

November 13, 2016
Malachi 3:7-10

THE SERMON ON THE AMOUNT

I. Introduction: How Much Should I Give To the Lord?

II. Three Stewardship Questions:

A. How Much Am I Suppose To Give?

Tithing has always been God's Method:

¹⁷ After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. ²⁰ And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." **Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.** Genesis 14:17-20

²² and ^[g] this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me **I will give you a tenth.**" Genesis 28:22

³⁰ **"A tithe** of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. ³¹ Whoever would redeem any of their tithe must add a fifth of the value to it. ³² **Every tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod—will be holy to the LORD.** Leviticus 27:30-32

See Malachi 3:7-10

B. Where Am I Supposed To Give?

¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.” Malachi 3:10

“...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

“Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” Proverbs 3:9

¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the LORD Almighty.” Malachi 3:11

C. Why Am I Supposed To Give?

“For God so loved the world that **he gave....**” John 3:16

III. Objections To Giving?

Some Say:

- Tithing Is Not A New Testament Principle
- I Can't afford to tithe
- I already Give my time, that's enough
- Churches that ask for money are just greedy

IV. Conclusion and Application:

POINTS TO PONDER
Week of November 13th to 19th
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Open It

1. *How would your closest friend describe the kind of friend you are?
2. In conversations do you tend to be a talker or a listener?
3. When do you feel most thankful for your blessings?

Explore It

4. *How had God's people broken faith with Him? (2:10-12)
5. What was the consequence of Israel's sin? (2:12)
6. *What was additional evidence of a broken covenant? (2:13-16)
7. What was God's view of divorce? (2:16)
8. What charge did God give His people? (2:16)
9. How had Israel wearied God? (2:17)
10. How were the people oblivious to their sin? (2:17)
11. What warning did God give? (3:1-5)
12. What was the basis for hope in God? (3:6)
13. *What did God require of Israel? (3:7-12)

14. How had Israel sinned against God in the past? (3:7)

15. What was the nature of the curse on the nation? (3:9)

16. What did God promise? (3:10-12)

17. How had Israel challenged God? (3:13-15)

Get It

18. *What is the extent of the price we pay, and possibly cause others to pay, when we knowingly disobey God?

19. Why is it wrong for a Christian to marry an unbeliever?

20. When have you clearly sensed that your fellowship with God was disrupted because of your sin?

21. How would the prophet speak to the issue of divorce among Christians in our culture today?

22. *In what ways do we try to rationalize our sins?

23. How have you been guilty of robbing God?

24. For what blessings from God are you most thankful?

Apply It

25. What personal unconfessed sin or negative attitude toward the Lord or others would you be willing to confront with a responsible Christian friend or small group?

26. *Starting this week, when can you set aside a few minutes in prayer with another believer, asking the Lord to help you become more faithful, obedient, and trustworthy in each of your relationships?