

The Tithe: Truth vs. Fiction



Study Guide

The Tithe: Truth vs. Fiction is a Free Study Guide on the topic of the biblical tithe. The study guide provides the reader with a foundational understanding of what the Bible really says about the tithe. The content in this study is based on biblical scriptures and The Tithing Hoax: Exposing the Lies, Misinterpretations & False Teachings about Tithing.

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THE TITHE

Truth vs. Fiction

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Introduction

The Christian church is divided over the issue of tithing. There those who believe that Christians must tithe by paying God 10 percent of their income. They often cite the Bible scripture to support their belief. On the other side of the fence there are those who say that tithing is not for today's Christians. They too point to biblical scripture to support their belief. In addition, there are believers who are caught in the middle of the debate. They straddle the fence on this issue because they don't know what the truth is because everyone is quoting from the "word of God."

So who's right? Or rather, what is the truth regarding the tithe?

In knowing the truth about the tithe you must know what the Bible says about the tithe *in the context* of the scripture. FreeDictionary.com defines context, as such:

1. The parts of a written or spoken statement that precede or follow a specific word or passage, usually influencing its meaning or effect: ***You have misinterpreted my remark because you took it out of context.***
2. The set of circumstances or facts that surround a particular event, situation, etc.

The confusion surround the topic of tithing is rooted, primarily, in the fact that the word tithe(s) has been taken out of biblical context. Understanding the biblical tithe in context requires the following:

- Reading the passages before and after a verse
- Identifying who the writer is addressing in the scripture
- Knowing why the verse, passage or book was written
- Taking into account the historical and/or cultural environment in which the verse, passage or book was written

And these are the basic guidelines we have followed for this Tithe Study. By doing so, this study guide gives you:

- A clear understanding of what the biblical tithe is
- A Bible-based foundation for your own in-depth study on the biblical tithe
- Answers to some of the most common questions you may have about the tithe

The Tithe Study aims to clear up the confusion about tithes and to correct the false teachings about the biblical tithe. It is our hope that you find this study enlightening and reassuring and helpful

Testimonials

Acknowledgements for The Tithing Hoax

Thanks for your great book. It was desperately needed. Yrs ago when my husband walked out on me with two small children & no job I could barely pay my rent and keep food on the table, let alone tithe off of my welfare check! No help came from my Church where I faithfully attended.

Church leaders said tithing was the way out but when I tried it I grew further behind in my bills & had to depend on family or be homeless on the streets. At every service we were told all who did not tithe would be cursed, according to Malachi 3:8. This condemnation was Spiritual abuse. I could not believe a loving God would curse his children over not paying Him money. It just did not sit well in my mind.

I began to pray asking God to show me if I had to pay him money for “the Blessing & his favor.” Revelation light started with 2 Bible verses: Romans 8:32 “Since God did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all surely He will with Him freely give us all things. 8:33 “Who can bring a charge...”

Your book is needed to spread the truth.

-Suzy

I recommend this book for those living in fear that they have not done enough works to please God. This book is for those who need freedom from the bondage of fear from those who misuse Scriptures (as in the usage of the famous Old Covenant Malachi curse) to promote the Mosaic Law which Jesus already fulfilled by dying on the Cross.”

-S. Mills

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Bonus Lesson

The Tithe and the Law of Moses



Understanding the Law of Moses

The Lord made tithing a commandment under the Law of Moses (or Mosaic Law). The Law of Moses consists of 613 commandments that the ancient nation of Israel was required to follow. The commandments were the rules and regulations that governed ancient Israel. Among those commandments is the commandment to tithe.

Many Commandments, One Law

The Law of Moses is considered *one* Law. No commandment was considered separate and apart from the rest of the commandments. Ancient Israel could not pick and choose which commandments to obey and which to ignore.

This is important because the Lord blessed ancient Israel based on their obedience to *the whole* Law. In other words, if ancient Israel obeyed ALL the commandments of the Law the Lord would bless them.

