

# TITHES & OFFERINGS 1 SAM. 12:1-5; ACTS 20:32-35

## Introductory thoughts:

- As a young man, I decided that no one would ever be able to accuse me of wanting their money / begging for money / beating people up for money / guilting people for money....

How has that worked out for me?

- I have learned that some never give period!!! Now they will gossip / hate / criticize / judge / lie....

What should be your response to gossip / hate / negativity / criticism / judging / lies...? **Do you tithe & support the church?**

- Tithing is rather easy after salvation!

John Wesley discovered this during the 1<sup>st</sup> Great Awakening.

## Why?

People stop drinking / smoking / gambling and start working

John Wesley's teaching on money:

**Make all you can!**

**Save all you can!**

**Give all you can!**

- That some Baptist pastors are semi health & wealth / health & wealth lite when it comes to finances

**Haggai 1:3** Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying, **Haggai 1:4** *Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?* **Haggai 1:5** Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. **Haggai 1:6** Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages *to put it* into a bag with holes. **Haggai 1:7** Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. **Haggai 1:8** Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. **Haggai 1:9** Ye looked for much, and, lo, *it came* to little; and when ye brought *it* home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that *is* waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. **Haggai 1:10** Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed *from* her fruit. **Haggai 1:11** And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon *that* which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.

**Luke 6:36** Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. **Luke 6:37** Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: **Luke 6:38** 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.

**However, rarely, if ever, are these texts discussed:**

**Matthew 8:20** And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.

**2 Corinthians 8:9** 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.

**Hebrews 11:35** Women received their dead raised to life again: **and others** were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: **Hebrews 11:36** And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: **Hebrews 11:37** They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

**Hebrews 11:38** (**Of whom the world was not worthy:**) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

<b>False motives:</b>	
<b>Greed</b>	<b>Fear</b>
<b>Guilt (although this has an element of truth)</b>	<b>Divine judgement (again this has an element of truth)</b>

<b>Good motives:</b>	
<b>Love</b>	<b>Gratitude</b>
<b>Desire to share</b>	<b>Desire to invest &amp;/ help</b>
<b>Willingly / free will</b>	<b>Obeying Scripture</b>

**1 Chronicles 29:14** But who *am* I, and what *is* my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things *come* of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

- **That false motives work ...at least for a while. Afterwards, people are often left feeling bitter & angry and used...!**