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# THE TITHE IS NOT ENOUGH

... THE HIDDEN MYSTERIES OF FINANCIAL FORTUNE

# THE **TITHE** IS NOT ENOUGH

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## **JUST BEFORE WE BEGIN...**

People have often complained that they don't get the returns for their tithes. The recent question I received was "What can a person do if he is committed to paying tithe yet his business is suffering?" I thought about the question for days until God began to unveil what I'm about to share with you in this book.

This book will not only show you why most tithes do not get returns, it would also empower you to walk in a new realm of financial fortune. God bless you, I love you, and have a good read!

LET'S QUICKLY ESTABLISH THE FACT THAT...

# THE TITHE IS THE LORD'S

It's not for you. It's not something you feel like giving to God, it's not something you give to God when you think you have enough money; rather, it's something you give to God anytime you make profit. Let's see how Leviticus explained it;

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.***

***31. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof.***

Did you notice verse 30? ***"All the tithe of the land... Is the Lord's"***. It's a non-negotiable part of the covenant of prosperity. To show you how serious it is, verse 31 tells us that in case we spend the tithe and decide to redeem it later, the regular ten percent will no longer be acceptable. Instead, we'd be required to pay fifteen percent.

## **THE COVENANT OF PROSPERITY...**

Kingdom prosperity does not answer to prayer and fasting; it responds to the covenant. And this covenant was made with our fathers in Genesis 8:22. It says ***"while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease"***.

As believers, God's provision for our financial future is the covenant of giving and receiving. And tithing plays a top priority on the list of what should be giving. Actually, while other givings "may" be considered, tithing "must" be considered.

Some Christians believe that Jesus has paid all our tithe. They've probably not read in Hebrews 7:8 that Jesus Himself takes record of every tithe paid. It says ***"and here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth"***. Salvation didn't save us from the responsibilities attached to the covenant of financial prosperity. Rather, it made it easier by giving us the spirit of love so we can give sacrificially.

## **BELIEVERS WHO DO NOT PAY TITHE ARE CONSIDERED THIEVES...**

Who would think that the Almighty God can be robbed? Somebody once shared a story of how a bus was hijacked by armed robbers. Before the robbery commenced, the armed robbers asked the passengers "if there was anyone in the bus who is not a thief". Most of them raised their hands with so much assurance. But a large percentage of them were in shock when the next question was asked "Do you pay tithe?". They were all robbers; in fact, the passengers who didn't pay tithe were experts, because they robbed the Almighty God. I believe that story was a fiction, but if we consider Malachi 3:8-9, we'd see a lot of truth in it. Let's read what it says;

Malachi 3:

***8. Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.***



***9. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.***

So anytime you stab your tithe, you've simply robbed God. And if you claim it's not robbery, then you'd have to redeem it with an extra five percent according to Leviticus 27:31.

Do you know what the government call business operatives who are not tax complaint? Criminals! And when they are caught, they'd face the law.

## **PAYING TITHE IS FOR YOUR GOOD...**

I believe the tax system was gotten from the biblical principles of tithing. Paying tax may not be easy, but it helps the government to perform their national duties like providing security, shelter, food and so on. Have you

ever wondered how the Police Force and other security platforms in your nations are preserved? If your government decides to give free education, where do you think the money will come from?

The taxes received by the government are used to pay for services that the government provides to communities or the nation at large. In a modern society, a government needs administrators, police forces, emergency forces such as firefighters, engineers and maintenance workers for streets and buildings, politicians, and to pay for property used and goods consumed by the government services. In ancient times there were fewer government specialists but all of these basic needs had to be met.

As a tax compliant business person, you have unlimited access and opportunity to operate in the nation where you pay your tax. There's no limit to how much profit you can make in your nation as long as you are tax compliant. There are many organizations that hide from the government, only because they don't pay tax. And when an opportunity comes to execute a bigger project, especially from the government, they won't qualify, because such projects require tax clearance - which is something they don't have.