Deuteronomy 28:1

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

Likewise, if ancient Israel broke any of the commandments they were guilty of breaking the whole Law. As a result, the Lord would curse them.

Deuteronomy 28:15

But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

In fact, the **Book of James** reiterates the fact that the Lord considered ALL the commandments of the Mosaic Law as ONE Law.

James 2:10

For the one who obeys the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

It's important that we know that the commandments are considered one Law because the modern church promotes tithing as a stand-alone commandment. Tithing is promoted as if it can be separated from the rest of the commandments (or the Law of Moses). But as we see the Lord never intended for the tithe command or any other

commandment to be viewed or practiced separately from the other commandments. Once again, the Law of Moses is comprised of 613 commandments and it is considered ONE LAW. And ALL the commandments had to be obeyed.

Does this mean that Christians must begin following ALL the commandments of the Law of Moses?

The answer to that question is “No.” Why? The simple fact is that the Law of Moses was given only to ancient Israel. The Lord ONLY required ancient Israel to obey the commandments of the Law of Moses because the Law of Moses was the covenant between the Lord and ancient Israel. This covenant is commonly called the Mosaic Covenant.

What is the Mosaic Covenant?

The Law of Moses is the covenant that the Lord established with ancient Israel. A covenant is essentially an agreement. The Law of Moses was an agreement made between the Lord and ancient Israel. With this agreement (covenant) the Lord promised to protect (and bless) ancient Israel as long as they kept the commandments of the Law and remained faithful to the Lord.

Leviticus 27:34

These are the commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel in mount Sinai.

So, none of the commandments of the Law of Moses, such as tithing, pertain to Christians because Christians are governed by the New Covenant (Testament).

Summary

The Law of Moses is ONE LAW even though it consists of 613 commandments. Throughout the Bible the Law of Moses is often referred to as “the Law.” Because it is one law the commandments were not considered as being separate and apart from the other commandments.

Under the Law of Moses, ancient Israel was either blessed or cursed based upon their obedience to the whole Law.

For example, if ancient Israel only followed the tithe command but did not obey the other commands they were guilty of breaking the WHOLE Law. Likewise, if they followed ALL the commandments but did not tithe they were still guilty of breaking the WHOLE Law.

Therefore, it is not biblical for the modern church to preach the tithe commandment as if it is separate from the rest of the commandments of the Law of Moses.

Christians are not under the Mosaic Covenant. The Mosaic Covenant was an agreement made between the Lord and ancient Israel. Under this covenant only ancient Israel was required to follow the commandments of the Law.

Christians are under a new and better covenant that does not require that they obey the Law of Moses. Since the tithe command is part of the Law of Moses (Mosaic Covenant) then Christians are not required to tithe.

Bonus Lesson Review

Understanding the Law of Moses

1. The Lord made tithing a _____ under the Law of Moses.
2. The Law of Moses consists of _____ commandments.
3. The Law of Moses is also known as the _____.
4. The Law of Moses is considered _____ Law.
5. The Lord _____ ancient Israel for their obedience to the Law.
6. The Lord _____ ancient Israel for their disobedience to the Law.
7. If ancient Israel broke one commandment they were guilty of _____.
8. The tithe commandment cannot be _____ from the rest of the commandments of the Law of Moses.
9. The Law of Moses is the _____ the Lord established with ancient Israel.
10. The tithe command and the other commandments do not apply to Christians because Christians are under the _____.

Lesson 1

What is the Biblical Tithe?



The Tithe Command

As stated in the **Bonus Lesson** the tithe command is one of the 613 commandments of the Law of Moses (Mosaic Law). The first reference to the tithe command appears in the **Book of Leviticus**.

Leviticus 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.

The practice of biblical tithing became a commandment only when it was incorporated into the Law of Moses. In other words, under the Law of Moses the practice of tithing was mandatory for ancient Israel. In addition, the Lord gave very specific instructions on what ancient Israel was to tithe, who was to pay tithes and who was to receive tithes.

