

January 16/17, 2009
Being Blessed By God Most High

Key Scripture: *Genesis 13:1-18*

Off-Roading Observations:

1) We are blessed by God Most High when, like Abram, we value what God values most and live generously like Him. Abram valued relationships over riches and received a reward that exceeded his imagination. You can't out-give our God Most High. ***Proverbs 11:24-25; Luke 6:38; 1 Timothy 6:17-19***

Key Scripture: *Genesis 14:14-24*

2) Abram freely gave a tenth of all he recovered, not because he had to, but because of his gratitude to God for all of His protection and provision. A grateful heart gives freely and joyfully in obedience to God's commands on giving confident that He will do what He promises.

Why should I tithe? Seven Reasons from God's Word:

1. Because God commands it. *"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy." **Leviticus 27:30***

2. Because Jesus commended it. *"Yes, you should tithe, and you shouldn't leave the more important things undone either." **Matthew 23:23***

3. Tithing demonstrates that God has first place in my life. *"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in first place in your life." **Deuteronomy 14:23***

4. Tithing reminds me that everything I have was given to me by God! *"Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth." **Deuteronomy 8:18***

5. Tithing expresses my love to the Lord. *"How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?" **Psalms 116:12***

6. God says that refusing to tithe is stealing from Him!

Malachi 3:8-10

7. Tithing gives God a chance to prove He exists and wants to bless you! *Malachi 3:10*

What should I tithe? *"The first part of what I earn, not the leftovers. Honor the Lord by giving Him the first part of your income." **Proverbs 3:9-10***

Where should I give my tithe? Where I worship (my local church). ***Malachi 3:10***

What is the difference between a "tithe" and an "offering"?

A "tithe" is giving the first 10% of my income.

An "offering" is anything I give in addition to my tithe or 10%.

When should I tithe? Weekly or when I am paid.

On the first day of every week, set aside some of what you have earned and give it as an offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.

1 Corinthians 16:2

What attitude do I give with? Cheerful willingness.

Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure...for God loves a cheerful giver! **2**

Corinthians 9:7