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The Law of Tithing (Ken Walston- Kenna Outreach Ministries)

I wonder how many Christians really understand the Law of the Tithing.

What almost every Church going Christian is taught or instructed, first and foremost, upon entering a religious organization or "Assembly of the Faithful", is how to give a tenth (or more) of your money "Offering" and in some cases your own personal property and wealth to that organization or Assembly, it's the "Threat of the Tithe". It supersedes the teaching about Stewardship or preparing individuals on how to be Disciples of Yeshua ADONAI and learn how to preach the "Good News" of Salvation to the world at large. It's because the Church Organization needs your money, like any other business, in order to survive. You are quickly taught that Tithing is a Law of God and that it is a demand which is not revocable in any way; and in their desperation and greed, some of these Church Leaders/Elders/Pastors/Evangelist even go so far as to say boldly, that you are cheating God out of what is His and He will come after you and bring you to financial ruin if you do not give at least a tenth of your gross income to the Church. Under any secular setting or circumstance this is called "Extortion". What was given in Holiness to the nation that God had established as His own, has been extorted into a business and financial corporation called "the Church". The "Church" that Yeshua said He was going to build, is based upon the forthcoming Faith that was proclaimed by Peter (*Matthew 15:16-19*), was not to be an Institution, but the collective body of individuals that would come into the Faith and Knowledge in Him as Lord and God, through the testimony given by the Apostles, then transferred by the testimonies of every individual thereafter who would become Believers…this is the "Church", the Body of Yeshua.

What the Tithing is and was given through the Law of Moses, was to the Nation (Children of Israel) as a building foundation to bring them under submission. It was to take a Chosen People whom God would make into His Holy Nation and make them understand that to Love the Lord your God, meant to give 100% of everything from your Heart, Soul and Being to God; this meant to be totally submissive to the Will of God, which He was ordaining through the Law. There were rewards and punishment under the Law and this they were subjected. What most Christian's also don't realize (*basically because it is not taught in their Assembly*), is that until the time that Moses was given the Law of God and he pronounced that Law to the Nation of God's people (Israel), which until the Resurrection of Yeshua from the grave, the Law was imposed and had to be fulfilled in its entirety. Once ADONAI ascended to the Father and the Holy Spirit was sent to live with mankind and in every Believer of Yeshua (Pentecost), the Law was no longer imposed and the Church was to spread the Gospel of the Good News about Salvation through Faith in Yeshua ADONAI without bondage to the Law, and that Faith was the highest order and subsequent action to sustain our Salvation and that Propitiation of Sin was given under the same Faith that brought about our Salvation through Yeshua ADONAI.

There is no Law given to the Church about Tithing, nor is there a requirement about bondage to the Law required to Tithing. "Giving" is the Nature of God and should be reflective as the nature of every Believer in Yeshua. The essence of Love through God is in giving (John 3:16) but not bound through extortionists who hide under the shroud of godliness as Pastors, TV Evangelists,

Healers, or Church Elders building Mega Churches at the expense of the Lord's Household (the Body of Yeshua).

One thing to remember, it cost NOTHING to receive the Forgiveness of our sins and our Eternal Salvation through Yeshua, it has already been paid for in Full by Yeshua! We owe God everything and we owe Him nothing in price for what He has done for us, the Law is not imposed on us! If we give, it must be given freely from our hearts, in Faith that has No Doubt, for Doubt is Sin.

Children of the Most High God, BEWARE of anyone who demands or extorts your money, your possessions or your Faith into guilt in giving to their Ministry or their Congregation for any reason whatsoever! YOU are not Bound to the LAW!!!

Now here is the Law of Tithing given to Israel:

Hear O' Israel

Deuteronomy 14:22-29

The Law of the Tithe

"Set aside a tithe—a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. Then go to the one place where the LORD your God has chosen to be worshiped; and there in His Presence eat the tithes of your grain, wine, and olive oil, and the first-born of your cattle and sheep. Do this so that you may learn to honor the LORD your God always. If the place of worship is too far from your home for you to carry there the tithe of the produce that the LORD has blessed you with, then do this: Sell your produce and take the money with you to the one place of worship. ***Spend it on whatever you want***—beef, lamb, wine, beer—and there, in the presence of the LORD your God, ***you and your families are to eat and enjoy yourselves***.

"Do not neglect the Levites who live in your towns; they have no property of their own. At the end of every third year bring the tithe of all your crops and store it in your towns. This food is for the Levites, since they own no property, and for the foreigners, orphans, and widows who live in your towns. They are to come and get all they need. Do this, and the LORD your God will bless you in everything you do.

