**NEW COVENANT HOLY SPIRIT LED GIVING**

**(The Truth About Tithing)**

**GOD GAVE US HIS BEST NOW IT’S OUR TURN**

Our Heavenly FATHER so loved us; He gave His very best in sending His precious Son to die for our salvation and liberation. In the same manner we need to sacrificially give Him our very best in all areas of our lives including financially. We need to understand that our lives are not our own as the Holy Spirit reveals in I Corinthians chapter 6: ***19****What? Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own?****20****You were bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s”* (I Corinthians 6:19-20 MEV). Jesus purchased us by His own precious blood and we are His. This includes all that we are, our time, our talents and our resources are His to use as He so desires for His glory. We need to keep this in mind as we begin this teaching on Spirit led giving.

**OLD COVENANT GIVING VS NEW COVENANT GIVING**

Under the Old Covenant Law God’s people primarily Jews with some Gentile converts were required by the Law to give a tithe or 10% of their gross income plus free will offerings. It was to be used to support God’s Work through the Levitical Priesthood and to maintain His Tabernacle or Temple of Worship facilities.

In the New Covenant after Jesus’ death on the Cross and the Holy Spirit’s indwelling of Believers a new way of supporting God’s Work and the needy among God’s people was established. Gentile Believers especially were not required to abide by the tithe and offering requirements of the Law. Instead, a new Holy Spirit led system of liberality and generosity was initiated as Jesus Himself began to direct as recorded in Luke’s gospel:

**38***“Give, and it will be given to you: Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will men give unto you. For with the measure you use, it will be measured unto you*” (Luke 6:38 MEV).

In many respects this is similar to what the Holy Spirit inspired Paul the Apostle to teach in his letter to the Gentile Church at Corinth: ***6“****But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.****7****Let every man give according to the purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver.****8****God is able to make all grace abound toward you, so that you, always having enough of everything, may abound to every good work”* (2 Corinthians 9:6-8 MEV).

**TITHING A TOXIC NEW COVENANT TEACHING EXPOSED**

We know that this *“Spirit led giving*” teaching is contrary to what most Evangelical and Pentecostal Leaders currently teach and that is why this message will also be included in our Toxic TnT Exposed section of the website, because tithing is an erroneous teaching not taught after the Cross. Yes, there was one incident in the Old Testament where Abraham gave 10% of the spoils after his battle with the Kings (who kidnapped his nephew Lot) to Melchizedek the King and Priest of God in Salem (Genesis 14). However, to take this one prelaw incident to establish the legalistic doctrine of tithing in the New Covenant Church is highly speculative at best. Especially when nowhere in the New Testament letters to the Gentile Church is tithing ever taught or required of the Gentile Believers. Consequently, we strongly believe that teaching Believers that they are legalistically required by God to give 10% of their gross income plus offerings is an erroneous doctrine. One cannot establish as doctrine a teaching that has no New Testament support from any Apostolic letters to the Gentile Church. Also, to teach that people will go to hell for breaking *“the law of tithing”* which is not taught anywhere to the Gentile Church is extremely dangerous. Yes, we can use the model of tithes and offerings from the Old Covenant as an example of giving for New Covenant Believers, but to make it a legalistic requirement upon them is wrong doctrine. In fact, we’ve witnessed firsthand for years how it undermined or quenched the Holy Spirit’s work in the hearts of Believers to inspire greater generosity and liberality in peoples’ giving. Thus, resulting in a consistent pattern of insufficiency and deficits in meeting the Church’s financial needs.

**SACRIFICIAL SPIRIT LED GENEROSITY LEADS TO BLESSING & ABUNDANCE**

At Oasis we want to encourage God’s people to practice the Holy Spirit led generosity exhibited by the early Church as recorded in the Book of Acts:

***44“****All who believed were together and had all things in common.****45****They sold their property and goods and distributed them to all, according to their need.****46****And continuing daily with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,****47****praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved”* (Acts 2:44-47 MEV).

***32“****All the believers were of one heart and one soul, and no one said that what he possessed was his own. But to them all things were in common.****33****With great power the apostles testified to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was on them all.****34****There was no one among them who lacked, for all those who were owners of land or houses sold them, and brought the income from what was sold,****35****and placed it at the apostles’ feet. And it was distributed to each according to his need”* (Acts 4:32-35 MEV). This is the type of Holy Spirit inspired generosity we’re praying will characterize our Oasis Community of Refuge and Provision and our Oasis Church family as a whole in the days ahead. For when the Holy Spirit is moving in hearts selfishness, greed and stingy attitudes are dispelled. And are replaced with selfless giving and generosity out of love and care for others.

Sister Deb and I have practiced Spirit-led giving for several years now. Each week we simply ask the LORD what He would have us to give and where He would have us give it, then by God’s grace we do it. It should be noted that we also pray at the beginning of each year regarding areas of ministry locally and internationally that the Lord desires for us to give to monthly. Then we commit to making those donations monthly for the entire year. For example, two ministries we give to monthly are “Christ for All Nations” and “The Pregnancy Care Centre” here in Toronto. We also give to support orphans in other nations as well as other International causes monthly. Our first responsibility for giving is to our local Church, but the Lord has also led us to give to several other worthy ministries and causes. Let the Holy Spirit guide you in your giving in all areas, but remember our first responsibility should be to where we are being cared for and nurtured i.e., our local Church.

