

Hunger For Truth

April 1, 2011



“Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

Proverbs 7:2

Matthew 5:6

John 8:32

II Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 4:2

Special Interest Articles:

- Storehouse Tithing
- Psalms & Proverbs study
- Guess Who I Am in the “Children for Christ” column

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Craig Glickman (Editor)
Hunger For Truth Ministries
svtdtday@yahoo.com

“Hunger For Truth” is a monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Community Baptist Church of Quakertown, PA where the Pastor is Dr. David Smith.



Greetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the latest issue of Hunger For Truth. I am greatly concerned about sin in these times and the need for souls to be saved. We must be faithful in studying and meditating on God’s word and knowledgeable of it. I have struggled in this area. Please pray for me to be more faithful.

This issue will have more from the study on Psalms and Proverbs. Please pray for me in preparing these studies.

See the “Special Interest Articles” section for just some of what you will see this month in the newsletter.

Also, please note that back issues of the newsletter are available to view, print or save at

www.studytoanswer.net.

The goal of this ministry and newsletter is to edify and encourage believers using the truth of God’s precious Holy Word.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I greatly appreciate your comments and I praise God for each and every one of you.

Meditate on The Word (Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:148)

Storehouse Tithing – By Dr. James Sewell

The following is adapted from a discipleship course. This & other studies, along with hearing many testimonies of others really opened my eyes to the biblical truth of storehouse tithing after many years of study on this issue. What a joy and privilege it is to give to the Lord!

Definition:

Storehouse Tithing: Giving God one tenth of all one’s income and giving it through God’s local church.

The Issue:

Those who oppose *storehouse tithing* fall into three groups. Those who take issue with: (1) the location (church), (2) the amount (tithe), and (3) both the location and the amount. Among the arguments given in opposition to *storehouse tithing* is that tithing was part of the Law of Moses and is not applicable today since Christ abolished the law.

Tithing Before the Law:

Many Christians are astonished to learn the tithe existed before the Mosaic Law. Abraham, the father of the Jewish race, paid tithes generations before the law was given. His grandson, Jacob, did not question the tithe, “...and all thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee” (Genesis 28:22).



Storehouse Tithing (Continued)

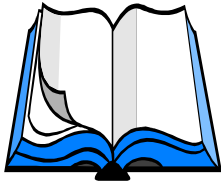
Tithing Before the Law (Continued): But who received the tithe in the days before the law? The Bible gives the example of Abraham giving tithes to Melchizedek, the king of Salem and the priest of the most high God (Genesis 14:18). “*And he gave him tithes of all*” (Genesis 14:20)

Melchizedek was a Gentile. Though the picture of Melchizedek is not complete, it is apparent that God raised him up as His witness and representative to the people of that day.

Tithing During the Law:

The Bible is clear that the Tabernacle, and later the Temple, was where the tithe was brought during the Mosaic Law. The most well known passage of scripture showing this is found in Malachi 3:10, “*Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse...*” This storehouse refers to the Temple.

It is interesting to note that the prophets in the Old Testament never received, or claimed the right to receive the tithe, though from time to time special gifts were given to them by individuals (for example, 2 Kings 4:8-10)



Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”

John 8:32

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Tithing During the Church Age:

There is disagreement between godly, sincere Christians, as to who should receive the tithe in this age – the Church Age. Some say the tithe should go to the local church; others, with equal honesty, believe it can go to any Christian ministry (Christian college, radio station, evangelist). Consider the following:

First, there is no definite, clear-cut teaching concerning the recipient of the tithe in the New Testament. Some would say that the tithe was destroyed as a part of legalism, but Jesus said, “*Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil*” (Matthew 5:17). Also, the tithe was before the Law and did not originate with the Law.

Tithing is not clearly discussed in the New Testament, but this is not a sign that it was not practiced. For example, the doctrine of the virgin birth cannot be found in Paul’s Epistles. The only hint of the virgin birth in Paul’s writings would be Galatians 4:4, “*...made of a woman.*” Now this does not mean that Paul did not believe in the virgin birth of our Lord. Paul wrote every one of his epistles, with the exception of Romans, to correct error in the local church. It seems quite clear the doctrine of the virgin birth was undisputed in the church. He therefore had no need to write on that topic.

