



SHOULD A
CHRISTIAN
TITHE? - 2

THE SPIRIT OF
TITHING

INTRODUCTION

We now step into the second session of Bible Study to answer the very interesting question of whether a NT Believer should Tithe.

In the first session, we allowed the Scriptures to give us an undiluted panoramic view of the data on Tithing.

Just for the sake of completeness, let us look again at the summary of what the Bible contains on Tithing.....



SUMMARY

- We looked at the Bible in three era; Before the Law, during the Law and after the Law.
- Before the Law: There were two clear passages involving Abraham and Jacob that spoke of a type of Tithe
- Both cases were voluntary and very different from how Tithing was practiced during the Law



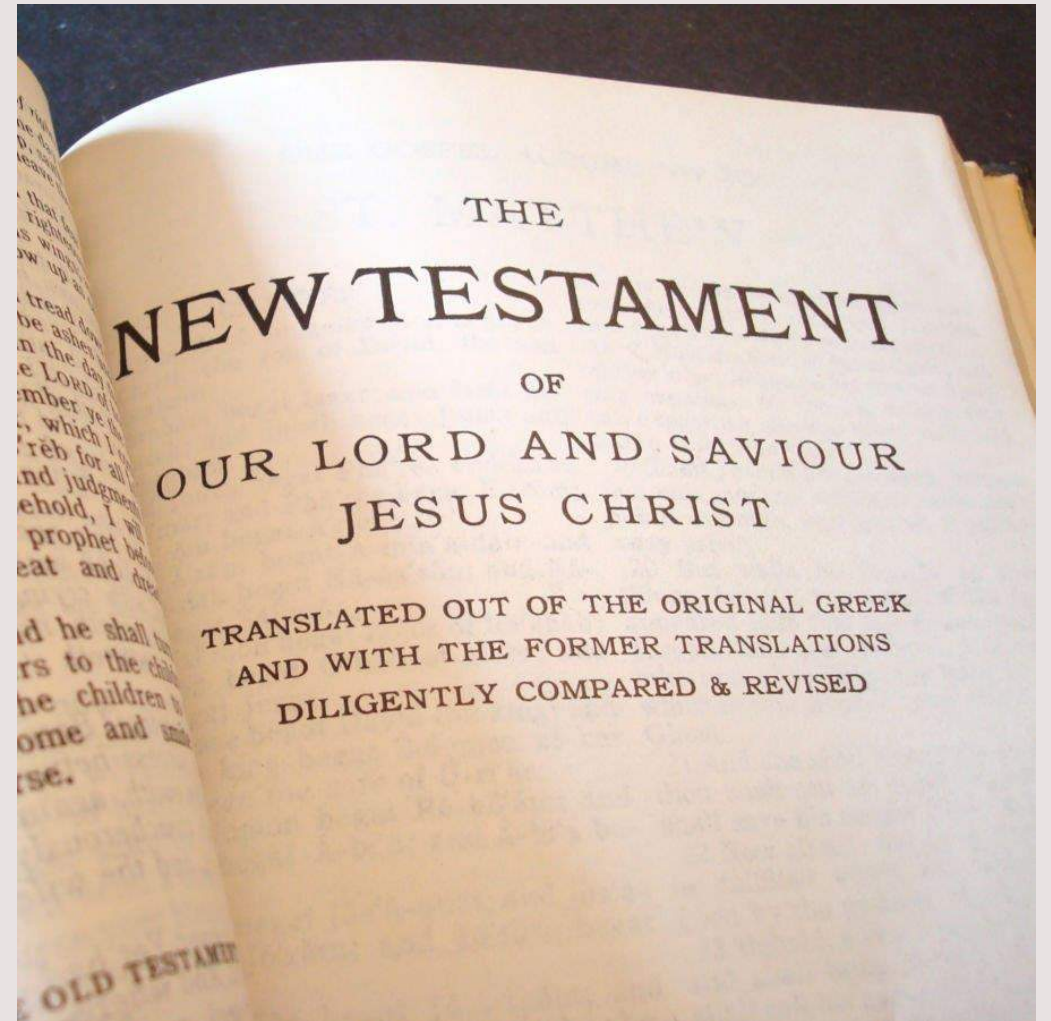
SUMMARY

- During the Law, we understood that the Israelites actually paid three types of Tithes, making their contributions more than Ten percent.
- They paid tithes for the Levites and Priests
- They paid Tithes for their families to travel to and take part in the festivals.
- Thirdly, they paid a Tithe every three years for widows, orphans and the poor.

