

Tilting
TESTAMENT



IFE ADETONA

ABOUT THE BOOK

Tithing is one of the most controversial subjects in the body of Christ today. It is so controversial that even in believers are interested in it. But should we stop teaching this profound truth because many find it controversial?

Believers everywhere know that our prosperity is tied to tithing. And that is why the author of this book has tried to shed light on some knotty issues concerning tithing.

Written in simple language, the author starts by examining the relationship between tithing and the Mosaic law, he then goes ahead to explain other principles and aspect of tithing. He did not fail to shed light on other areas of giving and he explains the rewarding system as it pertains to tithe and giving.

Indeed, as long as the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night will not cease.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ife Adetona is an anointed preacher of the gospel. He is the President of the Sons and Daughters of Zion [SADOZ] Worldwide. SADOZ is an interdenominational and discipleship ministry which has seen thousands of people baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues and helped people develop a friend to friend relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit. SADOZ's daily discipleship and devotional manual called Daily Communion reaches and blesses tens of thousands of people daily to the glory of God.

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Ife Adetona is an author of over 30 books that is imparting the body of Christ maximally. He is the husband of Elizabeth Ife-Adetona and their home is blessed with godly seeds.

Biblical Business Sense

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptural quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible.

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INTRODUCTION

There are a number of controversial subjects among the body of Christ but I don't think there is any that enjoys more division and controversy like the subject of tithe. And that is because it borders on money. Even the people who are outside the church are very interested in it because it has to do with money.

We are at the end time age of the Church and the end-time Church is positioned for excessive prosperity so much that they can lend to nations if they so wish. The devil knows this and he also knows that the way to stop the manifestation of that prophecy is to discourage the church from tithing and to encourage them to borrow from several credit and loan facilities provided by the government of this world.

However, the devil is unable to stop the manifestation of the prosperity of the end-time church. There is a great manifestation of unprecedented wealth already. Structures and edifices are growing like grasses. Christian universities are appearing at every corner. The church of Christ dominates charity works across the earth. Satan is not happy with this and so, he is stirring men to spite that Biblical principle that built the church. He is sponsoring

controversies and he tries to amplify imbalance teachings and errors around the concept.

The people of the world are now angry that the church is rich. What they don't realize is that the church is not a building, it is a people. They thought that it is the pastors that are rich but alas, it is the people that are rich. Should you be angry that a fellow man and a believer for that matter is rich? All of these are merely the schemes of the devil to bring men down.

To the glory of God, light has come; a balanced knowledge has come. A New Testament approach to tithing has come. I believe this book is not the only balanced knowledge available today in the body of Christ but let me say congratulations to you for coming across one of such materials. All you have to do is to learn and obey and you will soon see yourself at the top; not only financially but in all areas of life.

My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem. Zechariah 1:17

CHAPTER ONE

THE TITHING PRINCIPLE

***The principle of tithing has been in existence for over 500 years
before the law of Moses***

I told myself long ago that I do not want to rely on any worldly means or system to be wealthy. I want God to be my only source. I don't know if that is your desire and decision also. The moment you decide that as your lot, your next question should be: what do I do? The Bible says that the standard of God standeth sure (2 Timothy 2:19). It is the same from generation to generation. It also says that he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).

In essence, if you must come to God, you must come to God based on His own terms and not based on your own terms. If you want to make it by worldly standard, you need connections and you must be ready to change figure and give bribes here and there. If you don't operate by that manual, you can't make it by the world. You have to be involved in some shady deals. But if you want to make it and be sustained by God then, you have to play by His principles.

Principles are not man made theories, they are facts of nature put in place by the Creator of heaven and earth. Principles are discovered by men, they are not invented. Principles have been observed over time and found valid because of their results. When a doctor tells you that a woman will be delivered of a well-developed child after nine months, you won't doubt it. You know already that, that is the principle that obtains

in child bearing. If anyone decides to alter that in his mind and says, he would deliver a woman of a child at six months, he would be disappointed.

When you work in consonance with biblical principles, you get a definite result but when you work against it, you face shame and reproach. The principle you break will break you. There was a time we wanted to plant some crops on our camp ground at a particular period of the year. We were simply told to wait till a certain time. Experts know when best to plant that crop because they have studied the principles. If anyone works in consonance with that principle, it would produce a sure result.

One of those principles in the Bible that has never failed to deliver is tithing. There is so much argument on whether tithing is right or wrong. That argument did not start with this generation and it would not end with this generation. The debate is one of the oldest in the body of Christ. Debaters have come and gone but the principle remains and it still works.

Tithing is not something you should joke with or handle with levity. You shouldn't delay it or hold it back. In fact, you should be forward in the prompt payment and even "over-tithe" if you have the grace.

The Law of Moses and Tithing

In this section, we shall examine certain facts about tithing in relation to the Law of Moses. I hope that going through it will answer some of your pertinent questions on tithing as well.

A. Tithing Exists Before The Law

"And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all." Genesis 14:20

The biggest argument on tithing is that it is an issue of the law and everything as touching the law has been done away with. What those that peddle this argument refused to understand is that tithing has been in existence long before the Law of Moses. The first person to tithe according to the Scriptures was Abraham. Between the days of Abraham and Moses is about 500 years. At least, the Hebrews spent 430 years in Egypt (Exodus 12:40). That means ***the principle of tithing has been in existence for over 500 years before the law of Moses so, it is not a matter of the law. It was only regulated by the law.***

The Law of Moses frowns at committing adultery or fornication but we read of Joseph who lived hundreds of years before Moses flee from fornication. We saw the kings of Egypt and Gerar reprimanded for coveting the wives of Abraham and Isaac. We read of how God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of sexual sins. These things happened centuries before Moses was born. They were only included in the law so as to legalize them and it doesn't mean that after the law was thrown out, they ceased to be sins.

Disobeying your father and mother, the fifth Law of Moses is still a sin till tomorrow with heavy consequences. This has nothing to do with Christ ending the era of the law. What Jesus ended were every tenets of the law gives us a prescription of how to become righteous. He ended

that system and replaced it with Himself. He further gave us the power to overcome sin and an opportunity for repentance without going through the dictates of the law.

We saw that Abraham paid His tithes and nobody taught him except God. We believe that Isaac also paid his tithes because God said He trusted that Abraham would teach Isaac rightly (Genesis 18:19). We also know that it was Isaac that taught Jacob about tithing. Although Jacob was a very cunning man, yet he knew that was one way to partner with God to get results. Trust me, Jacob being the kind of person he is would not make a covenant of tithing if he didn't know that it works. He must have even seen it work.

"And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee." Genesis 28:22

When Jacob needed God to rescue him from a bigger cheat, Laban, God appeared. God did not introduce Himself to Jacob as the God of Abraham and Isaac at that point but as the God of the covenant of tithe.

Eat your tithe; you lose the partnership of God in your business. **Remember, if you cannot use charm, you should use God.** Paying your tithe also demonstrates that you acknowledge the Lordship of God over your business and career. God always love to request that we give Him parts of whatever He gives to us. He created the whole earth but reserved a garden to Himself. He gave Adam the whole garden but restrained him from touching a tree. God gave the Israelites the Land of Canaan but demanded that each tribe gave a part to Him through the

Levite. The system of tithing is one of the ways we show that He is the Master, Provider and Lord of our gains.

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for [it is] he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as [it is] this day- Deuteronomy 8:18.

B. Tithing Goes Beyond The Law

Tithe was well covered and permitted by the New Testament. Anyone can choose to ignore it but it is established.

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Mathew 23:23.

It is amazing that many people have quoted that passage to mean that to tithe isn't right but what it actually says is that tithing is right! Let's read it from the NLT version.

"What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law-- justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. Mathew 23:23.

