

# Storehouse Tithing

Would you carefully and prayerfully consider the “Storehouse Tithing Principle” of Malachi 3:10-11?

There is no other Bible passage quite like it. In it, God promises to bless you immeasurably, and open the windows of heaven to pour out such a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. It is the only place God permits us to test him and prove his faithfulness. That’s amazing!



*10. 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 you will not have room enough for it. 11. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. – Malachi 3:10-11*

The Hebrew personifies the “devourer” when God literally says, “I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he will not destroy your wealth (your crops).”

What we often overlook in the passage is how God says to give. He says bring all of the tithes (10 percent) into the storehouse that there may be meat in my house.” The storehouse was not for the construction of the Temple. That construction was paid for by “free-will offerings” of God’s people. It was “over-and-above” the tithe that paid for construction. There were many God-initiated giving opportunities in Israel that were above and beyond the tithe – first fruits, harvest offerings, etc. These were not begrudging offerings or taxes on the people but opportunities God gave them to bless and be a blessing. They were moments of celebration for the people to thank God for the way he had already blessed them.



We are not under the Old Testament law but under New Testament grace. That means we are not bound by commandments of the Old Testament that God gave to Israel. We are now under New Testament principles laid down for us by God in both the Old and New Testaments.

We do not mandate tithing any more than we mandate circumcision. Those are personal decisions of faith. So give as the Lord leads you and where he leads, but be careful to listen to his Whisper and his Word. They never contradict each other.

Consider what God has to say about “Storehouse Tithing.” You see, it is that storehouse tithing that contains the promise of blessing for God’s people. Tithing is always a test of Lordship. In other words, who is really in charge of your finances? Is God in charge, or are you? When we practice storehouse tithing we obey God and let go of our ownership of 10% of our income. God says it belongs to him anyway. So, we let go in obedience and as a testimony to Satan and his kingdom that we belong to a different Master. Nothing so clearly depicts our allegiance and the Lordship of Christ in our lives as “storehouse tithing.”

***“Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loves a cheerful giver.” – 2 Corinthians 9:7***

# GIVING A TITHE

Tithing is a biblical principle in both the Old and New Testaments. A "tithe" means a tenth. It represented submission to God and the Lordship of Christ. Jesus said, "It should not be left undone." (Matthew 23:23)

An Old Testament passage gives us clear understanding to the nature and purpose of the tithe for all of God's people for all time.

- 1) The tithe belongs to the Lord even before it is given. It is what God asks of his people to keep us from greed and covetousness. It never really belongs to us at all.
- 2) It was to be the FIRST use of all our increase, or our income. It is off the top, the first use of our income, not what is left over.
- 3) It gives God the best of our income as a way of recognizing the Author of all we have.
- 4) It was to be brought into the storehouse. Other offerings could be distributed to other worthy causes, but the tithe was for the operation of the House of God.
- 5) It is a testimony to Satan and his kingdom that we truly belong to God - lock, stock and barrel. It is proof of our sincerity, showing that we are not simply giving lip-service to our commitment.
- 6) It is a covenant relationship that God seals with promises: "Prove me in this and see whether I will open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." (Malachi 3:10)

Beyond the tithe God's people were encouraged and often commanded to give special offerings such as Free Will Offerings, First Fruit Offerings, Harvest Offerings, and Special Offerings for Building the House of God.

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." – Luke 6:38*