



Seeing What We
believe

Mark 12:24, Jn. 4:22

Mark 12:24 And Jesus answering said unto them,
Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God?

Jn. 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: **we know what we worship:** for salvation is of the Jews.

MOUNTAIN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1

NAME AND PURPOSE

ARTICLE 2

STATEMENT OF FAITH AND COVENANT

SECTION 2.01—STATEMENT OF FAITH

- (A) The Holy Scriptures.**
- (B) Dispensationalism.**
- (C) The Godhead.**
- (D) The Person and Work of Christ.**
- (E) The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.**
- (F) The Depravity of Man.**
- (G) Salvation.**

(H) The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.

(I) The Church

(J) Separation.

(K) The Second Coming of Christ.

(L) The Eternal State.

(M) The Personality of Satan.

(N) Creation.

(O) Civil Government.

(P) Human Sexuality

(Q) Family Relationships

(R) Divorce and remarriage.

(S) Abortion
(T) Euthanasia
(U) Love
(V) Lawsuits Between Believers
(W) Missions.

Our doctrinal statement is as follows:

(X) Giving. We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support financially his local church. We believe that God has established the tithe as a basis for giving, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel. We believe that a Christian relinquishes all rights to direct the use of his tithe or offering once the gift has been made. (Gen. 14:20; Prov. 3:9-10; Acts 4:34-37; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor.

9:6-7; Gal. 6:6; Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 John 3:17)

According to data by Christian Financial Concepts in the September 2000 issue of SBC LIFE, 20 percent of evangelical church members give 80 percent of the money contributed to their church, while 30 percent give the other 20 percent. Fifty percent of church members give nothing to their church. <http://setfreetogive.com/b172.htm>

I. THE STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

❖ **We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support financially his local church.**

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**

Prov. 3:9 **Honour the LORD with thy substance,**
and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

✦ David, a man after God's own heart, gave of his heart and resources to the house of God:

1 Chron. 29:3 Moreover, **because I have set my affection to the house of my God**, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, *which* I have **given to the house of my God**, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

4 *Even* three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses *withal*:

5 The gold for *things* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and for all manner of work *to be made* by the hands of artificers. And who *then* is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD? ...

11 Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all *that is* in the heaven and in the earth *is thine*; thine *is* the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

12 Both riches and honour *come of thee*, and thou reignest over all; and **in thine hand *is* power and might; and in thine hand *it is* to make great, and to give strength unto all.**

13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

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.**

II. THE SIMPLICITY OF GIVING

❖ **We believe that God has established the tithe as a basis for giving, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel.**

Gen. 14:20 And blessed be the most high God,
which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand.
And he gave him tithes of all.

- A tithe = 10% -- the basic, introductory level of giving.
- Many people today try to justify NOT tithing by saying it was under the Law, and that we are no longer under the Law.
- Abram (Abraham) tithed to Melchizedek about 600 years BEFORE Moses and the Law were instituted.

Heb. 7:9 And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, **payed tithes in Abraham.**

- Jacob promised to give tithes around 400-450 years BEFORE Moses and the Law were instituted.

Gen. 28:20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, ...

22 And this stone, which I have set *for* a pillar, shall be God's house: **and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.**

- Tithing commanded under the Law:

Lev. 27:30 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 unto the LORD.*** ...

32 And concerning **the tithe of the herd**, or of the flock, *even* of whatsoever passeth under the rod, **the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD.**

Deut. 14:22 **Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase** of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth **year by year.**

23 And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, **the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always. ...**

28 **At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase** the same year, and shalt lay *it* up within thy gates:

Neh. 10:38 And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall **bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God**, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

- Tithing commended by the Lord:

Mt. 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for **ye pay tithe** of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: **these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.**

- The tithes are to be brought to “the storehouse” → the church.

Mal. 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? **In tithes and offerings.**

9 Ye *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, *even* this whole nation.

10 **Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse**, that there may be meat in mine house, and **prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.***

1 Cor. 16:2 **Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store**, as *God* hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

III. THE SUPERVISION OF GIVING

- **We believe that a Christian relinquishes all rights to direct the use of his tithe or offering once the gift has been made.**

Acts 4:34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

35 And **laid *them* down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.**

36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, *and* of the country of Cyprus,

37 Having land, sold *it*, and brought the money, and **laid *it* at the apostles' feet.**

Conclusion

- The key to giving is the heart:
 - A heart to honor the Lord:

2 Cor. 9:6 But this *I say*, **He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.**

7 Every man according **as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give**; not grudgingly, or of necessity: **for God loveth a cheerful giver.**

✦ A heart to help others:

Eph. 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, **that he may have to give** to him that needeth.

Deut. 26:12 When thou hast made an end of **tithing all the tithes of thine increase** the third year, *which is* the year of tithing, and **hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;**

1 Jn. 3:17 But whoso **hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need**, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, **how dwelleth the love of God in him?**

Gal. 6:6 **Let him that is taught in the word communicate** unto him that teacheth in all good things.

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for **whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

9 And **let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.**

10 **As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.**

Deut. 8:11 **Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God**, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

12 Lest *when* thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt *therein*;

13 And *when* thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

14 Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, *wherein were* fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where *there was* no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this wealth.

18 But **thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

19 And it shall be, **if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.**

20 As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; **because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.**

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.**