Melchizedek

For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; {7:2} To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; {7:3} Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually. Hebrews 7:1-3

Abraham paid all his tithes to a man called Melchizedek who is known as one of the Old Testament appearances of Jesus Christ. We can simply say that Jesus appeared to Abraham in the Old Testament and Abraham paid his tithes to him. When you pay your tithes today, you pay to Jesus. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.

And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. Hebrews 7:8

Verse 8 explains that here, on the earth, men that die receive tithe but as those men who are physical representation of God collects those tithes, Jesus is receiving the tithes. In simple terms, ***when you give your tithes here, you open an account with God up there (Mathew 6:20)***. God lives forever and so is your account with him. The devil, sickness or robbers cannot break into it. You can keep withdrawing from its blessings. And the blessing it yields continues into your future generation.

Blessedness of Tithing

Many would say: *I give because I am blessed and not to be blessed.* I quite agree with them. But that statement is not complete. You give because you are blessed and so that you can be more blessed. If you stop giving, you would stop being blessed. You are making profit because you invested money, so you keep investing so that you can record more profit.

After Abraham gave His tithe, He was blessed. The New Testament reported that a higher blessing came upon Abraham as a result of his tithing. As we also give our tithes today, a higher blessing is released upon us especially when we give it with the right attitude and understanding.

I have been tithing since I was a young boy. I have tithed since I was earning in little Kobo and Naira. I have seen how God has increased me over the years. Today, I am an addicted tither. I am a life time tither. Every member of my family tithes, we tithe well over 10%. We are unrepentant tithers. If all left on us is tithe, we pay it because we have seen, touched and experienced the blessedness of tithing. I have seen many people who have risen by tithing. And I have heard of men who went down when they stopped tithing.

I always say that; **take note of the principles that brought you up, if you ignore them, you are going down.** A story was told of a man who was tithing his cents and dollars and God was lifting him. It got to a point when he began to earn several millions and he wondered if it was right to part with so much as tithe. Then, he started going down. He was

almost bankrupt before he realized where he missed it. He repented and God started lifting him again.

When you fail to tithe and things aren't working well for you either in your business or in other areas of your life, it is not God punishing you; it is you who exposed yourself to the devil. God mounted a guard around Job, Job walked out of the guard by the reason of fear and the devil pounced on him. May the devil pounce no more on your finances in Jesus Name.

Meanwhile, the tithe is not your own. It is God's portion. It is God's own. So, you don't give it, you pay it. You don't pay it if you feel like or when you wish to but you pay it importantly because it is not yours to begin with.

The Contest

Pastor E.A Adeboye told the story of a bakery owner who argued the validity of tithing with him. At some point, Pastor Adeboye said he told him to let them settle it by asking God to be the umpire. He advised the man to stop tithing and told him that if tithing was wrong, his business would keep flourishing but if otherwise, his business would collapse. The man agreed.

He stopped tithing and as expected, things started turning upside down. He was recording loses, his staff were gone and the bakery was almost closing down when he remembered his deal with Pastor Adeboye. He retraced his steps, repented and things returned to normalcy.

Whenever I talk about tithe this way, my concern is not actually on the many evil that tithing prevents- the ones we know and the ones we do not know; my concern are those unknown blessings that we miss when we refused to tithe. If only God can open our eyes to see how much we are missing and what more He has in store for us, you won't owe a dime as tithe anymore.

What of the Unbelievers

It is convenient to point to unbelievers that are not tithing but are "rich" but I told you at the beginning of this book that if you are a Christian businessman, you should run your business like a Christian businessman. Many people steal, kill, lie, change figures, do immoral things and many other things to remain relevant economically; you are not doing those things. You aren't cheating or bribing. You are not into fetish things. All you have is to deploy your spiritual arsenals yet you find it difficult to do and you dare to compare yourself with those ones, you are on your own.

If you are not doing what they are doing, what are you doing? I remember moving with a group of people. One of them knows how to influence and cajole people into giving him money, another knows how to beg at the feet of people, another has a rich and connected family background and another knows how to steal a bit here and there to get along. I couldn't do any of those things. Then, if I couldn't do that, there must be something I could do. And that was diligence and focus on my ministry. I decided to give it all it takes.

Many students in exam halls have different prepared means to pass and succeed. If you are not going to be involved in cheating, bribing or fornicating with lecturers then, you must be ready to read hard.

The Young Rich Man

Looking at the story of the young rich man in Mark 10 who came to Jesus and asked what he could do to have eternal life. He affirmed that he has been keeping all the law since his childhood and that includes tithing. When the man said he has been faithful to all the law, the Bible says that Jesus loved him (Verse 21). Kenneth Copeland said that God told him that the man's adherence to the law explains why he was rich.

CHAPTER TWO

WHERE TO PAY TITHE

But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. Mathew 13:3-9

When people hear about tithing and their hearts are lifted to obedience, many questions pop up on their minds like: “where do I put my tithe”. They want to know if it is to their church or to their pastor or to a ministry they are attached to.

What the Law of Moses did was to set a structure on how tithing should be done not that it introduced tithing to us. Today, we are no longer under the law and the system at work in that period is not the same with ours today. For instance, the people were mostly farmers and the laws were set around that occupation but there are several occupations today.

However, the Scripture still gives us a guide on how to go about it. There are four main places where your tithe is allowed to go to in this order: Your Zion, your Prophet, any house/work of God, any man of God.

1. Your Zion

The LORD [is] my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. Psalm 23:1

The primary place where you derive spiritual nutrient particularly in terms of the word is your Zion. That place is your Zion and that is where your tithe should go to, primarily. The Bible says he that watered should

be watered in return. A place that blesses you spiritually and continually requires that you bless the same place with your tithe. You wouldn't buy food in *Eatery A* and go to *Eatery B* to make the payment. The same goes for your spiritual territory.

Can I Divide It?

The next question people ask is- what if I have two Zions, can I divide my tithe? First, it is difficult for a man to have two Zions. There is actually one place that blesses you maximally but let me agree that both places are blessing you to a large extent- probably 60%/40% or thereabout. Or you probably have been tithing to a place for a long time and you realize that there is a place where you get more nourishment -may be in form of a fellowship- and you don't wish to stop giving to the first place.

The best thing to do is to increase your tithing, probably to 15% or 20%. So, you give 10% to a place and the other to another place. You don't have to feel burdened. If you see every act of giving as an investment, you won't feel stressed. But I know that you cannot understand the blessedness until you experience it and you cannot experience it until you do it. I am telling you of what I do.

But let's assume that your faith is not that strong. Yes, if the two come very close in blessing you, you can divide your tithe **only if you are so led by the Holy Spirit in you.** You can give 5% in two places or some months here and some months there. Another thing you can do is that if you have a multiple stream of income, you pay the tithes separately.

2. Your Teacher

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. Jeremiah 3:15.

The second place your tithe can go to is that man of God who has a spiritual oversight over you and feeds you with the word of God. You can give your tithe either occasionally to him or regularly if you are so led.

Can I divide?

Another question I often get is if tithe can be divided between Zion and a man of God. **IF YOU ARE SO LED**, occasionally or regularly, yes. You will realize that I keep saying if you are so led. You don't have to be led to give 10% to your Zion but in any other places or any other way, you have to be led.

3. Any House/Work Of God

The third place you can give your tithe to OCCASSIONALLY is any house of God or work of God, **if you are so led**. But instead of considering giving your tithe to these places, why not give out of your resources, out of the remaining 90%.

Some people are actually very funny. Their tithe is like a sacrificial lamb to everything that borders on giving to Gods. If a seed is raised anywhere, they submit their tithe. If they are called to help at a place, they submit their tithes too. God said we should be careful not to give our tithes just anywhere (Deuteronomy 12:11). So, you must really have that attitude that doesn't just throw tithes around. You should have a stable plan for

your tithe and if a need arises, you should give what you are capable or blessed to give.

4. Any Man Of God

It is the same principle that works for any house of God that also works for this. However, whenever you are giving a thing to a man of God be clear on what it is meant for. Let them to know if it is meant for the ministry or them.