A large, 3D-rendered red graphic of the number '30%' is centered within a white, shield-shaped area with a dotted border. The numbers are thick and have a slight shadow beneath them, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

SUMMARY

- After the Law, there is practically no mention of the instruction or culture to Tithe in any of the new churches.
- There is ONE mention of the Tithe in the epistle to the Hebrews.
- The passage however is making the broader point of Jesus' Priesthood being superior to the Levitical Priesthood.
- The passage is NOT an instruction to the NT Church how or when to Tithe.



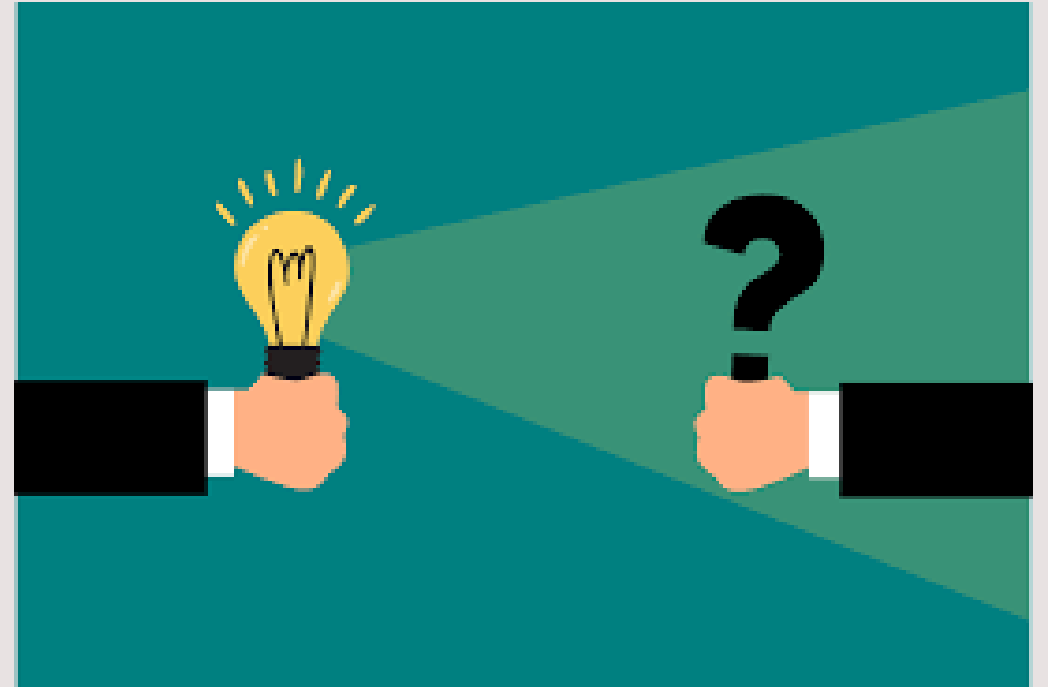


SO, DO ALL THESE
SUMMARIES AND
BIBLICAL ANALYSIS
MEAN A CHRISTIAN
SHOULD NOT TITHE?

QUESTION...

ANSWER....

We will allow the
Scriptures to answer
this conundrum...



NOTE....

Please Do Not
Assume You Know
Where I Am,
Heading Or You May
Miss The Lesson....



Principle – All Scripture is From God



All Scripture is inspired by God and is **useful to teach us** what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16



Jesus Endorsed The Old Testament...

¹⁷ “Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.

¹⁸ I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s law will disappear **until its purpose is achieved.**

Matthew 5:18

Old Testament Written For Us...

For whatever was written in earlier times was **written for our instruction**, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope *and* overflow with confidence in His promises.

Romans 15:4



Written For Us....