If ancient Israel did not tithe according to the requirements of the Law then they would be guilty of breaking the Law. As such they would be cursed.

In this lesson you will learn exactly what the biblical tithe is.

The Word Tithe

There are two Hebrew words for tithe, *asar* and *ma-aser*. The word *asar* means a tenth part. The word *ma-aser* means one tenth. In other words, both words essentially mean 10 percent. Whenever you read the word "tithe" in the Bible it refers 10 percent. However, the word tithe in the Bible not only refers to an amount but it also refers to specific items that were tithed.

A Tenth of What?

In understanding the biblical tithe we must ask the following question: **The Lord wanted a tenth part (or 10 percent) of what?**

Contrary to what is taught in the church, the Lord did not want a tithe (or tenth) of one's income, money or wages. In Leviticus, the Lord gives a specific command that he wanted a tithe of what was produced from the land of ancient Israel. And this is consistent throughout the scriptures.

There are numerous verses describing exactly what the biblical tithe is.

For example:

Leviticus 27:32

All the tithe of herd or flock, everything which passes under the rod, the tenth one will be holy to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 12:17

You will not be allowed to eat in your villages your tithe of grain, new wine, olive oil, the firstborn of your herd and flock, any votive offerings you have vowed, or your freewill and personal offerings.

Deuteronomy 14:22-23

You must be certain to tithe all the produce of your seed that comes from the field year after year. In the presence of the Lord your God you must eat from the tithe of your grain, your new wine, your olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the place he chooses to locate his name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always.

What we see from these few scriptural examples is that the biblical tithe obviously did not consist of money but rather crops and livestock.

- **The biblical tithe consisted of crops (or agricultural produce).** According to scripture, the Lord wanted a tithe (one tenth) of everything produced from the land of ancient Israel. Therefore, the biblical tithe consisted of fruits, vegetables, grains, oils and wine, etc.
- **The biblical tithe also consisted of livestock.** The livestock included animals such as lambs, goats, cows, bulls and sheep, etc.

The biblical tithe that the Lord required was always in the form of goods that ancient Israel could consume in the form of food and drink.

God's Instructions Regarding Money

There is ONLY ONE instance in which money was used in conjunction with the tithe. This is detailed in **Deuteronomy 14:22-27**. The verses that pertain specifically to the use of money are highlighted in bold text below.

*Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. 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. **And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which the LORD thy God shall choose to set his name there, when the LORD thy God hath blessed thee: Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before the LORD thy God, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household, And the Levite that is within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee.***

During this time the ancient Israelites did not have a centralized place of worship. The Lord designated different locations where they would bring their tithes to EAT and DRINK in the presence of the Lord. **According to the scripture this is the only the circumstance in which money was used:**

1. If the ancient Israelites could not carry their tithe (crops and livestock) to the designated location because it was too far for them to travel.

In this instance ancient Israelites had the option of bringing money to the Lord's designated location. Now, the scripture is explicitly clear regarding how that money was to be used once the Israelite brought the money to the location.

Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose: And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth:

In other words, the ancient Israelites were instructed to **purchase** their tithe (crops and livestock). They bought their tithe, such as oxen, sheep, wine, strong drink or whatever else he or she wanted eat and/or drink.

This is the only condition in which money was used in reference to the biblical tithe. More importantly, we see that the biblical tithe is NOT the same as money. We also see that it was the tithe (crops and livestock) that the Lord desired and considered holy – not money.

Summary

The Lord incorporated the tithe into the Law of Moses (or Mosaic Law). Under the Law of Moses tithing became a commandment. As such, the Lord gave ancient Israel specific instructions on how to tithe and what the tithe should consist of.

We established that the word tithe does mean one tenth (10 percent). However, the biblical tithe is one tenth of crops and livestock. Under the Law of Moses the biblical tithe only consisted of that which ancient Israel could eat and drink in the presence of the Lord.