Leviticus 27:30-34

And all the tithe of the land, *whether* of the seed of the land *or* of the fruit of the tree, *is* the LORD's. It *is* holy to the LORD. If a man wants at all to redeem *any* of his tithes, he shall add one-fifth to it. And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, of whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the LORD. He shall not inquire whether it is good or bad, nor shall he exchange it; and if he exchanges it at all, then both it and the one exchanged for it shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed.'"

These *are* the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai.

Numbers 18:21

"Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the Tabernacle of Meeting."

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These excerpts from the Law of Tithing are not meant for the Church Age (the Time of the Gentiles), the time in which Salvation has been given to mankind, after the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) was given to us. The Law is not given in this manner to the Church as it was to the Children of Israel and that Nation. The Church is not under that Law, but falls under God's Gracefulness, Redemption and Salvation.

Many false teachers or deviants will promote and extort the Law as being fully imposed on the Church and to the extent of capitalizing on all of the restrictive measures necessary to keep people bound to their will by guilt and doubt. To the man, who has in faith, devoted his life to the preaching of the Gospel of Yeshua, there should be more giving of that individual than receiving!

To those who are devoted to spreading of the Good News and message of the Redemption and Salvation of Yeshua ADONAI, let them sustain individual means of employment and give without receiving anything in return (Titus 1:7); but to the man who devoted his entire time to the teaching and ministry of Yeshua, the church community should sustain that individual with a fare wage for his work in the Ministry of preaching the Gospel of Yeshua (1Timothy 5:17-18). Note: this would be through donations (money or common goods) and was explicitly known by everyone not to be to the point of wealthiness, to become rich through the ministry, but to sustain him in a common order of life. It was a noble position and job.

When the Apostle Paul was beginning to develop what would be called the "Christan Church" throughout the known world, it was to be a community of Believers who would hold communion and spread the Good News of Yeshua to the rest of the city they lived in and reach out beyond their local area. The request for any monies or tithings was to sustain that movement or those individual communities so that they could evangelize the message elsewhere. It was never to establish a common ritual to give without purpose and maintain a so called "Ministry" of just one membership of Believers. It was meant to produce a community that would go out and reach out the Gospel of Yeshua for every person to receive the knowledge that their Sins had been forgiven, which they had inherently been perpetrating against God, and that they now could receive Salvation and Everlasting Life through proclaiming Faith in the One True God, Yeshua ADONAI. This by no means should be isolated to one building stuffed full of only people who believe this message or dogma, one particular day of the week or festival occurrence. The Law of Tithing should not be anything other than the loving donation of the Church (Body of Yeshua) wealth, given out of Faith and Devotion to the Ministry of Spreading the Good News of Yeshua ADONAI for the Salvation of the World.

We should not be giving out of the wealth of the Church to sustain individual congregations or pastoralists who do not intent to promote the evangelizing of every person into the public ministry of promoting and preaching the Gospel of ADONAI to the world, but rather keeps those persons starry-eyed and mystified by the preprogrammed, carefully scripted show, and bound to the comfort of a Home Church religious social event every Sunday and worthless meeting of a Pastors Sermon (reading and expounding with personal commentary verses of Scripture) and establishing career-path ministries to bewildered and willing participants who go away with No

Actions, No Readiness and No Desire to spread the Good News to anyone, that “Our Captivity to Sin is OVER! and to expound on why that is. They keep it to themselves like it’s a secret society membership that only they should know and their weekly church meetings are to gather new converts to their cause and beat them into submission for money and donations which only feeds their insatiable need to make the business (church) bigger and richer. Some churches make corporate businesses pale in comparison, and all of their monies are tax free donations to boot.

What do the individual members of these church businesses get out of it. Well, they are told that they are worshiping God and will have righteous standing in God’s Eyes for their giving and that they have fulfilled an obligation of self-sacrifice to God by giving. That they have obeyed the Law and not broken it, that it demonstrates their true Christianity. That they will most definitely receive a Blessing from God and good fortune will be bestowed upon them (kind of a tit for tat thing), because if you will not succumb then God will smite you down and bring you into poverty.

There are many unbelievable methods in which Pastors, Evangelists and other church leaders are willing to bring fear and contempt to their church members in order to squeeze tithings out of them, week after week, meeting after meeting. Now, I wish I could say that this is the exception to the rule for most churches in America, but I can’t, because it isn’t. More than not, this is the standard protocol within the Christian Church operate. In fact, the tithing (Passa the Platea) is taken before the Pastor will begin the service or sermon, so the emphasis is on collecting the money before you get anything. It’s because these kinds of ministries and churches see everyone as cheats and thieves, so in order to keep everyone honest, they collect the payment for the show first, for as we all know, nothing in this life is free…only our Salvation. Right?