**SPIRT LED GIVING WILL SURPASS OLD COVENANT GIVING**

For Deb and I this new Spirit directed giving led to a higher level of generosity in our lives far above the Old Covenant standard of 10 percent with it’s free will offerings. Many times our giving exceeded 20 percent of our income and even 30 percent or more at times. And the Lord proved His Word to us exceedingly as we received back in financial blessings far above what we had given. This is not in any way to exalt ourselves, but to illustrate how God blesses this type of cheerful, liberal giving. During this season of Spirit led giving, we have received the largest blessings of provision and been able to give the largest offerings in our entire lives. In one week, we were able to give an offering of over $100,000 to the Lord’s work in various areas including the local church and other areas internationally. Please don’t let this scare or intimidate you into thinking; I can’t give or even imagine myself ever giving like that; “because you can’t.” However, the Holy Spirit within you can inspire and gift you to be able to give beyond what you could ever imagine. There is a Holy Spirit gift of giving that God has placed in the hearts of many of His children that motivates them to joyous generous giving.

***6****We have diverse gifts according to the grace that is given to us: if prophecy, according to the proportion of faith;****7****if service, in serving; he who teaches, in teaching;****8****he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with generosity; he who rules, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.* (Romans 12:6-8)

Hilariously generous giving is a special Spiritual gift of grace that God has imparted into our lives and He has or will impart this gift to many of you. Therefore, don’t be intimated by what we’ve shared just let the Holy Spirit be your guide and take you to new levels of generous, joyful giving as only He can. Anyway, we never dreamed that we would be able to give to this degree, but what Jesus promised is true; *“Give, and it shall be given to you, good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, running over, shall men give into your bosom”* (Luke 6:38a). Therefore, we want to encourage our Oasis family and all who hear this message to be Spirit led and generous in your giving. You will never regret it, because no one is more generous than our Heavenly FATHER and what you sow is what you will reap, in abundance multiplied back to you from His hand (Hallelujah!). You may not begin at this level of liberality especially those who are young in their faith, but begin where you are at right now and grow. The Holy Spirit is faithful to take you step by step in this growth process and empower or gift you to give beyond what you ever thought possible. Just be willing to humbly listen to His voice and obey His leading in your giving and you will be greatly blessed. And always remember that all that you are and have is His and you are His steward to use it as He desires and leads for His purpose and glory. The bottom line is, if you sow big, you’ll reap big and if you sow cheap, you’ll reap cheap (Amen).

**THE OASIS COMMUNITY OF REFUGE AND OUR NEED TO BE A NON-PROFIT**

At this time, we believe that the Lord is leading us as a ministry to begin searching for a property to serve as a local ministry base as well as a Community of Refuge and Provision for our Oasis Family and others. Lord willing, such a property will include a central multipurpose community center that will serve as meeting place for church, social, recreational, educational, and even health care purposes. As the LORD leads it will also have residential lots for the purpose of setting up *“Tiny Homes”* on site for our Oasis families to live in. It may also have some existing residential buildings or storage facilities depending on what the LORD provides in this regard. Ideally, we would like the property to be somewhat private or secluded with adequate land for growing food and a wood lot to supply wood for heating purposes. Owning a property of this nature as a charitable organization would make the property vulnerable for seizure by government authorities under current charity laws. Consequently, we believe the Lord’s wisdom is for Oasis to be a non-profit organization rather than a charity in order to avoid such a risk. Consequently, any giving to our Oasis Community of Refuge will not be receipted as a Charitable donation. Nor will any donations given directly to Oasis for other causes be receiptable, because a nonprofit organization cannot issue charitable receipts. Only registered charities can issue such receipts. However, we have made arrangements with another charity to help us in this regard which we’ll share about in a moment.

**GIVING HERE & IN THE NATIONS BRINGS OPPORTUNITY FOR BLESSING**

Giving to support God’s work here at Oasis and in the nations is very important and we all need to do our part to help. In the days ahead we will be encouraging our Oasis Family to prayerfully begin giving to God’s work locally and internationally as the Holy Spirit leads you. Currently, we are praying for the Lord’s leading and direction as to where He would have us to give both here at Oasis and to other worthy God ordained causes both in Canada and in the Nations. We have not talked much about giving to the Lord’s work here at Oasis thus far because we have not had the financial machinery to process people’s gifts, now we do. If you would like to prayerfully consider giving to the Lord’s work through Oasis please check out “Opportunities To Bless” at oasisoftruth.ca. As mentioned earlier any direct giving to Oasis will not be able to receive a charitable receipt because we are not a registered charity. In fact, in order to avoid any possibility of jeopardizing the Oasis of Refuge property, no donations toward this project will be receiptable. However, for other areas of giving at Oasis we have arranged that a charitable receipt can be received if given through our friends at the South Asian Bible Church. The South Asian Bible Church (SABC) located in Brampton under the leadership of Pastor Arthur Salim have graciously agreed to help us in this regard. This will allow those who want to receive a charitable receipt for their giving to various projects at Oasis to receive one by donating through SABC. You can go to the oasisoftruth.ca site on the home page at the bottom of the page and follow the directions. May God Bless you and lead you in your giving for His glory in Jesus’ precious name. Amen!

**OPPORTUNITIES TO BLESS (Please designate your giving to one of these areas):**

* General Oasis Expenses or Where Most Needed
* Orphans, Widows & Our Suffering Brethren
* Evangelistic Ministry Efforts In Israel & Other Nations
* Emergency & Disaster Relief Fund
* Feeding & Caring For The Needs of the Poor
* International Missions
* Oasis Community of Refuge & Provision (non receiptable, should go directly to Oasis only)
* Pregnancy Care Initiatives