The Bible makes it clear that the biblical tithe consisted of crops and livestock. The only instance in which money was used was in situations where ancient Israelites could not carry their tithe to the Lord's designated location. In this instance, they brought money to the designated location and purchased their tithe (crops and livestock).

The Lord required the payment of tithes in the form of crops and livestock. A tithe in any other form was not acceptable. Therefore, based upon biblical scripture, the Lord would reject the monetary tithe (10 percent of income) as it is practiced in the Christian church today.

Lesson 1 Review

What is the Biblical Tithe?

1. The first reference to the tithe command appears in the _____.
2. The Lord gave specific _____ on how to tithe.
3. The Hebrew word **asar** means _____.
4. The Hebrew word **ma-aser** means _____.
5. The biblical tithe consisted of _____.
6. Money was used only when ancient Israelites could not _____ to the Lord's designated location.
7. Ancient Israel used the money to _____.
8. The ancient Israelites would _____ in the presence of the Lord.

Lesson 2

Who Paid Tithes?



The Tithe

In **Lesson 1** we established that the Lord required the tithe be paid in the form of crops and livestock. The biblical tithe was consumable goods that ancient Israel would eat and drink in the presence of the Lord. Now that is clear what the biblical tithe is the next logical question we must ask is this: **Who was commanded to pay the tithes?**

A Misconception

It is a common belief that the tithe commandment applied to everyone in ancient Israel. In other words, everyone in ancient Israel paid tithes, but this is not

the case. There were only three groups of people in ancient Israel required to pay tithes. In this lesson we will focus on 2 of the groups. We will cover the 3rd group in **Lesson 3**.

Two of the groups are:

- **The Farmers**
- **The Herdsman**

The Farmers Paid Tithe

The biblical tithe consisted of crops (or agricultural produce). Keep in mind that the Lord only wanted what was grown from the ground of the Holy Land (ancient Israel). Since the farmers raised crops for a living it was their responsibility to pay a tithe of their crops.

The Herdsmen Paid Tithes

Aside from crops the biblical tithe also consisted of livestock such as goats, sheep, oxen, lambs, bulls, cows, etc. Therefore, the herdsmen were the other group of people who paid tithes because they raised livestock for a living.

Wage Earners Were Exempt

There is another common misconception that ancient Israel was strictly an agricultural based society and that everyone in ancient Israel farmed or raised livestock. However, this is not the case.

In addition to farmers and herdsmen, ancient Israelites earned a living working in a variety of skilled trades, such as craftsmen, art designers, engravers, house servants, carpenters and tent makers, etc.

Exodus 28:11

You are to engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel with the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a seal; you are to have them set in gold filigree settings (**Engravers**).

Exodus 35:25

Every woman who was skilled spun with her hands and brought what she had spun, blue, purple, or scarlet yarn, or fine linen (**artisans**).

Leviticus 25:6

You may have the Sabbath produce of the land to eat – you, your male servant, your female servant, your hired worker, the resident foreigner who stays with you (**House Servants**).

These people earned wages. They received money (shekels) in exchange for their services. However, they did not pay tithes because the biblical tithe had to be paid in the form of crops and livestock. Therefore, the wage earners were exempt from paying tithes. Only the farmers and herdsmen were required to pay tithes.

It's important to make that point because some people in the Christian church will argue that the reason the Lord wanted tithes in the

form of crops and livestock was because ancient Israel was an agricultural-based economy and they did not use money as a form of currency. They also make the argument that since we live in a money-based economy then tithes should be paid in the form of money.

But the Bible is clear that money did exist in ancient Israel. The money was used for not only buying goods and services but also paying people who made their living from occupations other than farming and raising livestock.

What is also key in this discussion of who was commanded to pay tithes, is that the farmers and herdsmen who paid tithes were members from the following 11 tribes of Ancient Israel:

- Reuben
- Judah
- Issachar
- Zebulun
- Benjamin
- Dan
- Naphtali
- Gad
- Asher
- Ephraim
- Manasseh

The Bible identifies 12 tribes of Israel. The other tribe not mentioned above is the tribe of Simeon (Levi). In our final lesson - **Who Received Tithes?** - we will share more detail about the tribe of Levi and what role the tithe played in their life.