In the early days of our ministry, when we were yet to have a bank account for the ministry, I was faced with such but I used to ask if the money is for me or the ministry. When they are not sure, I assume it is meant for the ministry. A young man presented some amounts to me which was quite huge as far as that period was concerned. When I asked him if it was for me or the ministry, he was mumbling. He didn't know what to say. So, I collected it, prayed for him and told the treasurer to record it for the ministry.

What I observed at that time was that people want to look good before the man of God so they present money to him but when there is a channel through which they can pay directly to the ministry without necessarily carrying the man of God along, they draw back. If you are like that, you need to repent and retrace your steps. Understand that your tithe is a spiritual transaction between you and God.

Should I Tithe Gifts?

The answer is a simple yes if it is a monetary gift or an item that you exchanged for money but it is not that straight forward when it is a material gift.

Generally, I tell people not to worry about religiously tithing material gifts rather, they should also give generously. People often give us things we don't know their actual price or things that we are not considering buying anytime soon. To tithe it therefore becomes more of a burden on us. Even if you need that item, the fact that you didn't gather the money to go buy it at your convenience can put a strain on your finances when you are trying to tithe it.

Someone may gift me a clothes for instance. If I have enough clothes and it wasn't in my plan to buy anyone soon, to tithe such cloth could mount a pressure on me. I would rather give out the cloth or any of my clothes to another person. Even if I don't have a cloth to give at that time, I can give another thing entirely at that moment or at another time.

In summary, one way to return back to God from your non-monetary gifts is to also be a life-time giver.

Your tithe is not a donation or for help

Your tithe is not a donation, and it is not meant to help the needy or any ministry. It is a common saying for pastors to tell their members who are living far away that the church they are attending doesn't need their tithe because they are rich already but that it is the home church that needs it. That is heretic, wrong and deflation of blessings.

You don't walk into KFC (for example) to eat their meal and then go to a roadside bukateria to pay because the woman selling on the roadside is poor. If you cannot eat from that woman, you should pay for what you eat at KFC. You can walk up to that woman and give her anything. You can even give her what was more than what you paid to eat at the standard eatery. You can do whatever but you should not refuse to pay at the place where you ate.

To present your tithe to a place or to people with that mindset of "helping them" is erroneous. Jesus said that the moment you receive a thank you, that is all the blessings you get to have (Mathew 6:2). **Tithing is a spiritual transaction. When you receive a blessing; you are obligated to pay it rightly.**

Parable of the Sower

While you are contemplating on what I have just said and deciding on what you want to do, I want to quickly remind you of the parable of the sower and its relevant to tithing. In the story, we saw a farmer who went to spread some seeds on the soil. Intentionally or accidentally, some of those seeds fell on the road, among the thorns and on the rock. What happened to those ones was that they didn't even have the chance to germinate and those that germinated did not last. It was just a waste. But that is not where my attention is. My attention is on the ones that actually fell on the good soil. It is amazing that not all of them yielded the same amount. It was only 33% of the seed that fell on the good soil that yielded 100%. Some yielded 30% and 60%.

How is this related to tithing? Any of the four places that I mentioned in this chapter are good soil to sew your seed but only one can give you 100% return. I am sure that you would prefer a good investment with higher yield than a low yield investment. That place that would certainly give 100% return is your Zion. The other place that can give you 100% is when you are adequately led.

And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; {13:4} And when he sowed, some [seeds] fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: {13:5} Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: {13:6} And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. {13:7} And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: {13:8} But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. {13:9} Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. Mathew 13:3-9

CHAPTER THREE

TITHING AND THE NEEDY

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house. Malachi 3:10a

I say this without mincing words: your tithe is not for the needy, give to the needy from the remaining 90% with you. The Old Testament teaches different kinds of tithes. And in fact, there is a kind of tithe that the Israelites are permitted to eat but it is different from the regular 10%. Likewise, you can categorize your income and use a part of it to take care of the needy. I know someone who separated some percentage to help the needy aside the regular 10%. My wife for instance, decided to separate 10% of all her income for that purpose which is different from the regular tithe.

The Silly Question

People love to ask imaginary and silly questions when the issue of tithing is raised. One of those questions is that if someone comes to them for an urgent need and the only thing they have on them is their tithe, can they give the person. My answer to them goes in form of a question as well:

What is your tithe doing with you after you have spent all the 90%?

What if there was no money with you, what would you have done?

What if the money with you belongs to your boss, what would you have done?

What if the money left with you is your school fees?

Whatever you would have done in those instances is what you should do.

A Video

My wife told me of a video she saw online. It was of a pastor who said if someone was going to church with different sets of money for instance his children school fees, a medical bill, feeding allowance for the family and his tithe. And then, he saw an accident victim in need of help and decide to use his tithe to help the person because if he touches other money, there may be problem in the home. He said such a man has done well and should be applauded. I simply told my wife that such so-called pastor is not a tither and he is not in constant walk with God.

Elijah went to the dying widow and told the widow to make food for him first and trust God to settle the rest. Abraham was so foolish that he was really going to sacrifice Isaac because he trusted God. That man of God did not see in his Bible that when Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek, that was all he had.

MMM

There are several Ponzi schemes that have come and gone in Nigeria but there was none that had the fame and devastating effect of MMM. It cannot be forgotten in a hurry. People were so greedy that they put in their school fees. Some borrowed money in the bank and put it in the scheme. They could go that far because they were greedy for gains and they were convinced that they would get a double return of the money after few days.

Let me tell you, if you believe in the validity of the promises of God concerning tithing that after some days, it would return to you in many folds- you will not forfeit it for any reason. You will dump the excuses and be faithful. The Scriptures says ***cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days- Ecclesiastes 11:1.***

At another place, God even declared: ***prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:10.***

We should pay our tithes in the light of Philippians 4:17. You are paying it for your own sake and not for your pastor's or ministry's sake. God has a way of taking care of His servants. He has a way of beautifying His work with or without you. Then, you should see it has a privilege to be involved.

There are believers who are born again, they believe in tithing but they are not consistent. If you are one of such, be delivered right now in Jesus Name.

Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. Philippians 4:17

CHAPTER FOUR

SEEDTIME AND HARVEST TIME

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Genesis 8:22.

Whatever God does, He put in a working and functional system. One of the systems of God is the “Solar system”. He created the solar system so that the earth can be sustained on its own; so that night can come at its time and day can come at its time as well.

Another system in the wisdom of God is the Ecosystem. It is the ecosystem that keeps every living thing on earth alive. If any link in the ecosystem breaks, the whole human race would die within a short time.

In the wisdom of God, the system He put in place for man’s blessing is called seedtime and harvest time. The Bible says that as the earth remains, seed time and harvest-time shall not cease. Talking about God leading you as a sheep to the green pastures, it is expected that as a sheep grazes the pasture, they will defecate on the land. Their feces will in turn become manure that will fertilize the ground to keep it green so that the sheep can always have something to graze. When you give or you get blessed in a ministry or through a man of God and you give to the ministry, the ministry or minister flourishes the more and you get more blessed.

Many people have issues with ministers and ministries getting richer but they don't mind if their own business and family members get richer. It is well with them. If you do not cooperate with this system of God or fix yourself into it, it is to your detriment. It doesn't affect God. If you love God, if you love to see His work progress, if you love to see His ministers live a good life, you should tithe. If you hate these things, do not bother tithing.

God has planned it that ministries should be funded by those that are blessed by it and that ministers be blessed by those who are blessed by them (1 Corinthians 9:11). That is the wisdom of God.

Statistics shows that less than 10% of any Christian congregation pays their tithes faithfully and fully. I tell you, if all congregants who are truly blessed by a ministry tithe accordingly, there won't be a need to raise a seed for anything that is to be done in the house of God.

Who Eats Your Tithe?