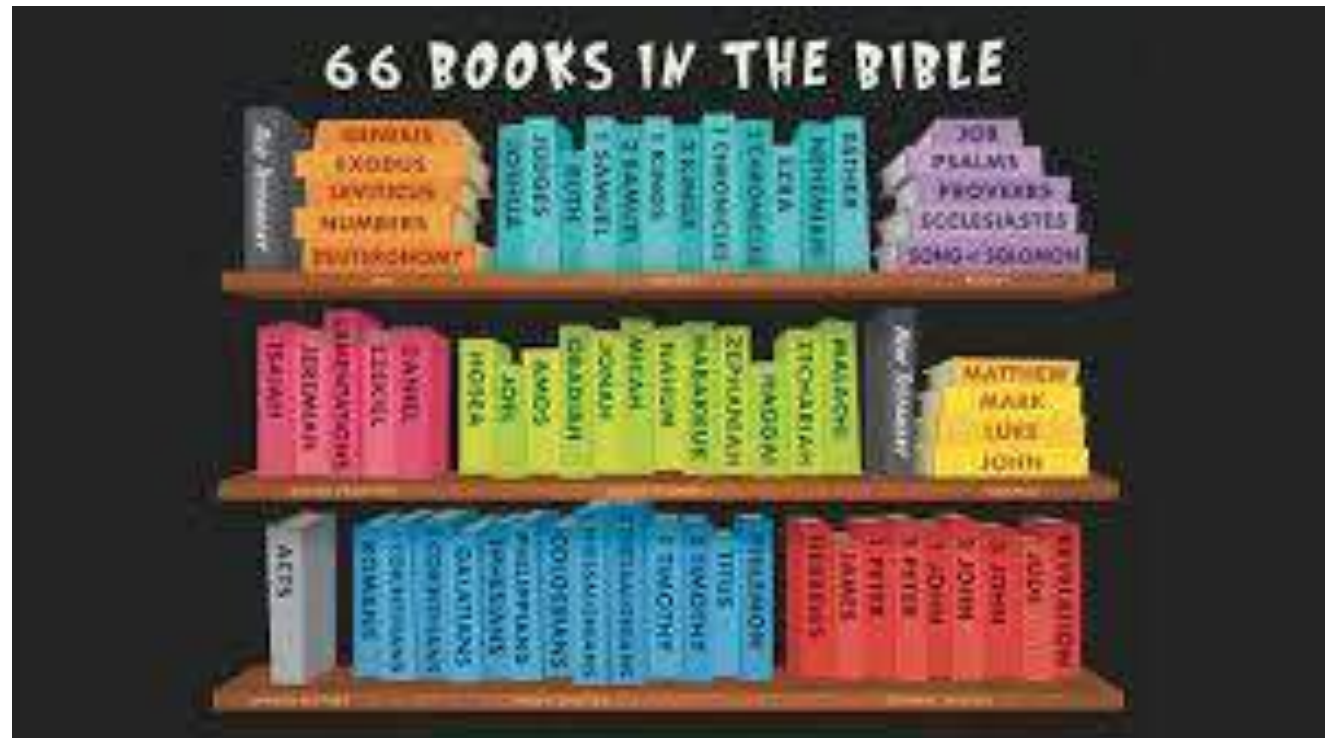
- Now these things happened to them as an example *and* warning [to us]; **they were written for our instruction** [to admonish and equip us], upon whom the ends of the ages have come

- 1 Corinthians 10:11



Principle – The Whole Bible Instructs Us

- ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience],
- for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God’s will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage];
- ¹⁷ so that the [a] man of God may be complete *and* proficient, outfitted *and* thoroughly equipped for every good work.
- 2 Timothy 3:16



But Aren't We Delivered From the Law?

- ⁶ But now we have been released from the Law *and* its penalty, having died [through Christ] to that by which we were held captive, so that we serve [God] in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter [of the Law].

Romans 7:6

- ¹⁹ For through the Law I died to the Law *and* its demands on me [because salvation is provided through the death and resurrection of Christ], so that I might [from now on] live to God.

Galatians 2:19

Please Read Carefully....

- ♦ ²³ Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed.
- ♦ ²⁴ Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. ²⁵ And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.
- ♦ **Galatians 3:23-25**