Summary

Based on the scriptures, we see that the Lord was specific regarding who was required to pay tithes. Contrary to popular belief, all ancient Israelites did not pay tithes. Because the biblical tithe consisted of crops and livestock the farmers and herdsman, who lived off the land, they were responsible for paying tithes. Specifically, it was the farmers and herdsman from 11 tribes of ancient Israel. The other tribe, the tribe of Levi, was excluded. However, the tribe of Levi played a unique role regarding the tithe, and we will discuss them in **Lesson 3**.

It is a common belief in the Christian church that everyone in the Bible paid tithes; or that the Lord intended for everyone to pay tithes. Biblical scripture does not support this belief.

Everyone in ancient Israel did not farm land or raise livestock. Many of the ancient Israelites (Hebrew/Jews) were wage earners who earned their living from various occupations. As wage earners they did not pay tithes. They did not pay tithes from their wages.

This is an important point because Christians are led to believe that the Lord commanded all of ancient Israel pay tithe, and on that basis, all Christians should pay a monetary tithes (10 percent of income). But again the Bible is clear that tithes were not paid in the form of wages (or income). The Lord only accepted tithes in the form of crops and livestock, and the farmers and herdsman paid those tithes.

Lesson 2 Review

Who Paid Tithes?

1. The _____ and the _____ were commanded to tithe.

2. The Lord only wanted tithes grown from the ground of _____.

3. _____ were exempt from paying tithes.

4. Ancient Israelites (Hebrews/Jews) earned a living in a variety of _____ such as _____.

5. Ancient Israelites (Hebrews/Jews) who did not farm land or raise livestock received _____ in exchange for their services.

6. The farmers and herdsmen who paid tithes came from these 11 Tribes of ancient Israel _____.

Lesson 3

Who Received Tithes?



The Tribe of Levi

The Bible identifies 12 tribes of Israel. Jacob (later named Israel) fathered 12 sons. The family of each son is considered a tribe. Of the 12 Tribes there was one tribe that the Lord chose to serve as the priests for the ancient Israel. Their primary responsibility was to perform all the religious ceremonial rituals for ancient Israel. The tribe chosen to conduct the religious ceremonies is the tribe of Levi.

Deuteronomy 10:8-9

At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the Lord's covenant, to stand before the Lord to serve him, and to formulate blessings in his name, as they do to this very day.

According to biblical scripture the Lord assigned land (or territory) to all the 11 tribes of ancient Israel EXCEPT the tribe of Levi. Instead of inheriting land the Lord was their inheritance.

Numbers 18:20

The Lord spoke to Aaron, "You will have no inheritance in their land, nor will you have any portion of property among them – I am your portion and your inheritance among the Israelites.

Therefore Levi has no allotment or inheritance among his brothers; the Lord is his inheritance just as the Lord your God told him.

The Role of the Levites

The tribe of Levi is also known as the Levites. The Lord specifically chose the Levites to work in the tabernacle and later the Temple in Jerusalem. They conducted all the religious ceremonies for the nation of Israel. Their duties included making offerings and sacrifices unto the Lord.

Among the Levites there were two distinct groups – the **Levitical priests** and the **assistants**. The only tribal members who could serve as priests were those who were in descendents of Aaron (Moses' brother). Aaron was the first priests and those in his bloodline served as priests also. They were called the Levitical priests (also known as the Levitical Priesthood or Aaronic Priesthood).

The assistants were the Levites who helped the Levitical priests with the duties and

responsibilities of the Tabernacle and the Temple.

The Levitical Tithes

Since the tribe of Levi was set aside to serve in the Tabernacle and the Temple they did not receive any land (or territory). In **Lesson 2** we explained that the Lord commanded the other 11 tribes to pay tithes. In this lesson we share who received tithes. The Bible identifies specific groups who were commanded to receive tithes and one of those groups is the tribe of Levi.