One big misconception that has not been fully corrected in the body of Christ is the belief or thought that it is the pastor that eats the tithe just like in the case of the Levites. I know some ministries do this. They believe all the tithes go to the G.O or founder but this is absolutely wrong. And I can tell you that many ministries know that it is wrong and they don't run it that way. For instance, our ministry doesn't run it that way.

In the Old Testament, the tithes go to the Levite families and not to one Levite. Also, in the Old Testament, a Levite doesn't work, the wife and

children of the Levite doesn't work, the uncle, father and all his extended family doesn't do secular jobs as well. That is why all tithes go to them. But today, such is not the case. Family members of ministers are not expected not to work. In few cases, the husband and wife don't work. And in some cases, the pastor works. So, generally, the tithe today is not for the pastor or G.O to eat.

How do Pastors get paid?

First, God would take care of His shepherd. He always does. And this is not tied to the giving attitude of members of the congregation. God pays His workers according to their faithfulness. But for the sake of structure, it is advised that pastors be paid a salary from the income of the ministry.

Pastors and the G.O should be fixed on a monthly pay. All the offerings and tithes collected should be recorded as income of the ministry. The ministry should then use the income to cater for every need including the fixed salaries and allowances. If the G.O or a pastor chooses not to be on salary, it is fine but they shouldn't take from the church income indiscriminately.

What I just explained here is not new. It is already being practiced in most churches and ministries. I mentioned it only to correct the misconception that pastors eat the tithes. If you think it is not being done this way in your own church, that is not your problem. Give your tithe to God and let God evaluate his servants, not you. With the knowledge you have gotten so far from this book, you can influence the body of Christ but it is not in your capacity to go argue with your pastor.

Can I pay my tithe directly to my pastor?

If a pastor or minister is employed or serving under a ministry where he is getting a regular pay in the form of salary or stipend, it is not right to give your tithe to him. Rather, it is best you pay to the coffers of the ministry where he is being paid.

There is nothing complicated about what I just said. Imagine going to a saloon to make your hair or have your haircut, instead of paying into the company's account, you decided to give it to the staff who attended to you. That is an aberration.

However, you can give other money to the staff in form of gifts or whatever but not at the detriment of your due charges. In the same vein, you are expected to bless your pastor which was assigned to you by the ministry or the President but not with your tithe.

G.O or President's Tithe

I don't want to include this initially but the urge not to keep anything away from you will not allow me.

I was at a seminar in the year 2019 where a minister of God that was taking our specialized class on ministry finance mentioned in passing that anyone who is a general overseer or president of a ministry should consider paying their tithes to their spiritual father instead of paying it into their ministry. He added that a river ought to flow outward and not inward. That man did not quote any scripture to back up his claim. He just mentioned that, that is the principle that obtains in the kingdom. He was not even the host pastor but a prodigy of the host pastor that was

told to take that session but somehow, my spirit agreed to everything he said.

That time, our family finance was at the bottom. We always finish spending a provision before another comes in. When I got home, I discussed with my wife what the minister had said. The problem we had was that we don't find it convenient to stop giving into our ministry while we encourage others to do so. So, we settled for an option. We decided to pay minimum of 20% tithe onward. We would give minimum of 10% to my spiritual father as the minister had suggested and give minimum 10% to our ministry.

I told you that our finances was at a low level at that time. It was so serious that when I met with my spiritual father to inform him about my new resolution, I was reluctant to ask for his account number. I told him if he wouldn't mind that I send it to him as recharge cards. It wasn't an easy decision but we obeyed.

What happened thereafter? It didn't take long. It seems God was waiting for us all the time. It seems we had done several things but only a thing was left to be done and it was that. We had a financial breakthrough. The following year was 2020 wherein Covid-19 lockdown was announced. It was a time of famine and lack for many but it was the period when we lived in plenty and we had never had a better yesterday since then. We were so grateful for that advice that we decided to package a seed, higher than we have ever given and gave it to the host pastor who organized the programme.

The Love Factor

If I am to ask: why are you paying your tithe or why did you decide to be a faithful tither? The sincere answer is likely to be because of the blessings attached to it. Well, I would say that reason is not bad but it shouldn't be your reason. **You should tithe because you love God and in expectation of His promises.** There is nothing wrong in expecting what is rightly promised to you but what should be your motivation is the love you have for God. Jesus said one way to prove that we are His disciples and that we love Him is when we obey Him (John 14:21).

CHAPTER FIVE

CORPORATE TITHE

Every giving is a plus to you and not a minus

The basic 10% tithing system is common and known by all but corporate tithing is another kind of tithing you should be acquainted to especially if you run a business.

Corporate tithe may seem strange to you, but I tell you that it is a spiritual principle that has been in operation since the days of Abraham. The first tithe recorded as paid by Abraham was what you can call a business or company's tithe. Abraham tithed all the war loot before distributing the rest among the kings that were involved (Genesis 14:17-24).

Corporate tithe simply means tithing on behalf of the whole company or business. For a one man's business, his personal tithe could mean the same as the corporate tithe but for a developing or bigger business, they are two different.

In the School of Business, we advise that entrepreneurs should separate their money from the business' money. They should pay themselves a salary which shouldn't be more than 50% of all profit made and reinvest the rest in the business. Where such structure is in place, you can easily draw out the corporate tithe from your business profits. For instance, if you make a profit of ₦1,000, your corporate tithe- 10% is ₦100. Then let's assume you pay yourself a wage of 30% which is ₦300. You are to

tithe your wage as your personal tithe- ₦30. And then you return the remaining 60% to the business.

In the illustration I have just made, I want you to understand two things: **every giving is a plus to you and not a minus.** Don't feel burdened. Secondly, the reason many businesses fail in this part of the world is because we think that all the profits that come into our business is ours to spend as we like. Wise business men don't spend, they reinvest.

I am sorry to say this; that is the same challenge some ministries have as well. The G.O feels that the offering and tithe box is their personal bank account from which they can spend as they like without any accountability. That is wrong.

For instance, our ministry, SADOZ pays a cooperate tithe. All the money that comes in including the seeds raised for projects through the year are tithed. The Koinonia Bible Institute arm of our ministry as well as the Fountain Publishers also pays tithes on their income all through the year. Those tithes are not paid into the SADOZ ministry but to higher mentor ministries because the Bible says and *without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better (Hebrews 7:7).*

CHAPTER SIX

GIVING

Give, and it shall be given unto you. Luke 6:38a

We have talked a lot about tithing as a form of giving which is imperative for any believer who is partnering with God for success in their business but tithing is not the only form of giving recommended by the Scriptures. Personally, I do all forms of giving as a regular lifestyle:

a. **Sacrificial Giving**

This can take many forms- it could be your first fruit, your whole salary or half of it. You could be moved to empty your account and many other bold step of faith. I mentioned “first fruit” and I believe that will awake doctrinal issues in the mind of some people. The New Testament recommends sacrificial giving and first fruit is a kind of sacrificial giving (2 Corinthians. 9:6).

b. **Prophet’s Offering**

Prophet offering is the act of giving regularly or occasionally to your spiritual father, mentors and any other man of God. There are some who adopt unknown missionaries and support them. That is a blessed thing to do. And please, don’t say you won’t give to your pastor or prophet because he is “rich”. The soil doesn’t need your seed; it is your seed that needs the soil. ***He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward- Mathew 10: 41***

c. Your Family

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel -1 Timothy 5:8.

Talking about your family, it is arranged in this order: your spouse, your children and your parents. Your spouse either wife or husband comes first. Any time myself and my wife counsel young people who are engaged, we tell them that their spouse is so important that if their wife needs a dress and their mother needs food or medicine, it is the wife that comes first. If your wife needs a shoe and your sister needs school fees, the wife comes first. It is not about the weight of the need but the personality that has the need. We do tell them further that if you have always put your wife first and you marry right, your wife would by herself suggest that her own shoe or cloth should wait. My wife would also say that if you can't put your wife first, you shouldn't marry.