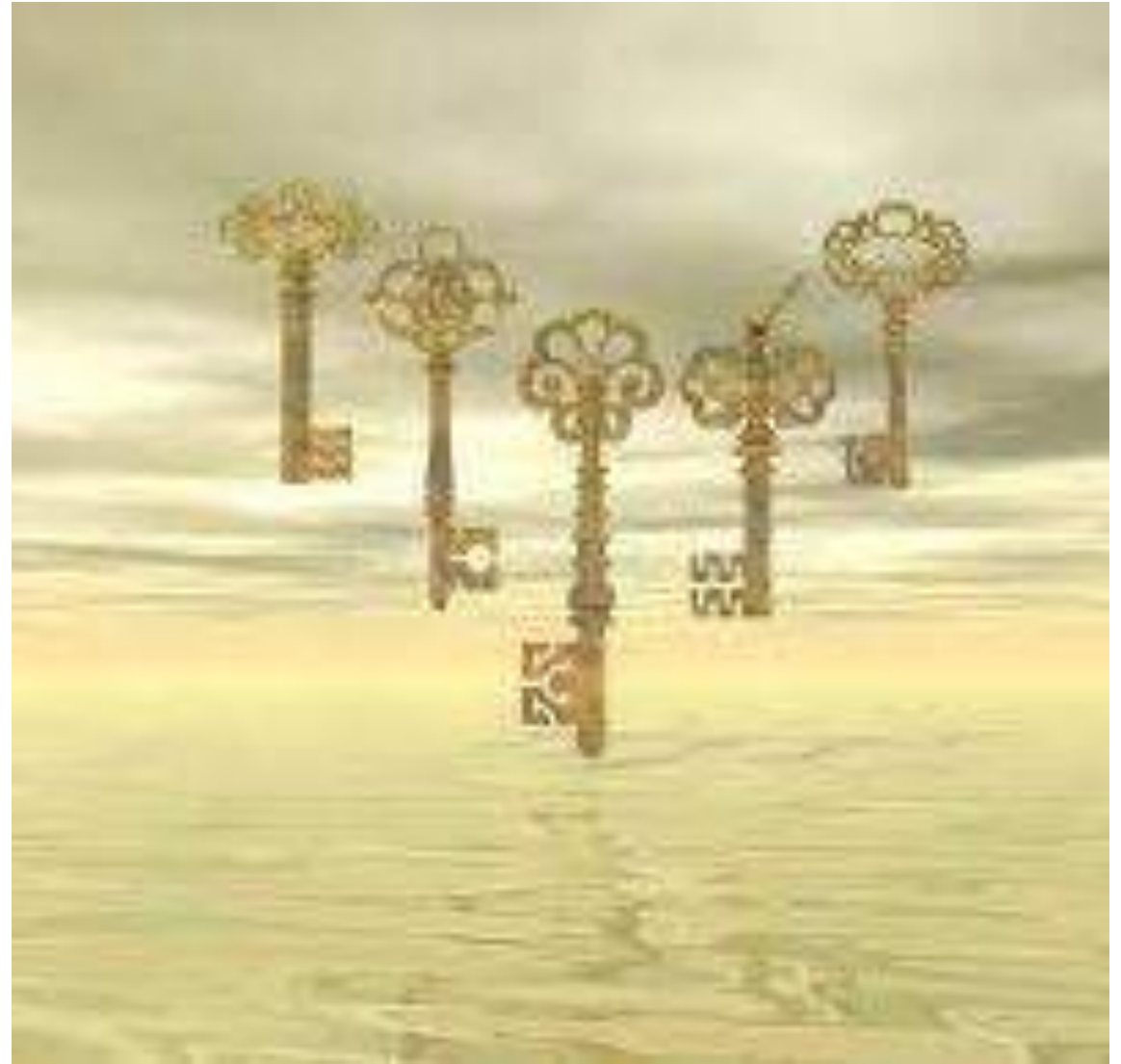
So, The Law Scriptures Are Not Relevant?

- The influence of the Old Testament is seen throughout Paul's and the NT Writers' scrolls.
- Direct quotes come to about 250 times throughout the Epistles and Gospels.
- The number jumps to over 1000 with partial or indirect quotes.
- In other words the Holy Spirit moved Men to connect the Old and New Testament scriptures.