Hebrews 7:5

And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham.

Remember, the biblical tithe consists of one tenth of the crops and livestock. The tithes were given to the Levites. The tithe paid to the tribe of Levi is known as the **Levitical Tithe**.

Tithe of the Tithe

In **Lesson 2** we identified two groups that were commanded to tithe – the farmers and the herdsman. There is one other commanded to pay tithes and that group is the tribe of Levi (Levites). Not only did the tribe of Levi RECEIVE tithes but they also PAID tithes.

Numbers 18:25-29

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the LORD, *even a tenth part* of the tithe. And *this* your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though *it were* the corn of the threshing floor, and as the fulness of the winepress. Thus ye also shall offer an heave offering unto the LORD of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof the LORD'S heave offering to Aaron the priest. Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of the LORD, of all the best thereof, *even the hallowed part* thereof out of it.

When the Levites received tithes from the other 11 tribes they were commanded to pay a tithe (one tenth) of the tithe they received. This is referred to the “Tithe of the Tithe”. Thus, there were only 3 groups who were commanded to tithe:

- The Farmers
- The Herdsmen
- The Levites

The Poor, Widows, Strangers & Fatherless

According to scripture, the Lord commanded that ancient Israel give tithes to the poor, widows, strangers and fatherless within the land of ancient Israel. Furthermore, the poor not only received tithes but they also were exempt

from paying tithes. In other words, the poor DID NOT pay tithes.

This is a key point in this study because many preachers that promote tithing teach that poor people can tithe their way out of poverty (or financial lack). If proponents of this doctrine were serious about following the “word of God” then they would not require poor people to pay so-called tithes.

In fact, the Lord set aside a specific tithe that was to be given to the poor, and it is called the Poor Tithe.

The Poor Tithe

The Poor Tithe was collected and given to the poor every 3 years. Specifically this was done every 3 years in a 7-year cycle. In other words, the Poor Tithe was taken up twice over the course of 7 years. On the 7th year no tithe was collected.

Deuteronomy 14:28-29

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: And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which *are* within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

Deuteronomy 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;

The following table is an illustration of when the Poor Tithe was paid:

The Poor Tithe

1 st Year	2 nd year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year	6 th Year	7 th Year
		Poor Tithe			Poor Tithe	

Summary

According to the Bible, the Lord gave specific commandments as to who was to receive tithes. The only groups who received tithes were the tribe of Levi, the poor, widows, strangers, and fatherless who resided within the land of ancient Israel.

Among the 12 tribes of ancient Israel the tribe of Levi was the only tribe that did not receive a land inheritance. According to scripture the Lord was their inheritance. The tribe of Levi was chosen by the Lord to conduct all the religious ceremonies for the ancient nation of Israel. Since the tribe of Levi did not possess land, the Lord required the other 11 tribes to pay them tithes (one tenth of crops and livestock).

As stated above, the other people who were commanded to receive tithes were the poor, widows, fatherless and strangers within the land of ancient Israel. In fact, the poor received a specific tithe to meet their needs referred to as the Poor Tithe.

The Poor Tithe was paid every 3 years of a 7 year cycle. What is interesting here is that many Prosperity Gospel messages suggest or claim that poor people can “tithe” their way out of poverty. But the Bible clearly shows that the Lord intended for poor people to

RECEIVE tithes. Finally, according to scripture, the poor were not required to pay tithes.

Lesson 3 Review

1. The primary responsibility of the Levites was to perform all the _____ for ancient Israel.
2. _____ was the tribe of Levi's inheritance.
3. The tribe of Levi worked in the _____.
4. The duties of the Levites included making _____ unto the Lord.
5. The only members of the tribe of Levi who could serve as priests were _____.
6. The "Tithe of the Tithe" is _____.
7. The Lord commanded ancient Israel to give tithes to the _____.
9. The poor received the _____.
10. The "Poor Tithe" was collected and given to the poor every _____.
11. The _____ did not pay tithes.

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