



TEN

TITHING QUESTIONS ANSWERED



GOD FIRST

ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

1. WHAT IS TITHE?

Tithe is one tenth of our increase/income, from either money or product, that is returned to God. It is holy and belongs to Him, the owner of all of our material possessions and lives (Lev. 27:30). The returning of the tithe is our expression of who God is to us, and our faithfulness to Him.

2. WHY SHOULD WE TITHE?

By returning one tenth of our increase to Him, we demonstrate that God is the owner of everything He has entrusted into our hands. The practice of tithing links our worship to our partnership with God through our financial support of His mission and Church.

3. HOW IS TITHE TO BE RETURNED?

Monetary tithe, an act of worship, can be returned online or be placed in the tithe and offering envelope and given when the offering is taken up at church. Some may choose to give online where this option is available.

4. WAS THE TITHING SYSTEM PRACTICED IN THE OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS?

Yes. As the Israelites were about to be established as a nation, tithing was reaffirmed by God (Lev. 27:30-34). The tithing system reaches beyond the days of Moses and Abraham thus providing a foundation for tithing practices in the New Testament (Matt. 23:23; Heb. 7:1-10).

5. WHERE IS THE TITHE RETURNED?

Within the Seventh-day Adventist Church tithe is received by the local congregation and sent in totality on to the local conference/mission/field office. The Church has designated the conference as the "storehouse" for distribution.

6. HOW IS THE TITHE USED?

While distribution percentages vary somewhat in different divisions, the largest portion of the tithe is used by conferences to support the ministry of local churches through pastoral salaries, evangelism and certain other services provided to the local church.

7. WHEN SHOULD I TITHE?

Tithe should be returned before other expenses are met, demonstrating that God is the first priority in our lives.

8. SHOULD PEOPLE TITHE WHEN IN DEBT?

While our financial obligations are important, we are always first indebted to God, the owner of all. Tithing is an act of faith. It demonstrates that we believe that God will provide.

9. IS TITHING EASIER FOR THE RICH THAN FOR THE POOR?

Love is the motive and rationale that leads us to to recognize our responsibility whether we be rich or poor. Without love neither the rich nor the poor will appreciate the real blessings of returning tithe. Tithing becomes natural for all who remember God's ownership and who respond in love and worship.

10. IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TITHE AND OFFERINGS?

Yes. Tithe belongs to God so we return it to the rightful owner. Offerings are given in loving response to God's goodness to us. Through the practice of returning tithe and giving offerings, we worship God and advance His mission to make disciples on earth.