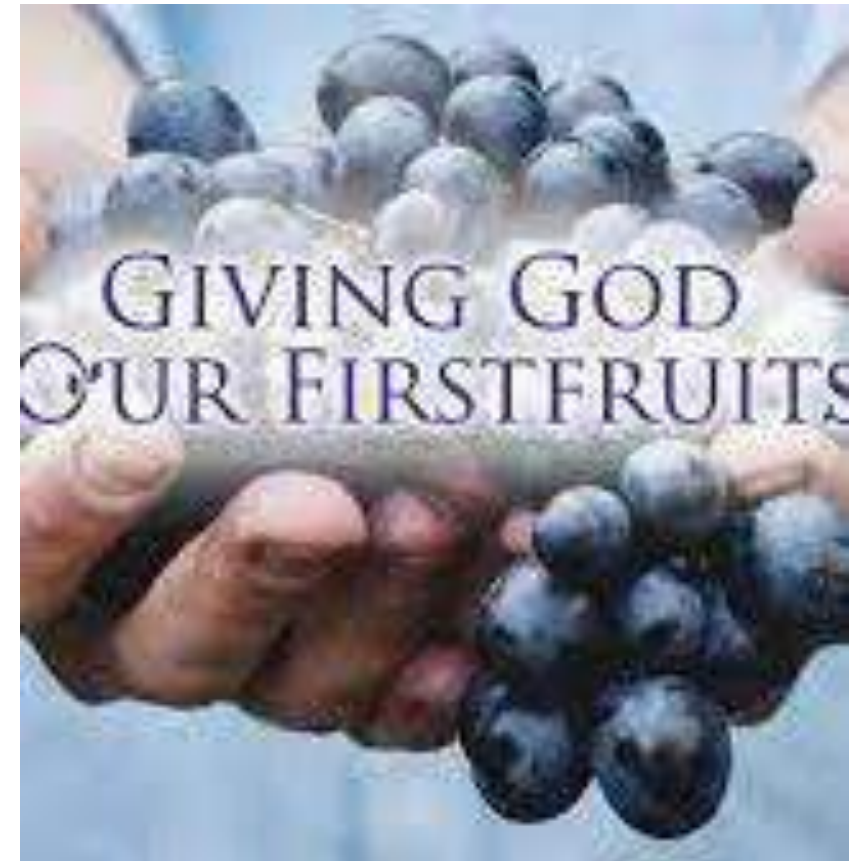
The Tithe Scriptures Reveal 5 Key Principles

- God is to be honoured and acknowledged FIRST in our Substance or Wealth
- The House of God and those who labour there should be cared for
- The Family & Faith are so important, we need to intentionally invest in it.
- The Poor and Underprivileged are a key area for our care and investment
- Giving should be generous, sacrificial and from the heart.



Honouring God...

- ³⁰ 'And all the tithe (tenth part) of the land, whether the seed of the land or the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's; it is holy to the LORD. LEVITICUS 27:30
- Honor the LORD with your wealth
And with the first fruits of all your crops (income);
Then your barns will be abundantly filled, And your vats will overflow with new wine PROVERBS 3:9-10
- ³ And in the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground. ⁴ But Abel brought [an offering of] the [finest] firstborn of his flock and the ^[b]fat portions. And the LORD had respect (regard) for Abel and for his offering; ⁵ but for Cain and his offering He had no respect GENESIS 4:3-5



Caring For God's House...

- ¹⁰ I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given *them*; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. ¹¹ So I contended with the rulers, and said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” And I gathered them together and set them in their place. ¹² Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse. Neh 13:10
- ¹⁷ Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. ¹⁸ For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer *is* worthy of his wages.”
1 Timothy 5:17-18



Invest In Your Home...

- ²⁶ And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household. Deuteronomy 14:25
- ¹⁹ For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.” Genesis 18:19
- ⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates Deuteronomy 6:6-9
- ⁴ one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence ⁵ (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?) ¹² Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own houses well.
1 Timothy 3:4,5,12

Giving To The Poor....

- If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD; and he will repay you! Proverbs 19:17
- ²⁸ “At the end of every third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store *it* up within your gates.
- ²⁹ And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who *are* within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do Deuteronomy 14:28-29



Giving Generously & Sacrificially...

- ¹⁶ So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the people. "And he gave him a tithe of all." Genesis 14:16
- ⁹ When they arrived at the place where God had told him to go, Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied his son, Isaac, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. ¹¹ At that moment the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" Genesis 22
- ⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷ You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."^[c] ⁸ And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.
1 Corinthians 9



