



Stewards of Money

1. *Give God The Firstfruits*
2. Give To Caesar What Is Caesar's
3. Take Care Of Yourself & Your Family
4. Help The Saints In Need
5. Help Any As You Have Opportunity



First Give Yourself To God

- ◆ **Do Not Be Like The Scribes & Pharisees**
 - Matthew 23:23 " *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.*"
- ◆ **But, First Give Yourself To The Lord**
 - 2 Corinthians 8:3-5 " *For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.*"



Then Give God The Firstfruits

- ◆ **Honor The Lord – Give Him The Firstfruits**
 - Proverbs 3:9 *"Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; "*
- ◆ **God Said The Tithe Was His**
 - 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 to the Lord."*
- ◆ **The Jews Robbed God of What Was His**
 - Malachi 3:6-10



Wasn't That Under The Law?

◆ Now Some Say:

- That was under the Law and doesn't apply under the New Covenant.

◆ But, In The Beginning

- Genesis 4:1-4 *" Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the Lord." Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering,"*

Wasn't That Under The Law?

◆ And, Hundreds of Years Before The Law

- Genesis 14:17-23 *"And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him. Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all. Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'—""*





Wasn't It Just Their Taxes?

◆ Now Some Say:

- That was their taxes to the king because God was the King of Israel.

◆ Did They No longer Owe God When They Had a Human King?

- 1 Samuel 8:6-18

◆ But what about 2 Corinthians 9:7

- *"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."*
- Remember That 2Corinthians 8&9 are dealing with the gift to the saints of Judea: 8:4, 9:1, 9:5.
- This clearly applies, only not in giving to God but in helping the saints in need.



Why Follow This Example?

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 9:6-14
- ◆ 1 Timothy 5:17-18 *"Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages.""*
- ◆ Matthew 6:24-33