In like manner, it appears there was no question concerning the tithe, so there was no need to discuss it. If there had been disagreement, 1 Corinthians 16 would have been an ideal place to mention it. But there was a problem concerning special offerings. “*Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come*” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

Interesting enough, Paul’s request for an offering was sent to the churches (1 Corinthians 16:1), not individuals. A New Testament principle on giving may be found here, stating that Christians should give through their local church. The offerings given to the saints in the Jerusalem church (Acts 11:29-30), were sent to the elders (denoting the church organization), and they were given by individuals through their own local church. In the New Testament no account is ever recorded of an individual giving an offering to an institution except through his local church. Such giving is recorded in Paul’s epistles. He accredits these gifts (never tithes) to that local church (see Philippians 4:18).

The Bible doesn’t teach that the individual is to send his tithes and offerings to the storehouse, rather he is to bring them. This indicates that tithes and offerings are to be given to a local storehouse and in the New Testament this was the local church.

The clear teaching of 1 Corinthians 16 is that every Christian is obligated to give according as how God has prospered him. The Greek language in this passage indicates while he is laying up in store (his tithe), he is also to consider an offering for the specific need, that is, the needy saints in Jerusalem.

Upon the 1st day of the week (Sunday, when the churches meet), let every one of you lay by him in store. The proper “storage” is the local church. Paul’s request for the offering went to the local churches (1 Corinthians 16:1). On the first day of the week the churches were gathering this special offering along with the regular giving.

The people whom Paul ministered to spoke Greek, and they used a Greek Bible. The Greek word *thesaurizon* means “the act of storing” (1 Corinthians 16:2) and is related to the Greek word *thesauros* in Malachi 3:10 which is translated *storehouse*.

Summary:

It is apparent that before the Law, the “storehouse” or receptacle for the tithe was those who God specifically raised up; during the Law, the “storehouse” was the Temple; and after the Law, the “storehouse” is the local church (1 Corinthians 16:2).

This is not the Roman Catholic concept of the church. This is not denominationalism. This is not selfishness on the part of local churches. This is the New Testament principle concerning the local church.

[Continued on Page 4]



The Book of Psalms: A Treasure From God – (Part 10) – By: Craig G.

Psalm 20– “Trust in God Alone”

Vs. 1 – God will hear us in time of trouble and will defend us when we completely depend and trust in Him alone.

Vs. 2 – The sanctuary of the local church today is the best place to be for help, guidance, counsel, wisdom and strength in the knowledge of God and His word. Are you faithful to your local church?

Vs. 3 – The Lord blesses those who are faithful stewards of their time, talent and treasure.

Vs. 4 – Desire to do all He desires. Let Him place His desires upon our hearts and minds that we might fulfil

his purpose and plan for our lives.

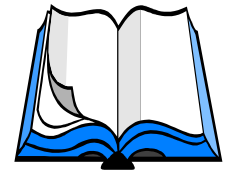
Vs. 5 – Rejoice in His salvation. God is before us and with us fulfilling all His petitions as Jehovah-Nissi (The Lord Our Banner) who we must proudly show in our lives. His banner over me is love. Do people see Jesus in you?

Vs. 6 – This relates to the Messiah. Christ today sits at the right hand of God the Father.

Vs. 7 – Many trust in the vain help of men, men’s wisdom and technology. Let us remember and trust in the Lord 1st and foremost.

Vs. 8 – Men in our own strength are brought down and fallen, but we rise and stand upright as we trust in and lean on Jesus alone.

Vs. 9 – Confess your sin to the Lord for He will hear you! Call upon the Lord! Cry out to Him!



II Timothy 3:16-17

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Wisdom From Proverbs – (Part 8) – By: Craig G.