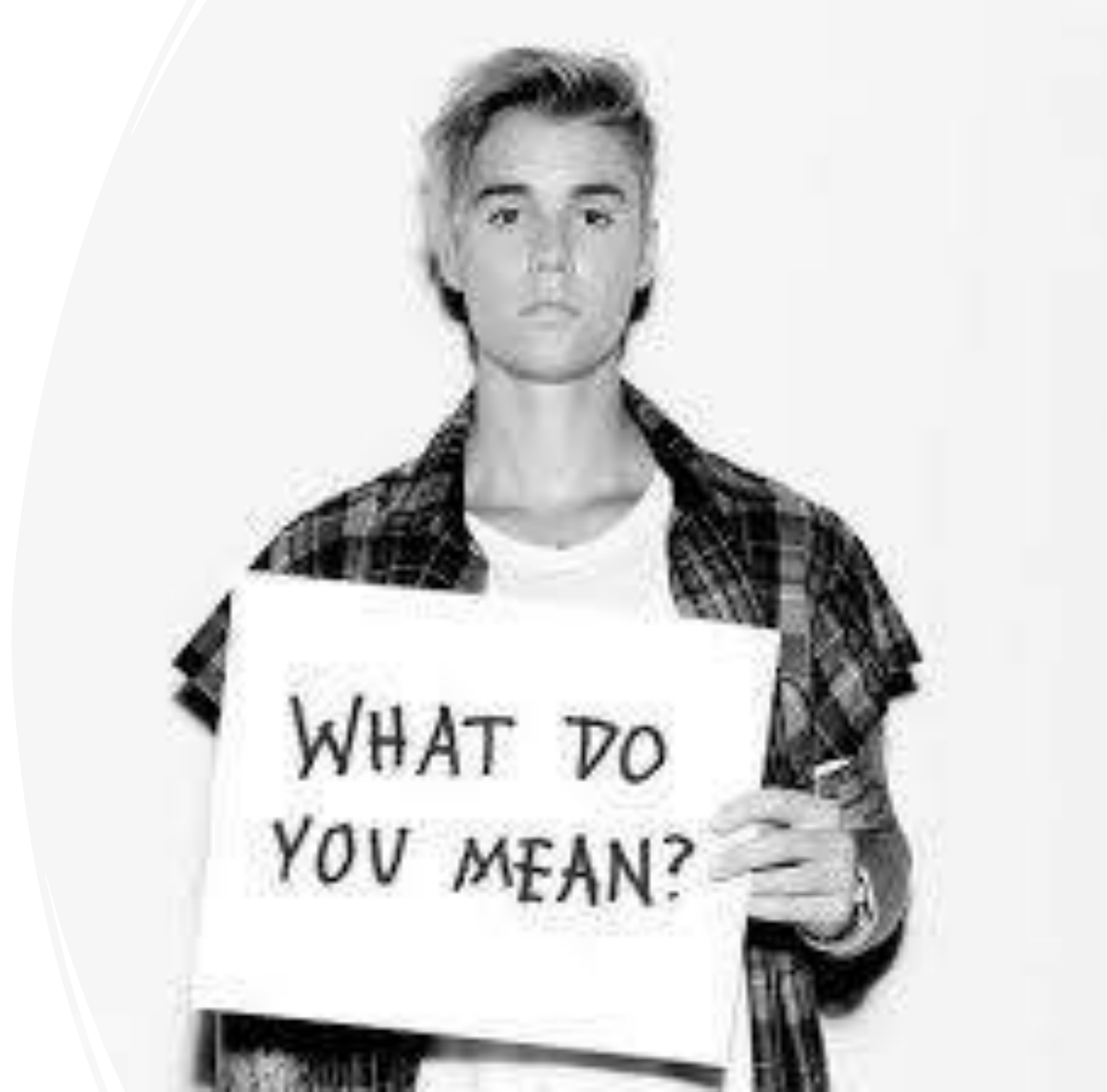
So What Is the Final Answer...?

- BOTH ARE
RIGHT

- BOTH
ARE
WRONG..

