

Thoughts on Giving

Arthur Barry

Old Testament:

Leviticus 27:30-33: *"Thus all the tithe of the land, of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord. If, therefore, a man wishes to redeem part of his tithe, he shall add to it one-fifth of it. And for every tenth part of herd or flock, whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the Lord. He is not to be concerned whether it is good or bad, nor shall he exchange it; or if he does exchange it, then both it and its substitute shall become holy. It shall not be redeemed."*

Ten percent of all produce is the beginning of giving under the Old Testament. In addition to this, the law required regular offerings. A faithful Israelite might give up to 75% of his income. There were few who were faithful in this manner.

Malachi 3:8-12 *Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts*

New Testament:

The interesting thing about the concept of tithing under the New Testament is its almost virtual absence. The basic principle is outlined by Paul as follows:

2 Corinthians 9:6 *"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. 7 "Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver."*

Giving back to God is a natural feature of the Christian life. There is no amount or proportion specified in the New Testament but we are called to give with purpose and with generosity and with cheerfulness. The early church used the contribution to support the preaching of God's Word and to meet the needs of the poor, with priority given to the saints. The Scriptures do not teach that the tithe is incumbent upon New Testament believers. However, they do teach that Christians are to be generous, sacrificial, expectant and cheerful givers!

Does that describe you?



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
June 25, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

**ALL THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
GREET YOU.
ROMANS 16:16**

Today's Sermon: *Do we Prefer Walls or Roads?*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: 2 Peter 2:1-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: July 16th.**
- **Ladies Class: has been suspended for the summer. We will resume after Labor Day in September. Watch this space!**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**



- ✓ Jennifer Hicks' mother, Betty Pack, passed away on Friday morning as a result of cancer.
- ✓ Workers from the church in Kittanning will again be traveling to Sayre to conduct a vacation Bible school here. This year the one day vacation Bible school will be on **Saturday, August 19th**. This year VBS will be based on the life of Peter.
- ✓ Arthur and Sandy have booked a flight to Alaska leaving from Newark, NJ in the morning, returning July 10th. They will be visiting their son, Robin, his wife, Katie and their 7 children in Soldotna. **Jonah Lee, a young man from Kittanning, will be coming to preach on July 2nd, accompanied by his family, and Nate's dad will be preaching here on July 9th.**
- ✓ Arthur is working on a canoe/kayak trip down the Susquehanna River from Owego to Sayre to take place sometime this summer. We may try a few shorter excursions first to "test the waters". ;-) This is for all who are interested.
- ✓ A purchase offer was delivered on Tuesday for the Presbyterian Church building in Athens, but it appears that they have accepted a higher offer from another party.

PRAYERS...

- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Pray for comfort for Jennifer, Ted and their children as they mourn their mother and grandmother, Betty.
- Darlene had a CT scan recently that revealed a stress fracture in her shoulder, causing her much pain. She also had an endoscopy which verified that she has Barrett's esophagus. Darlene is taking her sister's cancer and subsequent treatments very hard and asks for prayer that she can develop a godly attitude.
- Rhonda is suffering from digestive distress, causing her pain. She would appreciate prayers that this can be relieved.
- Jerry was scheduled to have his pacemaker removed because **he no longer needs it!** Praise the Lord.
- Vicki Joice, Darlene's sister, had her first round of chemo treatments last Tuesday. Despite the debilitating discomfort, she is doing relatively well and greatly appreciates the support and prayers of her Christian brethren.
- Pray for Emily Barry as she prepares for surgery on her thyroid sometime in August. Pray for peace in her life, as she has recently lost her job.
- Please remember Kiley and Thomas Dolan's mom, Heather Morse, in prayer.
- Tim Bump is looking for a different job, and needs prayer to help him deal with problems in his life.
- Remember Deborah Albro in prayer, who is dealing with several health issues.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.