Proverbs 9

Vs. 1 – Wisdom is spoken of as a spiritual house set upon seven pillars.

Vs. 2 – The great power godly wisdom has. I believe *killed her beasts* or *slaughtered her meat* means godly wisdom fed to us and accepted graciously helps us grow strong in the meat of His word. I believe *Mingled* or *mixed her wine* means we have all godly wisdom and authority we need directly from the Bible. The Bible is complete (1 Cor. 13). I believe *she hath also furnished her table* means that the Bible is all in order and we can be godly wise by faith in and obedience to His word. We don’t need any more extra-biblical revelation (i.e. Charismatics)

Vs. 3 – I believe *she has sent forth her maidens* relates to Romans 10:15 and relates to spreading the truth of God’s word. Jesus saves should be cried out from the highest mountains to the lowest valleys!

Vs. 4-5 – Turn to God’s word when we are naïve and lack understanding and wisdom. It is our daily bread. Let us drink daily and often from the living water of God’s holy word.

Vs. 6 – Avoid foolish or ungodly people and live. Follow and obey God’s word for understanding.

Vs. 7, 8a – Reproving a scorner/scoffer brings shame and rebuking a wicked man only harms himself.

Vs. 8b – Rebuke a wise man and he will love thee. This means we must be willing to humbly take a rebuke. We must have a tender heart to be taught the things of God and desire to learn and grow.

Vs. 9 - Instruction from God’s word makes a wise and just man wiser and able to increase in learning.

Vs. 10-11 – The fear of the Lord or reverential awe and respect of God and His word is where godly wisdom begins. Growing in the knowledge of Him brings understanding. It will prolong the days of our life.

Vs. 12 – Do not labor for yourself, your glory or the glory of man, but do all to the glory of God alone.

Vs. 13-18 – Speaks of the foolish woman and the danger of adultery and sensual lust (vs. 17-18).

Hebrews 4:12

“ For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”



Quotes of The Month

(Sources Unknown)

“Are you patient in the Lord’s direction of your life?”

“Are you allowing God to work in you today so you can be ready for tomorrow?”

“Christ’s heart is to have us with Him in glory beholding the glory of the Father.”

“You received Christ by believing God’s word and the Holy Spirit convicted you of its truth. In doing so you were purchased by the blood of Jesus Christ and all of this was planned by God the Father.” (John 17)

“Be a presenter of God’s word and not a perverter of God’s word.”

*“God is a great giver!
Satan is a great taker!”*

“Have faith in what you know God has said, not what you don’t know.”

☺ Children For Christ ☺ - “Guess Who I Am”

Memory Verse: Proverbs 16:16 *“How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!”*

In this multiple choice quiz, choose the judge who fits the description.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| A. Othniel | B. Ehud | C. Shamgar |
| D. Deborah | E. Gideon | F. Tola |
| G. Jair | H. Jephthah | I. Samson |

- He blew his trumpet and smashed his empty jar.
E C I
- This left-handed judge stabbed a king with a home-made sword
B F I
- This one killed 600 Phillistines with an ox goad.
C E G
- This judge was Caleb’s nephew.
A B E
- This one used a donkey’s jawbone.
I A C
- He had 30 sons on 30 donkey’s and controlled 30 towns
G F H
- This judge sacrificed his only child because of a vow he made to the Lord.
H C B
- When Barak was afraid to confront an enemy alone, this judge went with him.
D B H

Storehouse Tithing (Concluded)

Summary (continued from page 2):

Who has the authority to ordain? It is not the radio-minister, the Christian college, or even other Christian organizations. The local church has this authority. Who has the authority to administer the Lord’s Supper? – the local church. The tithe is the Lord’s (Leviticus 27:30); Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it (Ephesians 5:25), and the agency God has set up to receive the tithe is the local church.

Some proponents of giving the tithe outside of the local church will try to argue from past experience that God has blessed those who tithed to their organization. The truth of the matter is that God has blessed those Christians’ good intent in spite of the fact that they circumvented His local church. Biblical examples can be given of people who God blessed in spite of their shortcomings.