It must also be understood that it is the responsibility of the husband to care for the home. In a Christian home, both parties should work in harmony but the man remains the head and caretaker. He must be a hardworking man. The Bible says he that does not work must not eat. He may earn lesser than the wife due to varied circumstances but he must hate laziness with everything in him and demonstrate it.

The couple should make it a duty to take care of their parents irrespective of the level of care they received from them when they were younger. You should give to your parent even if they are rich; you

need the blessing that comes from the act. Don't wait till the time you can buy a car before you give to them. You should give even from your need and make sacrifices for them.

In the case of those who have foster parents, they should care for their parent and the foster parent. And for those whose parent had died before they had the chance to care for them, they should do what they believe the parents would be doing if they were alive. For instance, if the interest of their late parent would have been caring for a particular person, they should care for that person instead.

In the list I made, I wrote spouse, children and parent; I didn't include siblings. It is intentional. You can care for your siblings and extended family members but not as a primary responsibility. However, the Bible says; you shouldn't hide yourself from your flesh (Isaiah 58:7).

d. The Poor

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. Proverbs 19:17

When we talk about the poor, the poor in the ministry you belong and generally in the Christian faith comes first. The Bible says; *As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith-* Galatians 6:10.

Then, the poor in your neighborhood and all around you as you are privileged. Meanwhile, I don't encourage begging so, it would be rare to see me give to a random person that begs from me from the street or who

get across to me through the social media. I have given to such people but in very few situations.

When you talk about giving, my wife is my number one mentor. She gives freely and sacrificially. She taught me to be a better giver. 80% of all the sacrificial seed we ever gave since we got engaged was her idea. She is the one God is always speaking to—I don't know why. But we have always obeyed. Everything she feels led and communicates it to me, my reply is one: we shouldn't see giving as a subtraction from us but as an addition, it will surely come back to us. ***Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days- Ecclesiastes 11:1.***

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE REWARDING SYSTEM

Then Peter said, “we’ve given up everything to follow you. What will we get?” Mathew 19:27 NLT.

As far as God is concerned, no service or giving goes unrewarded. This is one thing, I have seen and experienced. I knew what situation my finance was before I started tithing minimum 20% like I explained earlier and where I was launched into afterwards. I knew what situation our ministry was before we started tithing and where we got launched into afterwards. When we separated KBI tithes from the general ministry tithe and started paying it directly to the most suitable soil, our fame and reach took a new turn. I believe so much in tithing and the act of giving. I once said it that even if God said, I should stop tithing, I won't stop.

I remember an encounter I had with God at a time I gave what was most precious to me as a bachelor. The LORD came down and said to me that even if I stopped giving, I would surely be greatly blessed. Looking back, I just started giving by the reason of the grace bestowed upon me.

Remember, I wasn't giving to get. I have never given anything to God with the aim of getting. By His grace, I give because I love Him. I love Him enough to obey Him. I love Him enough to do His will. I love Him enough to be a blessing to His servants and his work on the earth. I don't give because I want to get, I give because I love Him and I expect that He would bless me according to His word. God never lie.

Should we expect a reward?

We all have different backgrounds. While some people believe that if they tithe, they must get something in return, some believe that they must not expect anything in return on this earth. The latter was my own background. We were consciously or unconsciously taught that when we give or serve, our rewards is stored up in heaven.

My mum tithes religiously and taught us the act but she didn't explain the blessedness of it to us. The day I went to a church and heard the pastor emphasize on the rewarding part of a man's service and giving here on earth, I felt lost. At first, I thought they were too carnal. I was like, how will you give to God and expect something in return, has He not done enough? My theology was half-truth and any half-truth is poisonous.

When we go to give our tithes and offering at my childhood church, the song the choir usually sing is that "*we will reap all our rewards in heaven if we faint not*" but that is not completely true. Our material rewards are to be given to us here on the earth. And if we are ignorant of that fact, we may not get any of it.

Peter's Carnal Question

In case you think that you are carnal for expecting a reward then you should check out Peter's question to Jesus on this reward of a thing.

Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? Matthew 19:27.

Then Peter said, “we’ve given up everything to follow you. What will we get?” Mathew 19:27 NLT.

That Peter asked such a question, what kind of reply did you think that he would get from Jesus? I was actually expecting that Jesus would scold him or give him a knock on the head for asking for a reward. Shouldn't he be ready to live a selfless life for the kingdom? I am sure Peter asked the question that was in the heart of other disciples while they may not want to ask so they won't look like a carnal person. Probably, they even held a meeting behind Jesus and they all pushed Peter forward to be the one to ask. Glory to God, our Lord Jesus is not hypocritical and He is not a user of man but a maker of man.

Check out Jesus' reply

And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God's sake, Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Luke 18:29-30

NLT- "Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you, everyone who has given up house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, will be repaid many times over in this life, as well as receiving eternal life in the world to come. Luke 18:29-30

Jesus says that whatever you give to Him and towards His ministry, you will have an hundredfold of it- here on earth. The only thing that you should expect in heaven is eternal life.

How do you give to Jesus? Remember the illustration Jesus made about coming to you when He was hungry and naked? Remember what He said about giving a cup of water to a disciple and taking a prophet as a prophet? Remember what He said about helping your neighbour? That is you giving to Jesus!

How do you give towards the kingdom of God? When you give to your Zion and to any work of God, that is you giving to the kingdom. And what you should expect is an 100% return of whatever you give.

When are you going to have the 100% fold return- **NOW.**

Where are you going to have the 100% fold return- **ON THIS EARTH.**

There is no material reward waiting for anyone in heaven. Don't be surprised when you get to heaven and you didn't see any mansion or estate in anybody's name. All those visions of houses and blocks that you hear are figurative to say the least. All material rewards are to be delivered here, on the earth.

Store Up in Heaven

Probably, the Scriptures that pop up on your mind right now when I said there is no reward in heaven is that passage that admonished us to store up our resources in heaven.

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal. Matthew 6:20

Yes, that Scripture is true but you were never told to put your money in heaven so that you can go to withdraw it when you die and go to heaven. What do you want to buy with it in heaven? Do you want to buy foodstuff or pay school fees? Let me explain that scriptures using the earthly banking system.

When you go to deposit money in the banks today, do you go back home worry about thief stealing your money? Of course not. So far, you have received the alert that confirms that the money is paid into your account, you go home to rest. Do you have to get to the bank before you can spend the money in your account? Of course not. You can seat at the comfort of your home and make transaction over your money up till the last dime.

So, when Jesus asked you to store up treasures in heaven, He is telling you to keep it in a safe place so that you can withdraw from it anytime while you are on this earth. Beyond that, keeping treasures in heaven is a way more advantageous from the world banking system. One of the many advantages is that while the banks on earth charge you for different things, your heavenly bank multiplies your deposit by 100% and keeps it for you.

Many years after Jesus made that statement, Apostle Paul by the divine revelation of the heavenly banking system had this to say to the Philippians Church:

Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. Philippians 4:17

At another time, he was addressing the Corinthians church and he had this to say: ***But this [I say,] He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 2 Corinthians 9:6***

Withdrawing from heaven's account

I got to know about this through the teachings of Kenneth Hagin. He made me to understand that you can literally withdraw from your account which is in heaven. But the first question is, do you really have an account in heaven. If you do, I can guide you on how to withdraw. This is what I have done and seen it work.

- i. How much do you need? If you are to fill a withdrawal slip in any bank, you would state the particular amount you want to cash. When I first used this prayer approach, what I wrote was my budget for each month. In your case, it could be your school fees or a project fund. It shouldn't just be an arbitrary or figure. It should be as needed or budgeted.
- ii. Purpose of withdrawal: my family operates an investment account. Every time we wanted to withdraw from it, they question the reason we are doing so. At first, I found it funny but later understood that it is an investment account and not a regular savings account. So, you must know your reason.
- iii. Spiritual forces: your Father knows your need even before you asked for it. That it is not getting to you and you have to ask is

because a satanic force is blocking your access. We have to uproot that blockade.

