

Spiritual Insight: Four reasons why you should tithe

Written by Timothy Houston
Thursday, 15 November 2012 12:08

As people of faith, we should always seek out opportunities to better understand spiritual principles. This week, I would like to discuss the topic of tithing. The word tithe means a "tenth" of all of your increase (income). Tithing is a biblical principle that was instituted in the Old Testament by God and confirmed by Jesus in the New Testament. Its primary purpose was twofold, to set apart (consecrate) a tenth of your income to be used by God (church, temple), and to assist in providing for the material needs and necessities of ministry (outreach, evangelism). Its benefits are both natural and spiritual, and here are 4 spiritual reasons why everyone should tithe.

Spiritual reason number one; tithing is a means of being blessed by God. *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it" (Malachi 3:10).*

God has a storehouse of blessing and tithing is the key that provides access to them. A person who tithes is like a farmer happily planting seeds into the ground knowing that he will receive a greater harvest. Although the farmer is not guaranteed a harvest, he yet plants by faith knowing that his labor will not be in vain. Tithing like planting seeds will produce a return greater than what was planted.

Spiritual reason number two; tithing demonstrates your ability to manage worldly wealth. Tithing requires you to consider God first (your first fruits). People that spend everything they make, even if they made a million dollars will still not have enough to satisfy them. You demonstrate balance when you pause your spending. People tend to over eat when they don't take time to allow their food to settle. They overindulge in the very thing that was designed to satisfy them. The way a person handles what is in their possession will determine what else they can be trusted with. *"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" (Luke 16:11).* Tithing serves as a pause in your spending that allows you to weigh your actions against the return on your investment.

Spiritual reason number three; tithing is a means of enlarging your territory. Enlarging your territory is a biblical term that means to increase your net worth. This is accomplished through giving. *"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap" (Luke 6:38a)*. You set the standard of measurement for yourself by your giving. This is true for putting money in a savings account or investing in a business opportunity. If you plant / invest in fertile ground, your net worth will increase. Tithing in God is a good investment because he pays high dividends. *"For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you (Luke 6:38b)."*

Spiritual reason number four; tithing is equitable. Unlike our tax system where the super rich pay a lesser percentage than their secretaries, with tithing everyone gives the same percentage. This is God's financial plan for blessing you and the church ministry. No one person is asked to do more or less than the next, all give a tenth. Also, this percentage does not increase or decrease with pay increases. Because tithing is equitable, you can give it faithfully..

As we move into the season of giving, reevaluate your commitment to support your church or ministry. They need your help. No church, synagogue, temple, or ministry can operate without

Spiritual Insight: Four reasons why you should tithe

Written by Timothy Houston

Thursday, 15 November 2012 12:08

financial support. Members who give faithfully and equably are an essential part of them being able to carry out their mission and fulfill their vision. Please include them in our season of giving. Your life and your community will be better because of it.

Timothy Houston is an author, minister, and motivational speaker who is committed to guiding positive life changes in families and communities. For questions, comments or more information, go to www.tlhouston.com.