

IS IT A SIN TO TITHE?

Request: “After studying Dispensations, I was wondering if it would be a **sin to tithe**. I have heard preachers say that it was a sin to NOT tithe. Could you please do a study on what the Bible says about tithing?”

This study will examine seven categories of Tithing in the Bible.

NOTE: At the end, note some of the common denominators of these seven tithes still in place today.

1. Abrahamic tithe (Gen.14:18-24; Heb.7)

This tithe was given to Melchizedek after the victory over the coalition army. It was spontaneous and voluntary, and was not required of anyone else (Isaac or Jacob). Hebrew Ch.7 reminds us that Jesus Christ is superior to Melchizedek and Abraham (Ps.110:4). Who was Abraham? (Rom.4:1; Matt.1:1, 17)

2. Jacob tithe (Gen.28:10-22)

This tithe was given to God after the theophany at Luz (Bethel). It was spontaneous, voluntary and not required of anyone else (12 sons).

3. Joseph double tithe (Gen.47:20-27; 41:33-40)

This tithe was collected from Egyptians in preparation of the famine and was for Egyptians

4. Levitical tithe (Lev.27:26-34; Deut.12:1-9; 14:22-29)

This tithe was commanded by the Mosaic Law of every Israelite citizen.

- One tithe was given to Levitical priest and from it a tithe to the high priest.
- A second tithe was given to the temple and worship.
- A third tithe was taken every third year for the poor and widows of Israel.

There was a redemption policy for the Jewish Age tithe (Deut.12:4-11; 14:22-29).

- The redemption policy had two clauses:
 - A conversion clause for grains and fruit and the evasion (20%)
 - A clause for herds and flocks that passed under the Shepherd's rod (20%) (Lev.27:32).
 - § It was reestablished during Hezekiah's reformation (Neh.13:10-14; Mal.3:10) [storehouse / temple banking system] (2 Chron31:11-12).

5. King's tithe (1 Sam.8:6-22)

This tithe was given to operate the office of king during the monarchy period of Jewish Age. It was a tithe above the Levitical tithe. It was commanded of every Israelite citizen. The King's tithe would parallel the Levitical tithe in cost (1 Sam.8:15).