If these principles were gotten from tithing, then it means without tithing there'd be very little we can achieve when it comes to financial prosperity. Just to be clear, let's see how the bible explains it;

## Malachi 3:

***10. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.***

***11. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.***

***12. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.***

*Let me try to analyze those verses:*

If you pay your tithe, there'd be meat or resources in God's house. And once that happens, He'd open the windows of heaven and pour down blessings upon the works of your hand. He'd also appoint the militias of

heaven to rebuke the devourers or anyone who tries to steal from you. He'd ensure that no evil comes near your business proceeds or job. He'd protect and preserve you to a point that all nations will call you blessed.

We really need to start seeing tithe as kingdom tax. If you pay tax to your nation for a successful and continuous trade, then you should do the same in the kingdom of God. We even have a greater advantage as believers; because the government may decide to embezzle the tax paid, but God will not. God takes record of your tithe and ensures you get returns for it. What would He even use your money for when the bible says the silver and the gold belongs to Him?

My point is, if you claim to be living in the kingdom of God, then be a tither.

## **POSITIONING FOR RETURNS...**

Many people have complained that they don't see returns for their tithe. Some say their business is not growing even though they don't miss paying their tithe. I used to be in that position too until I began to walk in some revelations. If you're presently experiencing financial hardness despite your commitment to tithing, then I have good news for you, things are about to change for the better.

NOW, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO...

# THE TITHE THAT SPEAKS

## ***1. GIVE IT IN FAITH...***

If tithe is for God, then you must give it in faith. Many people think they are doing God a favour when they pay tithe, and that's why many of them don't see returns. Some others try to investigate how their tithe would be used by their church. That may not be a bad idea, but except God personally asks you to do that, do not! Because you may end up experiencing delay instead of returns.

You're not paying your tithe to man, but to God. Though a man would use it according to God's prescription, but God takes record that you've made the payment.

You need to completely take the flaws of man out of the equation. "My pastor is misusing the tithe", "how can I be paying tithe to man?", "how can they do this after all the tithe I pay in this church?". You've probably said one of those things before. Tithing is not a carnal thing; the bible says the tenth is holy unto God. And that means it's a spiritual thing. Don't say you'd stop paying your tithe because your church does not recognize you; no, that kind of recognition only comes from the Lord. Some people say things like "how can I be feeding the Pastor when I don't even have enough for myself", "The whole church is filled with poor people, yet we're paying tithe". I'm not saying some of these things are



not worthy to be investigated; no, what I'm saying is that talking about those things will make you murmur, and murmuring destroys your harvest without knowing. And that's one reason why many people never see the returns for their tithes. You must be able to come to a point of conviction that it goes to God and not man.

Check out people who protest against the government for embezzling their money, many of them are usually average citizens but mostly people who have nothing to show for their lives. The only thing complaining and murmuring has ever accomplished is to bring even more challenges to murmur about.

But God is not like our government, He is holy. He'd make sure you get returns for your tithes. He'd rebuke devourers for your sake,

even if your pastors appear as a devourer. Your part is to pay the tithe, then leave God to play His part.

## ***2. GO AND WORK!***

Do you sometimes feel like what you get from God is too small, and that you deserve more? Well, you are not the first. In Joshua 17:14-18, after Joshua had distributed inheritances among the people, the family of Joseph came to him and complained that the portion of the land that was given to them was too small, considering the fact that they are great people. Great people? Someone would have thought that Joshua made a mistake, and would assign another land to them. But surprisingly, the response was different.

Joshua acknowledged that indeed the family of Joseph were great people, and that he

assigned a small portion of land to them. But then he told them that "they were not only entitled to that small land, but all the lands on the mountains can also be possessed by them, if they defeat the oppositions". In other words, they had bigger land space than any other family, except that they had to contend with the enemy in battle. Personally, I have discovered that God does not have problems giving me ideas that will give me plenty of money, but whenever I asked Him for money, He gives me a small portion. When God does not give you as much as you asked for, then it probably means you have what it takes to have more than you have asked for.