- iv. Angels: since some demonic forces blocked your access, you need angelic forces to move on your behalf.
- v. Man: man remains the method of God on earth. There are supernatural provisions but God would always use man more often than none so, you need to know how to take charge over a man's spirit.

Prayer Demonstration

Father, I thank you for the understanding of your word that you have rightly spoken to me about withdrawing from my heavenly account. I receive forgiveness from all hindering sins in Jesus name. I hereby place a demand for the withdrawal of ₦300,000 needed for the payment of my school fees on or before Monday of next week. I rebuke Satan and his forces to take their hands off my money right now in Jesus name. My money is free from the coven of darkness.

I asked that the angels of the Lord who are ministers unto me go get my money across to me in Jesus name. Every man (if there is any specific person, mention their name) that should get the money across to me; your spirit is open to the knowledge of God and the leadings of the Spirit of God right now. Get the money across to me in Jesus Name. Thank you Jesus. I receive my ₦300,000 already in the name of Jesus.

After making that prayer, you can repeat it as often as you want because it contains faith-filled word with demonstration of authority. And you can

choose to simply keep saying “Thank you Jesus, I receive my sum of ₦300,000 in Jesus Name”. But never make the mistake of asking God to please give you or provide the money to you. He had provided it already. Just exert your authority.

Tithing is the basic test of your heart for God

Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 19:21-23

I have said this earlier. Tithing and giving as a whole is one basic way God checks if a man truly loves and trust Him. It may sound absurd but it's the truth. No god competes directly with God in the life of a man like mammon- the god of money.

You can give without loving but you can't love without giving. Have you imagined why it is so difficult for you to consistently pay your tithes? It is because you don't have that heart yet for God. The heart that totally trusts and depends on Him. The reason you ask so many “what ifs” questions on tithe is because of that. *What if it is only my tithe that is with me? What if my neighbour is in need? What if and what if.*

A man once called me to complain of his state of lack. I asked if he was a tither, he said no because the money is not enough. Then, I said to him:

since you have been spending your tithe, has the money being enough? He said no. I told him that *“it will never be enough”*. It’s not a curse. The principle you break will break you. If you are a believer, you must walk before God and be perfect.

Unrighteous Mammon

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? Luke 16:10-11

If God entrust few thousands into your hands and you are not faithful enough to draw out the tithe, He says: *no one will commit the true riches to you*. The true riches here is not just money. True riches include your health, your security, your peace of mind and more. Your tithe is connected to all areas of your life and to your general wellbeing.

And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. Matthew 19:24

Whenever the poor reads this passage, they think it is referring to the rich. But no, it is not. Before that verse was the story of a man who finds it difficult to part with his money. He has made his money is god and placed his trust in it. So, the point here is that ability to part with one’s money. Jesus is saying in essence that it will be difficult for anyone who finds it difficult to part with his money to enter into the kingdom of God. That includes both the poor and rich.

I tell you, as far as parting with money is concerned, the poor are guiltier of this. So, when I said tithing and giving as a whole shows your heart for God, you understand what it means now. You may say- Oh, I can give but I don't tithe. If you can't give 10% diligently with a record to back it up, I tell you, you are nowhere near the giving art. Giving once a while is not what makes you a giver but giving consistently.

Tithing says a lot about a man's character

This is my belief. I have seen men that tithe faithfully and I can vouch for their honesty in many other areas. A thief cannot tithe faithfully- take it from me. You can entrust a tither with your money. I am not saying that tithing alone makes a man faithful but there is a higher tendency for a tither to be faithful in every other thing than for a non-tither to be. If you are a tither, you will agree with me that it takes a high dose of discipline and brokenness to reach that height of consistency. Anyone who has reached that height had been broken in many other areas.

Tithing qualifies for the Abraham order of blessings

Melchizedek blessed Abraham saying:

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth. Genesis 14:18-19

God is all in all. If God appears to you as the Protector, He would protect you. If He appears to you as the Healer, He would heal you. That day, God appeared to Abraham as the possessor of heaven and earth. That is

the way God appears to every tither today in the order of Abraham. If you tithe and you don't see the result then maybe you are missing it somewhere and I believe that you are seeing the light already.

Apostle Paul says that may my God meet all your needs and supply them according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

When you tithe, all your needs are met and your needs are not only financial needs. He meets all.

Jacob

And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee. Genesis 28:22

Jacob made a business deal with God. He said- be my senior Partner, you get the tithe. What a great privilege we have. God gives us all we have and we only return 10% to Him? That is why I always appreciate God for my account manager which is my wife. She is an anointed giver. Just this morning, she told me how much I have earned this month then, she told me that we have given over 55% of it as seed. The month is yet to end; I am convinced more will still go into seed. 10% is the least you can give to God, yet many have not been faithful to it let alone graduate from it.

Jacob entered into a business covenant with God asking for a job security and when He needed God the most to save him from Laban, a big cheat, God was there. God appeared to him and referred directly to the tithing covenant saying: *"I [am] the God of Bethel, where thou*

anointedst the pillar, [and] where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred. Genesis 31:13” God ensured that Laban cooperated with Jacob. That is you getting favour from your clients and employers. It is in the power of my hand to do you hurt: but the God of your father spake unto me yesternight, saying, Take thou heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad. Genesis 31:29.

When Jacob needed God again to keep him from his brother Esau who was ready to destroy Jacob utterly, the man had a change of mind and welcomed him warmly. You can liken Esau to sickness, woes, loss, negative government policies and unforeseen circumstances. The covenant of tithing will seal you from it all.

The Abrahamic order of blessings that spans from tithing covers all things including job and business security.

Too Blessed

Should you not know, one of the things that come with an act of crazy giving is “too much blessing” up till the point that people would think that you do money ritual. Up till the point that people would persecute you. Isn’t that what Jesus said that we shall be blessed so much that it would attract persecution?

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel’s, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time,

houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

Mark 10:29-30

Isn't that what God mean when he said that you shall lend to nations and you shall not ever borrow. *For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee. Deuteronomy 15:6*

Isn't that what He meant by saying that through prosperity will your fame be spread abroad? *Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem. Zechariah 1:17*

Too much blessings is the result of giving dedicatedly. We gave to a point one time that my wife asked- we have given all, what do we have left? I answered; what we have left is blessing-- quoting my father and mentor, Bishop David Oyedepo.

The Devourer

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 3:11

Whenever I talk about giving especially tithing, I don't like to make mention of the devourer because I don't want it to seems like a threat. But I tell you, the demon called devourer is real and one way to shield

yourself from it is by tithing. The Scriptures cannot be broken. God told you upfront that when you tithe rightly, faithfully and fully you would be far from the devourer. I know that there are unbelievers who don't tithe and they seem to be fine but remember what I told you at the beginning of this book. Choose which path you want to follow and follow it well. If you want to live like an unbeliever, be ready to do all they do and if you want to live like a believer, be ready to do what it takes. Meanwhile, before you compare yourself to an unbeliever, move closely to them to examine their whole life and watch their end. That is how to know the weight of what you desire.

God is not the one that would send the devourer to you when you refused to tithe. What happen is just as described in the case of Job. Job was living in constant fear of the devourer on a daily basis not knowing that he is living under a shield. Satan could see this shield and dare not cross over it. But Job wandered out of that shield. God addressing Satan said- "Job had wandered off and he is now under your jurisdiction, do to him as you wish but don't touch his life".

Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. {1:12} And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath [is] in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD. Job 1:10 & 12.

