



Household Of Israel Temple Of Jesus Christ

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Tithes and offerings are perpetual divine ordinances of God. It is an unchangeable law decreed in the Ten Commandments and the Testimonies of Jesus Christ. When the Lord enriches you with your basic necessities, the things you need to occupy or exist in this earth, you are to return a portion back to him. Your tithes and offerings are the portion that God requires of you. This is how you return a blessing to the Lord when you obey all of his commandments. It is the proof of your love for God. It is written, *“If you love me, keep my commandments,”* **(John 14:15)**. Your obedience will then become a sweet savor before God in heaven.

In our beginnings we worshipped from home to home, somewhat like the children of Israel who wandered in the wilderness. Today, the true church of God is to be built in the end, in troublous times, **(Daniel 9:24-25)**. God has blessed us. He gave us a church home, a place dedicated and sanctified solely for the praise and honor of God, the uplifting of Jesus Christ, and the edification of our members. Our church allows us to worship God in a better and more perfect way without common distractions. All manner of righteous works can be fulfilled as written, which could be difficult and somewhat limiting in a home or temporary rented facility, **(Matt 3:13-15)**.

God commanded us to gather together and seek the Lord. We are to find out the real truth about Jesus Christ and all the required steps for our

salvation, (**Zephaniah 2:1-3, Hebrews 10:24-25**). Therefore the purpose of tithes and offerings are to help maintain the continuation of the church; for repairs, supplies, new construction, for payment of church debts and to meet emergency needs of members and others outside of the church. We are required by divine law to bring in ten percent of our earnings, and offerings on the Sabbath. Those who work and receive income must bring their offering into the storehouse of the church, where it can be documented and recorded as commanded by God, (**Ecclesiasticus (apocrypha) 42:7**). We are not to come before God empty handed on the Sabbath day, (**Ecclesiasticus (apocrypha) 35:1-11**). And remember, “*God loveth a cheerful giver,*” (**II Corinthians 9:7**).

It is written that there is a blessing for obedience to the tithing ordinance. There is a curse for noncompliance, (**Malachi 3:7-10**). Failure to comply is breaking the eighth commandment. It is stealing from God. It also breaks the first testimony of Jesus Christ which is “*blessed are the poor in spirit.*” The “*poor in spirit*” is the spirit from Christ which influences one to give, and share and receive of those things in which he may be lacking, so that all things are equal among brethren. **II Corinthians 8:9** says, “*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*” And Christ himself spoke these words as he taught us at the sermon on the mountain, **Matthew 5:3**, “*Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom for heaven.*”