## **BLESSING DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN MONEY...**

Malachi 3:10 says God will pour down blessings once we pay our tithes. But it didn't

say He'd give you contracts, it didn't say He'd promote you at your work place, it didn't say you'd suddenly receive a credit alert from your bank. It was quite accurate about the other areas, like rebuking the devourer and so on, but it didn't mention any blessing in particular. Instead, it said "I'd pour down blessings, such that there won't be room enough to contain them"; in other words, all-round blessings. I laugh when people complain that their business is not moving even after they've paid their tithe. God didn't say He'd pour down business breakthroughs; He said "I'd pour down blessings". Of course, all-round blessings include business breakthroughs, but if you want the blessings of business breakthrough then go out and get it, because your tithe has secured it for you.

Blessing means enablement to do something. After God created man, the Bible says God

blessed them. And the next verse described the content of the blessing; it says "be fruitful and multiply, and have dominion over the earth". That's the blessing! The next time someone tells you "God bless you", ask him what he wants God to bless you with. Except you want to assume the content of the blessing.

## **WITHIN YOUR REACH...**

Tithing makes God's blessing free in availability, but it does not mean it's free in accessibility. God does not put anything in your hands; rather, He puts them within your reach. If you ever want to reach God's blessings, then you must reach out for it. The reason why many people have not reached anywhere is probably because they've ignorantly refused to take steps that would enable them reach somewhere.

Your lack of resources is not because there is a lack of resources. Your inability to put food on your table is not because there cannot be food on the table, but because there is no work in your mind. If your mind is not working, your hand would be too lazy to work; and as long as your hands are too lazy to work, food will remain invisible on your table. It is the blessings of the Lord that makes rich, but blessings will not fall on you until you take steps to reach them. God pours out blessings, man reaches out to receive these blessings. Waiting is not part of the equation. Moreover, God said He will bless the works of our hands; so if you're not working, what will God bless?

Also, you must be sensitive. The fact that you have a business doesn't necessarily mean that

God must bless you through that business. He may decide to introduce you to something else. This is why you must be open minded with God. Once you've given your tithe, simply ask him what you need to do next. It would be unwise to assume that He will always bless you through the same means.

### ***3. GIVE SOME MORE...***

The path of a Believer is ordained to be progressive; but if it feels like you're not making progress, then check your giving life. Scripture tells us that "the gift of a man makes room for him". Salvation may give us assurance for progress, but it is our giving that conveys us through the ways of progress. The reason why many believers are stagnated in life is probably because they mistake assurance for progress for progress itself.

Giving is the vehicle that starts the journey into progress. Salvation is like a plane ticket, while giving is like the plane itself. Your ticket assures a flight, but without a plane, you can't reach your destination. Christianity is a call to love; and true love is expressed by giving. I've discovered that; every time I give, God gives me ideas on how to make even more than what I gave. Don't tell me you don't have ideas, because what you really don't have is a giving heart. Sound ideas are natural attributes of a giver. Giving may be hard when you start, but if you don't withdraw from it, you'd come to love it.

Givers never lack; and if it looks like you're lacking, then you're probably not giving. Giving is not a function of what you let go from your hand, but what you let go from your heart. Many people give from their hand, but what they give remains locked up in



their heart. A giving that does not leave your heart will never guarantee returns. And when your heart is locked, your hands would also be closed from receiving. A closed heart is also a closed hand.

If you want to receive from God, then open your hand. And the only way you can open your hand is to give out to someone. Those who open their hands to give to someone simply open their hands to receive from God. Before you think of what to do with what you have, first think of who to help with what you have. The prophet told the widow of Zarephat to make for him first. She was supposed to eat her last meal and die with her child, but because she considered helping someone first, what she had left was sufficient for her all through the famine. There is no day that passes without me giving something to someone. If you want to enjoy kingdom

prosperity, then reduce your prayer and fasting for money, and increase your giving. When impacting lives becomes a priority for your money, then financial prosperity would become your identity.

