork chops, mashed taters, pinto beans & corn bread. The bowl of taters comes around the table. By the time it reaches the end, it’s nearly empty. What do you do? You scrape the sides, tilt the bowl, chase the last bits with your spoon—whatever’s left.

b. Too many people treat their “giving” to God like that—they only give what is left in the bowl after it has been scraped out.

- i. The mortgage, fill the gas tank, buy the groceries, grab that new gadget, treat the family to dinner, scroll through online shopping... and *then*, if there’s anything left at the bottom of the bowl—maybe a few dollars—it gets dropped in the offering plate & call it “*giving*.”
- ii. But that’s not the biblical pattern. That’s *tipping*. God doesn’t ask for your scraps—He asks for the **first and the best**.
- iii. The Shepherd/King David didn’t give God leftovers. In **1 Chronicles 29**, from a heart of devotion, he gave **thousands of talents** of gold & silver—billions in today’s value—from his own treasures, *over & above* everything else. He brought the first & the best.

c. Remember the firstfruits principle: *Proverbs 3:9-10* *Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the **firstfruits** of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing...*

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TRANSITION: “God, You are first in my life. I trust You with the rest of the bowl.” – So let me ask you today: Are you scraping the bowl and calling it giving? Or are you bringing the first & the best to the Lord?

Deuteronomy 14:22-23 (**BIBLE**)

Deuteronomy 14:22 “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year.²³ And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

You shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock: Is the House of Worship where you receive Biblical teaching & instruction for holy living.

Remember the application:

I. **Tithing Tests Faith & Reveals where the Heart is.**

Tithing is...

A. An Act of Worship & Obedience

- a. Tithe is not only tied to worship, but provision for the House of God, & *caring* for others.
 - i. “Tithing. That’s under the Law!” – Nope! Abraham tithed, yes, it is “*in*” the Law given through Moses...
 - ii. The New Testament emphasizes cheerful, generous, sacrificial giving “*in keeping with your income*,” & often exceeds Old Testament standards in spirit.
- b. I know, you are tired of hearing **Malachi 3:8 & 10** – ⁸*“Is it right for people to rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How could we possibly rob you?’ “You withhold your tithes and offerings. ¹⁰Bring the full amount of your tithes into the temple treasury so that there may be ample provisions in my house. Test me and see if I, Yahweh, Commander of Angel Armies, will fling open the floodgates of heaven for you and pour down upon you an overflowing blessing that you will not be able to contain. TPT*

NEXT Page - - - - -

c. What is the promise? Faithful Obedience = Promised Blessing

d. “Well, I just don’t know if tithing is required by God.”

- i. Let me help you with that - *Leviticus 27:30* *And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's. It is holy ^(Kodesh) to the Lord.* NKJV
- ii. Holy, literally Set apart / Distinct – Something marked off, separated, or encircled for a special purpose.

B. New Testament is the Fulfillment

a. New Testament giving teaches giving through grace & cheerful generosity.

- i. The Bible teaches seedtime & harvest: Why does a farmer sow seed in the Spring? Because he anticipates a future harvest.
- ii. If the farmer chooses to hold on to the seed & not sow them, he will have more seed left over, but the harvest will be much smaller. – Do Not Eat Your Seed! –

b. You have the promise of God's Word – **Philippians 4:19** – {Go back & read **Philippians 4:15-18** – *Emphasize Vs 17 - I mention this not because I'm requesting a gift, but so that the fruit of your generosity may bring you an abundant reward.*}

- i. The LORD is not in debt to you... But His Word is faithful
- ii. Paul says your gift given to the LORD is “*a sweet sacrifice, perfumed with the fragrance.* TPT”

NEXT Page - - - - -

c. Understand, Paul is not seeking the gift for himself. But he rejoices because their giving produces “*fruit*” (spiritual blessing and reward)•

- i. The Philippians weren't wealthy; their giving was sacrificial which made this promise mean something.
- ii. There is no lack in God's **riches in glory**, we should anticipate that there would be no lack in God's supply.

C. God Deserves our Best

a. The Tabernacle Moses built, in today's money, material only not including labor, fabrics, acacia wood, dyes, jewels for the priestly garments, & construction is valued at over \$200M.

i. Gold – 2,200 lbs.

ii. Silver – 7,500 lbs.

iii. Bronze – 5,300 lbs.

iv. The Ark of the Covenant estimated value is \$30M.

b. Israel had been in bondage for 400 years as slaves. Where did they get such wealth?

Exodus 12: 35 Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked (borrowed) from the Egyptians articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing. ³⁶And the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

- i. They did not “borrow” out of desperation, God Divinely orchestrated a transfer of wealth. This wealth taken out of Egypt were resources for God’s holy purposes.
- ii. The plunder of Egypt was the LORD’s provision for future worship.
- iii. This was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham – *Genesis 15:14* *And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.* NKJV
- c. Your resources have a higher purpose: your income, savings, & possessions are meant to build God’s church, support ministry, care for the needy, & advance the Gospel.
- d. Don’t consume everything God puts in your hands. Ask the Holy Spirit: “*What part of what I have is meant for future worship?*”
- e. The Tabernacle’s true “*value*” in Scripture is far greater as God’s dwelling place among His people.

II. Conclusion

A. Your provision is for His purposes.

- a. Give God the first and best of your income, time, talents, and resources — before bills, spending, or saving.
- b. It's not about legalism or percentages but **heart posture**: “God, You are first in my life. I trust You with the rest.”

B. The reason we can do this is because of the resurrection of Christ.

- He asks us to:

- * *Repent*
- * *Live by Faith*
- * *Be Baptized*
- * *Be Filled with His Spirit*

Conclusion: PRESENT THE GOSPEL FOR SALVATION – EVERY WEEK – AND THE NEED TO COME FORWARD IN PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF CHRIST.