That is what happens when a man denies the provision of God. He places himself at the disposal of the devil. The Bible clearly says that when you tithe, you are secured. It is like subscribing for an anti-virus. God is not

wicked and at the same time, He would not go against His word. If He couldn't jump into action to take His Son, Jesus from the cross then, He has done all for you and all you have to do is to take delivery of His provision.

When the demon called devourer started with Job, he touched his business and finances. Then, he touched his children. But he made a terrible statement when he realized that Job was still undisturbed.

And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. {2:5} But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. {2:6} And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he [is] in thine hand; but save his life. Job 2:4&6

Satan touched his health. Satan said: touch a man's body, you have devoured him. May strange sickness not creep into your home in Jesus Name. It is a common saying that many people are a sickness away from poverty. A celebrity could be up and going in the morning and suddenly, he would turn a beggar over a sickness in the evening. That will not be your portion in Jesus Name. The devourer has one aim, to steal, to kill and to destroy. It will not come near your dwelling in Jesus Name.

Redeemed from the curse of the Law

Satan may begin to deceive you by saying you shouldn't pay attention to what I am saying because you have been redeemed from the curse of the law. Yes, you have been redeemed from the curses of the law but let me show you few things.

- i. Malachi is not a Law of Moses. That Scripture is in the book of Malachi.
- ii. What about the blessings of the law? I hope you know that the blessings stated alongside the curses of the law in the Book of Deuteronomy chapter 28 are still valid till date. In fact, the blessing was in force before the law and exists afterwards. One of the blessings is that if a child obeys his father and mother, it shall be well with him all the days of his life. Is that blessing still valid? Oh yes! Another blessing states that when you tithe, you are shielded from the demon called devourer. Do you like that blessing? Then, go for it.
- iii. Sickness is one of the curses of the law, I hope you know that. But why do believers fall sick since they have been redeemed from it. That should give you a message that devil still hunts those that do wickedly against the covenant.

And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do [exploits.] Daniel 11:32.

However, if you feel guilty of tithing or you feel that what is happening to you at the moment is due to your unfaithfulness, you have the privilege to call on His mercy. That is the difference between you and the person under the law. You can ask for mercy, you can call unto him. And I rebuke the devourer of your life, career, finance and business in Jesus Name. The devourer you see today, you will see it no more.

As I close this chapter, I want to emphasize that I don't want you to give out of fear of the devourer. Fear on its own is a vice. I also don't want you to give just because of the blessings attached. Give because you love God in expectation of His blessings. One way to develop the act of giving act of love is to say it every time you give. You can say something like: Oh Lord, I thank you for the privilege to give unto you. I give because I love you and your commands. I give because I love your servant and your work. Father accept my offering/tithe and bless me according to you faithfulness. Bless me with (name it). In the name of Jesus I have prayed, Amen.

CHAPTER EIGHT

HOW THE BLESSING COMES

If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth.

Ecclesiastes 11:3

When you tithe or give, you should expect blessings but how does the blessing come? Many of us feel that money would drop mystically from

heaven or just land into our bank accounts supernaturally. I believe in the supernatural but like I always say, God can grant you a breakthrough through the supernatural but He won't sustain that blessing in your life through supernatural means. How do I mean? God created the heaven and the earth with His words- that's supernatural but He doesn't recreate it every day or every week. What He does is to put a system in place which is called the solar system. The solar system had been in existence for millions of years and it's still functioning well. That is how God works.

So, God may provide for you through supernatural means but that is not His usual way. It was only once that Jesus withdrew money from the fish. He multiplied the bread and fish twice but those men got hungry again because they did not learn the system of regular supply. When the oil of that woman was supernaturally increased, Elisha asked her to sell. If she sell and squander the money without doing a business with it, she would be in debt again. So, learning the system of consistent supply is more important than expecting daily miracles. As soon as the Israelites entered the promised land, God gave them the system of seed time and harvest time and manna ceased right there.

And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Joshua 5:12

In this chapter, let's examine channels or system through which God returns our blessings of tithing.

1. Divine Ideas

I have journeyed with God so much that I can tell you that out of 100 times, God will return the blessings of your tithing through divine ideas, 90 times. When God said prove me now if I will not open the windows of heavens to rain down to you, what were you expecting? A rain of dollars- no, they don't print dollars in heaven. A rain of cars- sorry, no car manufacturing plant in heaven. What should you expect- IDEAS! Divine Ideas!

Bishop David Oyedepo once said that a man who can pray but cannot think is a burden to God but a man who can think and pray is a co-labourer with God. The same goes with giving. If you can give but cannot think, your blessings is simply routing somewhere waiting for the day you will open your head. When rain falls from heaven, it touches the head first then the head converts it into blessings and it refreshes the whole body. If you are not given to the act of thinking, about 90% chance of you getting anything out of your giving and tithing is lost.

Some ideas would also come as instructions just like Jesus told Peter where to put his net. Ensure you pay attention to it when it comes and you obey promptly.

When we printed our third book in the ministry, I was happy and grateful to God. In the midst of that excitement, I told God that there are many more books locked up in me. I said to Him that if he can give me One Million naira, we would produce three more books. At that time, you can print 1000 copies of a book for ₦300,000. I didn't hear God gave me any answer that day. But few months later, I went to visit my spiritual

father and of course, went with a gift. That was the day I also committed to paying my 10% to him. As I was leaving, my mind opened and a million dollar idea dropped. It came like an inspiration: *“why not release those books locked up in you as softcopies, that will cost you close to nothing instead of waiting for ever.”*

My wife had always suggested it but I constantly disagreed with her stating many factors but that day, my mindset enjoyed a shift. It was as if a cloud was taken off my mind and it was open to the idea. Two years after we started that idea, our ministry had produced 37 books including the one in your hand. That One Million idea is worth much more than One Million naira. Every time you give, expect an idea.

The first time I gave all my salary, I was expecting appearances of miraculous money but that didn't happen. But I realized that I didn't die or starve all through the month. Those living with me did not starve either. I had told God that my salary was not enough for me and that He should bless me above my salary. God had told me in response that I should sacrifice it. At first, I thought I didn't hear God well. I said the money was not enough and you are asking me to give all? But I obeyed. What I discovered after obeying is that we didn't die or starve. Then, the idea came: “if I can do without this salary then I can use it to do something good”. That was how I started the project of my first book. I have made over ₦500,000 on the book. The salary I sacrificed was ₦16,000. I am just showing the value of ideas.

2. Your Work

God would always ask people, what do you have that I can bless? To that widow, she had a jar of oil. The other widow had a morsel of meal. The disciples got a boy with few loaves and fishes. That was all God needed but He needed something. The blind men that came to Jesus brought their closed eyes and the eyes were opened. The Bible says, he that does not work must not eat. *“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat”*.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

Abraham was a shepherd, God blessed his livestock. Isaac was a farmer, God blessed his crops. What is your work? What is your job? What is your business? Look at that place very well, monitor it, think and work on it, that is where your open heaven blessings would fall when the rain begins. If you don't have a bucket to collect the water, what is the essence of the rain. And if all you had was a bucket, what is the essence of giving you a tank of water? Think and do more in your work to get more blessings.

3. Your Source

When a student tithes, he gets blessed but most importantly, it is his parents that get the blessings because they are his source. That is why you shouldn't make yourself a dependent of a fellow man when you ought to be on your own. Joseph was with Potiphar, the Bible reported that God blessed Potiphar because it was Potiphar that was feeding him. *And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's*

house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field. Genesis 39:5

The same thing happened to Jacob. The point here is that, God blesses your source when you are not on your own and when you don't have a work in particular that He can bless.

4. Men

Yes, God uses men- known and unknown but the first three options should be your major focus. In getting blessings via the three options mentioned earlier men are still involved. Isaac got the idea of irrigation but it was men that helped him in digging the well. So, when we talk about men, it is not just about the rich or the powerful. Most of the projects we did in the ministry were made easy by the instrumentation of men. It was not as if they gave some huge sum of money but they gave ideas, suggestions and information that saved us from a lot of loss. It enabled us to use less to achieve more.

*Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, **shall men** give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. Luke 6:38*

In the same vein, God can send men to you. The Bible says give and it shall be given unto you but who will give unto you? Not angels but fellow men. May you receive the ministration of men in terms of money and favour in Jesus Name.

But if I were you, I will not put my gaze or focus on men that God uses but on that God that uses men.

CHAPTER EIGHT

FAQs ON TITHING

So far in this book, we have clearly examined by the Spirit of God a number of facts and revelation on tithing. I pray that your heart is opened to what is true and you receive the grace to obey fully in Jesus name. Everything I have said in this book thus far is all for your own good. You cannot find my account details or that of the ministry in any page of this book. I am not teaching you so you can pay your tithe to me or the ministry but that you may be blessed.

There are still more areas we might not have covered in this topic and so I feel if we treat it in the form of question and answer, we may answer

more questions and touch more areas. In that light, I will be answering some set of questions that were asked in one of our Bible study sessions on tithing.

1. **Didn't the Bible say I can eat my tithe?**

This is among the most popular errors gullible Christians who don't like to read their Bibles believe. Those who peddle this teaching actually know the right thing but because they know you may not open your Bible or because they know how gullible people are, they continue to teach it.

This is one way to know that this doctrine is from hell. How can God say that tithes belong to the Levites in one passage and in another passage say that it should be eaten? How can He say bring all tithes to my house and say that it should be consumed by you in another part? Will that not be contradictory and inconsistent? Even if you don't know how to balance the two, you should know for sure that it can't mean that God wants you to eat your tithe. You will only believe that if you have been looking for a justification not to pay your tithe all along.

Deuteronomy 14:22-29 talks about eating of tithe **but it was a kind of tithe and not the regular 10%**. This kind of tithe is called "vegetable tithe" in the Old Testament and it is operated this way: in the first and second year, they are to eat the tithe but in the third year, they are to give it to the poor and the Levites. They will eat it again in the fourth and fifth year and give it to the Levites and the poor in the sixth year. The seventh year is the year of Jubilee so; they are not expected to plant or harvest. Everything on their farmlands therefore goes to the birds and

the poor. Then, they will resume in the eighth year which will serve as first year. I hope you get it.

2. What is the implication of this vegetable tithing to us today?

When this question was raised on our study group, I loved it so much. You can simply separate a percentage of your income either 10% or lower and higher and assign it to the poor or ministers of God or missionaries as you may be led. It is acceptable by God and attracts blessings. I know a number of people especially ministers and ministries that do this. And that is why those people and ministries are blessed.

3. Can tithe be paid only through money?

Yes, especially in this age. The exemption however is when the tithe can be converted into another thing.

4. Who and who can't pay tithe?

No one is exempted.

5. Can someone who works in a beer parlour pay their tithe?

Anyone who does a godly job should tithe their income and anyone who doesn't do a godly job should know that their tithe is not acceptable.

6. Can one tithe above 10%? You can and it's acceptable

7. Is tithe the same as offertory? No

8. Can restitution be done on tithing?

Generally, I tell people to start afresh and stay faithful.

9. For those who are not salary earners, can tithe be paid daily or weekly?

Yes, paying it promptly keeps temptation away.

10. What are the keys to blessings?

Tithing is one of the keys to blessing; others include service, diligence, hard work, loyalty etc. Meanwhile, tithing doesn't only give financial blessing but many other blessings like job security, lasting prosperity and health.

11. Can God instruct to give tithe to someone in need of it?

Tithe is just 10%; you have other 90% that you can use to help people.

12. Did Abraham and Jacob tithe just once or it was repeatedly done by them as it's expected of us today?

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. Genesis 8:22.

13. Will it not be wise to advise a pastor to engage in some business so as to argument his tithes, especially in rural areas where the income of the members is not much for the pastor?

There are many wrong things with this question. First, a pastor doesn't rely on tithes from the congregation to live neither does he depend on the members' income to live. God is His Source and Provider. Even if a Pastor lives in a city, He needs only God to survive. The other part of the question talks about a pastor that is in a rural area. Missionaries or rural pastors are positioned to work to sustain themselves. That seems

wise and right but they should hear from God who called them. I believe that if I am in a village, I will not do any other work outside the ministry. I am telling you a fact based on what I have seen and experienced of God. Today, I have no other work outside the ministry.

14. **Are there any consequence for not paying tithe faithfully and what are the possible remedies to those consequences?**

I believe that the reward of tithing should be emphasized rather than the consequences of not paying it. The only thing you can do about the consequences is to start doing it right now and seek His mercy over the implications of your disobedience.

15. **Is it possible to tithe materials things?**

Many of us believe that we are to convert those materials things to money and tithe the money but it's not always possible and convenient. You may be given things you don't need or that you can't afford. The tithes of such seem more like a burden since you have to look for the money. What I advise is that you should be a giver. As you receive material things, also give out things even when you didn't receive a thing.

16. **Is it biblical for a full time minister to be placed on salary or is it man made?**

Another word for pastors in the Bible is government (1 Corinthians 12:28). Salary or stipend is a governing wisdom to ensure order.

17. **Can we accumulate all our tithes and pay later if our Zion is far from us and pay whenever we are there physically?**

This is the age of bank transfer, you can transfer it through the internet and it should be prompt to avoid temptation.

18. **Can I tithe Betnaija (betting) money?**No

19. **Can a student pay his tithe?**

A student should tithe from any money that belongs to him and should not tithe any money that does not belong to him e.g. tuition.

INDEX

Receiving Salvation

You were born a sinner condemned to hell but Jesus Christ died for your sins, gave you power to sin no more and to enjoy life here on earth and hereafter. All you need to do is to believe and accept His works by declaring Him as your LORD and Saviour. Do you believe this? Say: Lord Jesus Christ, I accept that you died and resurrected for the remission of my sins, I declare you as my LORD and Saviour. Amen.

Steps to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost

1. You are not to ask or beg God for it, just expect it.
2. Believe He has given you and you will manifest it.
3. Don't hate tongues. That some people misuse it doesn't mean it has lost its power.
4. Don't pretend not to need it. Holy Ghost baptism is not just about tongues, it is about empowerment but tongues is the initial sign that you are baptized.
5. Clear your minds of doubts. God will give you but if you think that any sin can hinder you, ask for forgiveness now and now. (Isa 1:18 *Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool*). And forgive everyone in your heart.
6. As I pray for you, you will be baptized and you will speak in new tongues.
7. As I pray for you, the Holy Spirit will give you utterances and you will speak it out. Note that utterance means any sound produced with the mouth. That means the utterance could be one syllable or

two. It could be one word or more. Understand that you are the one that will pronounce the utterance in anyway it comes to your mind as the Holy Spirit gives you utterance.

8. When I pray for you, the utterance would come. Don't think you are the one thinking it, it is not you. Don't think you will be unconscious or lost, it is not so. Don't be bothered if you don't know the meaning just speak it. And keep repeating whatever comes to your mind.
9. Daddy thank you because you are a faithful God, you always hear me and you are eager to give us more than we are eager to ask. I pray for you: receive the Holy Spirit right now in Jesus Name.
10. Open your mouth and began to speak those tongues.

Steps to Receive Healing

1. **1Peter 2:24 says:** *He personally bore our sins in His [own] body on the tree [as on an altar and offered Himself on it], that we might die (cease to exist) to sin and live to righteousness. **By His wounds you have been healed.***
2. You have been healed. You have been healed even before you had that illness, what I'm about to do by praying with you is to proclaim your healing.
3. As I do that, the pains and symptoms will be no more.
4. After I pray for you move that part of your body just as though it was healed already because it is an instant healing.
5. I proclaim you healed and whole right now in Jesus Name. The last time you had that illness is the last you will ever have in Jesus Name.
6. Check it out and share your testimonies.

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