## **BUT WHO DO I GIVE TO?**

- **Give to Your Parents...**

"You must be rich! God will fight everyone who tries to fight against you! You will travel abroad! As you remember me monthly, God will cause men to remember you for favour". Those are the words that flow out from my mother's mouth each time she receives her monthly allowance from me. After that kind of prayer, tell me why my business will not prosper?

My spiritual father and mentor, Bishop David Abioye, taught me early enough on why I must put my parents on my payroll. I used to give excuses that my monthly income was too small, but he said "no matter how little I earned, something must go to them every month". I've practiced this principle since then, and it has been working. Ephesians 6:2-3 paints a clearer picture, let's see what it says;

Ephesians 6:

***2. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)***

***3. That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.***

Did you see that? Giving to your parents is not an option, it's a commandment with promise. To be clearer, if you want things to

be well with you then give to your parents. After your tithe to God, your parents should be next. While tithing pours down blessing, parental blessings secures your well-being. For instance, I don't need to start fighting against oppositions, the prayer from my mum has already concluded the matter. This may sound too simple, but even if she doesn't pray for me, God's word cannot be broken. As long as I honour my parents, it shall be well with me.

If a thought of you brings sorrow to your parents, then you have a lot of work to do. Do you know why I'm so sure that I'd do well in business every month? It's because my mum will be joyfully expecting her monthly allowance. The joyful expectation in her heart alone is enough to breakthrough in business. Nothing gives me more assurance of breakthrough like parental blessings.

- **Give to The Poor...**

I don't mean giving to road side beggars; those people are richer than you know it. I mean people who are really poor; your neighbour who has not had food for days now, that brother or sister in church that wears the same cloth every Sunday, that man that treks long distances all because he can't afford the bus fare.

Each passing day, I consciously look out for who to give something to, no matter how little. From the exit of my gate, to the bus station, in the bus, and in the office. I've had to clear a particular colleague's debt from our office's cafeteria, even without his knowledge. In the bus, I'd look for people who can't afford their fare; like students, elderly people, and so on. Some of them

actually have their fare, but they'd wish they could use that money for something else. I remember how an elderly woman turned in a bus and began to pray for me after she was told that I had already paid for her. It was a full bus; I was at the last row while she sat at the front. She didn't even consider the people in the bus. She also didn't look like a woman who needed any form of assistance, but she felt honored.

Every opportunity you have to give is an opportunity to receive. The easier you find giving the better your chances of receiving. Remember that Proverbs 28:27 says ***"He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack"***. Job, the greatest business man in his time, was not only a tither; he was eyes to the blind and leg to the lame. He was father to the fatherless and shelter to the homeless. He was judge to the widow and health to the sick.

Humorously, the bible spoke more of his generosity than his commitment to tithing. If you want to emerge a great business man like job, do what he did.

### **LET ME CONCLUDE WITH THIS...**

Your tithe is not enough. You also need to take advantage of other channels of giving. If you pay tithe alone, a time will come when you'd begin to grumble to pay your tithe. Tithing alone may tithing your heart from giving, but if you take advantage of other giving channels, your giving heart will expand. Remember that tithe opens the windows of heaven and pour down blessings, but these other platforms of giving gathers these blessings into your life.

I'm so glad you read this book; and I pray that the joy of giving will continue increasing in your life, in the name of Jesus!

God bless you, I love you, and don't forget to send me your testimony!



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**EMEKA ANSLEM**



I am Emeka Anslem, the privileged writer of Timely Notes Daily Devotional, Founder of In-spirited Writers Training School, and President of The Solutionists. I received a divine call to be a teacher in April 2013, with an assignment to "Add value to lives by bringing knowledge to the people". By His grace, I've committed my life to this assignment, and I'm always willing to add value to lives.

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