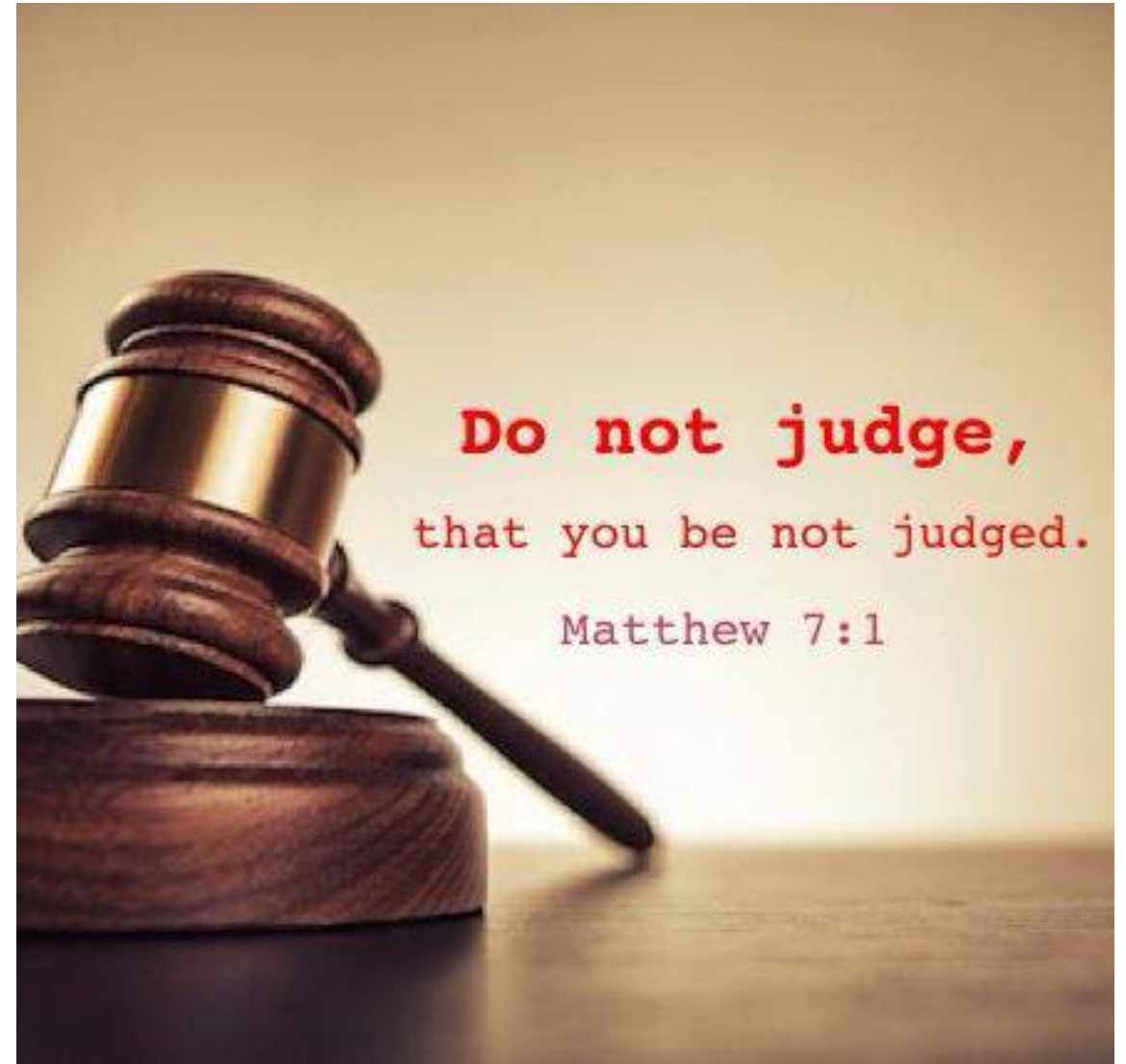
What Do You Mean...?

- Both sides of the argument are right and wrong.
- We will understand by reading the next passage of scripture that addresses the same principle.
- In the early church, there were discussions similar to this matter where people disagreed on their conclusions.



