

What The Bible Teaches on
TITHES and OFFERINGS

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Chapter 7: Does this mean that Christians are not expected to tithe?

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Tithing as part of the Law is certainly not for Christians any more than paying the temple tax or paying to redeem every firstborn son and every firstborn offspring of domestic animals! (Numbers 18:15-16)

Some argue that Abraham and Jacob paid their tithes before the Law was given. Following their example, therefore, as Christians should we too not pay our tithes even though we are not under the Law? We need to understand some important facts about both Patriarchs.

(a) For both of them it was a once in a life-time experience. They did not set the example of regular tithing. That came only with the Law of Moses.

(b) Abraham did not pay a tithe of his personal possessions or income but only out of what he recovered from his enemies.

(c) Jacob's promise was only on condition that he returned safely after God had blessed his uncertain future.

For these reasons, the two of them did not set a valid example of regular tithing for us to follow as Christians.

All this must not blind us to the fact that we have a responsibility to give, and to give generously.