

ENCOURAGEMENT NOW!

Obedience is Better than Sacrifice

Doing what God tells us to do seems always hard, we just don't like anyone telling us what to do. Sound familiar? Men can't stand to give up control, that's why the TV remote is so important. Give the control over to God and you will loose control and gain a peace like you have never known!

News

People from every continent are listening to the podcasts. Become a partner and help send the Word around the World! Go to encouragementnow.com to send your seed or mail it to PO Box 652 Glenpool, OK 74033.

Technology

Encouragement Now! Bible study is growing and learning. Everyday life can be exciting when you know what God has to say, especially about you. If you can't be with us in person you can still be there on Skype Monday nights 7 - 9 log on to encouragementnow.com and click on the Skype link, You won't be the same.



Tithe vs Alms Never The Two Shall Meet

I don't always agree with the way churches spend the money that is given to them in Tithes, it seems to me that the church is prospering and some of the people are not. Taking matters into my own hands I would take of my tithe and give it to the poor thinking I was doing the work of the church and making a wrong right.

I know Malachi 3 tells me to bring all the tithe into the storehouse that there may be meat in my house, after all there needed to be meat in the congregations house as well. I also knew that the Word says God will rebuke the devil for my sake and open the windows of Heaven and pour me out a blessing that I cannot contain and that wasn't happening. Knowing God is never wrong and if there is a problem it is surely with me, I inquired of the Lord.

God I am a tither and a giver, taking care of YOUR people now why are not the promises coming to me as YOUR Word says? Whats the problem? What can I do to change? Change me Lord! I was taken back to Malachi three, you have robbed me, where have I robbed you? In tithes and offerings. Not possible I tithe



Just a Note: People

Some of the most beautiful places in the world would be perfect if it wasn't for the people who lived there. God has truly made some different people and beautiful places. How wrong can I be, God has made both beautiful place and beautiful people, just different. My pastor T.L. Osborn told me that they have different brains, we all don't think the same. Does that mean God made a mistake, He never makes mistakes.

When God made everything He stood back and said it was good, very good.

There is still goodness in all of us and we can see that goodness if we look at people through the eyes of God.

We should love what God loves, if it is that important to Him then it should be that important to us. God Loves People, we should to!

Remember

Encouragement Now! is here for you for prayer, encouragement and the Word of God. Call, get online or listen to the podcasts it is all there for you.

off of everything, how could I have robbed you? The church won't take care of some of the poor, so I am doing it for them, after all that is what the tithe is for, isn't it? Again I was taken back to Malachi three, YOU HAVE ROBBED ME. How Lord I don't understand, how have I robbed you? In tithes.

One thing I consider myself good in is deductive reasoning, I tend to think myself good in it but that is not necessarily the case when I see the results. Ok I am robbing God in the tithe. I am giving my tithe to the poor and I was stopped, where did scripture tell me to give my tithe, to the house of God.

God I don't like what they are doing with the tithe, people need help. I was strongly impressed in my heart that God was telling me that what happened with the tithe after it left my hand into the hands of the church was none of my business. Once you gave your tithe it was no longer mine to control. In fact it was not mine in the first place and when I directed it I was using it as my own and not giving it to God at all. I wasn't tithing I was helping the poor. That is not what God said to do with the tithe.

When I studied giving to the poor I ran across a little word that I had read over several times but it made no impact until now, Alms. I had always made a joke when I was a kid, remember kids are not always nice, I would see someone asking for money and I would mock them with this phrase "Alms for the Poor, Alms for the Poor," this must have made a greater impression on me than I thought because that's what I was doing with my tithe, giving Alms to the poor.

After more study I found that the Bible said that God would repay us for the Alms we gave to the poor. That is not the same as what the blessings were for the tithe. No wonder I was robbing God, I was exchanging tithing for alms giving and therefore changing the blessing to the blessing of alms. I had changed my tithe into alms and not being blessed at all because now I wasn't obedient with the tithe and robbing God. You can't rob God and expect Him to bless you in any area of your life.

No matter how good my intentions were I wasn't obedient and faithful to God. My life changed and so did my tithe. Still help the poor with my Alms and I never forget to tithe to the house of God.

encouragementnow.com has a four part series on finances that will change your life and the way you look at finances.

Remember you are blessed and everything you put your hands to will be successful and prosper.

Wait till you hear about offerings and seed faith, what a change!