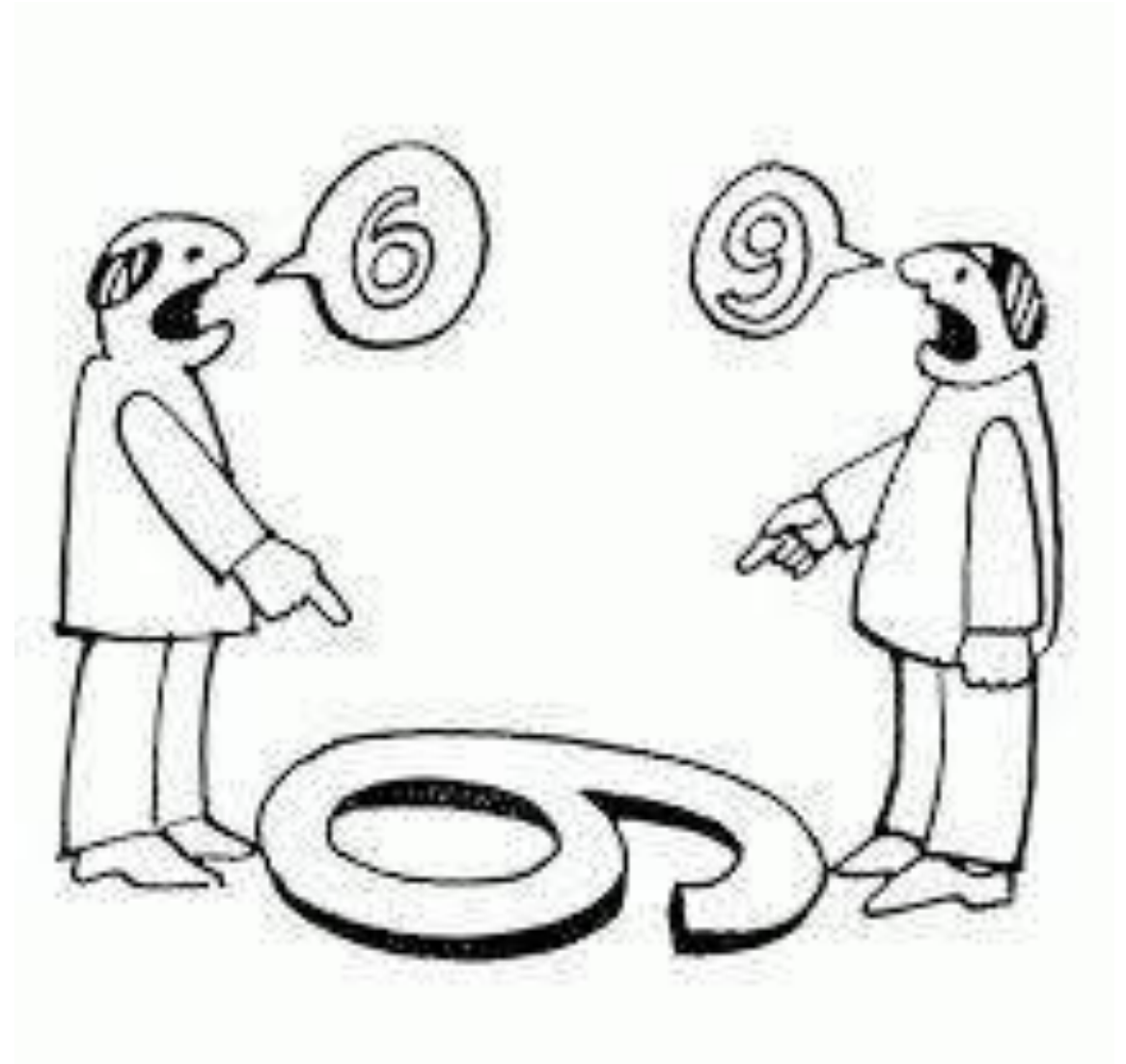
Romans 14

- Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong. ² For instance, one person believes it's all right to eat anything. But another believer with a sensitive conscience will eat only vegetables.
- ³ Those who feel free to eat anything must not look down on those who don't. And those who don't eat certain foods must not condemn those who do, for God has accepted them.
- ⁴ Who are you to condemn someone else's servants? Their own master will judge whether they stand or fall. And with the Lord's help, they will stand and receive his approval.



Both Are Right....

- ⁵ In the same way, some think one day is more holy than another day, while others think every day is alike. You should each be fully convinced that whichever day you choose is acceptable.
- ⁶ Those who worship the Lord on a special day do it to honour him. Those who eat any kind of food do so to honour the Lord, since they give thanks to God before eating. And those who refuse to eat certain foods also want to please the Lord and give thanks to God
Romans 14



Both Are Wrong...

- ¹⁰ So why do you condemn another believer? Why do you look down on another believer?
- ⁴ Who are you to condemn someone else's servants? Their own master will judge whether they stand or fall. And with the Lord's help, they will stand and receive his approval.
Romans 14:4,10





CONCLUSIONS....

- The Bible Scriptures have their own authority and life.
- The scriptures on Tithing have their own authority and life
- There is no compulsion in the New Testament era to Tithe
- There is no instruction to reject tithing either in the Bible.



CONCLUSIONS....

- Therefore, A Christian who decides to Tithe as a way of Honouring God is acceptable
- Therefore, A Christian who decides NOT to Tithe but gives generously, sacrificially in a way that honours God, supports the House of God and cares for their home and the poor, honours God.

CONCLUSIONS

- The spirit of Tithing is an attitude of giving worship and honour to God who has blessed us with all the faculties and life and gifts by which we obtain the wealth and blessings
- The spirit of tithing is making sure everyone irrespective of their status, are taken care of
- The spirit of tithing is generous, sacrificial giving
- The spirit of tithing placing God first.
- The spirit of tithing is a collective sense of responsibility for the House of God
- Those who place an amount and those who don't are equally accountable to God in their hearts

NEXT WEEK

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