There are many good Christian ministries that operate outside the auspices of the local church. Yet if their ministry does not complement the ministry of the local church, then they are good works apart from God’s best work, the local church. And after they cease to operate, the local church will still be operating because *“the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”* (Matthew 16:18). This promise does not apply to these other ministries.

Most of these ministries deserve the honest and sincere prayers of intelligent Christians; but the tithe is the Lord’s through His institution, the local church.

Dr. Sewell is an ordained Baptist minister, Chairman of the department of Biblical Studies, Baptist Bible College, Springfield, Missouri

American Heritage (Formerly “Favorite Quotes From Our Forefathers”)

“Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains taken to bring it to light.”

George Washington, 1736-1799

First President of the United States of America



Song of the Month – “Come Holy Spirit”

This is a song when I first heard and sang this just convicted me greatly. O how we can do nothing apart from the Spirit’s power over our lives. All we can do is in vain if it is not of the Lord and according to His word. Examine the words to this great Joseph Hart hymn.

Come Holy Spirit come; Let thy bright beams arise; Drive darkness from our minds, and open all our eyes.

Come, Holy Spirit come, and sever all my earthly ties. Cheer our desponding heart, Thou heavenly Paraclete; Place us with humble hope at our Redeemers feet.

Come, Holy Spirit come, and give us joy when trials meet. Revive our drooping faith; Our doubts and fears remove; And kindle in our hearts the flames of living love.

Come, Holy Spirit come, and lift our mortal eyes above. Dwell, therefore in our hearts; our minds from bondage free; with powr’ o’er evil’s reign; victorious we shall be; Tis Thine to cleanse the heart, to sanctify the soul, to liven every part, and new create the whole.

Then we shall know and praise and love the Father, Son and Thee.



If you have a praise or prayer request you would like posted in Hunger For Truth, please e-mail it to me at svdtday@yahoo.com

Praises

- Praise God for the privilege and freedom of being able to hold, study, read & learn the precious Word of God.
- I praise God and want to say thank you to each and every one of you who take the time to read this every month and to those who have sent emails or have spoken to me about how the Lord has blessed you. Please keep them coming. They are a great blessing.
- Praise God for solid Local NT churches all across the land.
- Praise God for Victory in Jesus! Hallelujah, What a Savior!
- Praise God for health, safety, friends, family, and fellowship.
- I praise God for the privilege & blessing of preparing and sending this newsletter to people all across the land.
- Praise God that all we are and have belongs to Him. We should not want it any other way. The best place to be is near to the heart of God in the center of His will



Prayer Requests

- Children and teens across the globe with serious health ailments.
- Expectant mothers all across the globe to know the Lord and raise the children for the Lord
- Bro. Greg Myers (recovering from heart bypass surgery)
- Gods grace, strength, wisdom and victory regarding an unspoken request for the HFT editor.
- Those in need of employment and ones seeking other jobs
- Pray for wisdom in finding work in MA and for sale of my home in PA to make a move to Norwood, MA
- Pray that God would help the H.F.T. editor find the one wife that God has for him.
- Our nation and its leaders and for revival in this land
- Salvation of my sister Wendy & friend Ben • Local New Testament churches with building needs
- Salvation of my nephew Jacob and Aunts’ Sybil and Bernice
- Salvation of our family, friends and co-workers
- Souls devastated by the recent earthquake & tsunami in Japan. Pray for souls to be saved.
- Wisdom regarding HFT, HFT ministries and for FT service as the Lord leads
- Parents across this land to raise their children for the Lord
- Health and needs of Pastors, Missionaries, and Evangelists and their families
- Tract distribution and outreach to lost souls all over the world who were witnessed to last month for salvation

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If you do not wish to continue receiving this monthly newsletter, please e-mail me with “please remove” in the subject line.

In The Next Issue

Psalms and Proverbs study continues and much more plus a great study in the “Children For Christ” column.

Thank you for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

His Servant,

Craig G. – Prov. 3:5-6

