

THE TITHER'S SURPRISE
I Corinthians 16:2

Introduction:

1. Tithing is a subject that many do not like to hear in a sermon.
2. But it is my conviction that it is a Bible truth and needs to be preached more.
3. There are many things about tithing that those who do not tithe do not know.
4. There are many surprises that come to the one who tithes.
5. Let's think about the tithers surprise.

I. THE TITHER'S SURPRISE AT THE AMOUNT HE HAS FOR THE LORD'S WORK

- A. It may seem like it is not very much, but to God it is.
1. Some may think that because they have so little it doesn't make much difference.
 2. But God watches and He knows the true value of what it is worth.
 3. Jesus told of the widow who had two mites.

Scripture: **Mark 12:43-44**

B. But just consider that small amount weekly, monthly, yearly, lifetime.

C. However, regardless of how much, you can never out give God.

Scripture: **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."*

II. THE TITHER'S SURPRISE AT THE DEEPENING OF HIS SPIRITUAL LIFE IN GIVING THE TITHE.

- A. It brings about a closer walk with God.
1. One is drawn closer for he is taking God at His word.
 2. God has promised to take care and one is more dependent when he is giving to God first.

Scripture: **Luke 12:29-30.**

B. It displays a love for Christ and desire to do His will in giving.

Love is the mark of a true Christian.

Scripture: **John 14:21** *"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."*

C. Yet, many Christians are not walking close.

ILLUSTRATION . . . GOD DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE

III. THE TITHER'S SURPRISE AT THE EASE OF MEETING HIS OWN OBLIGATIONS WITH THE REMAINING 9/10.

- A. It is for certain this is the first thought in the minds of people when they talk about tithing.
1. 'I can't make it with all I have.'
 2. Many have said this including (wife).
 3. But God will test to see if one is sincere.

B. Yet once it started it is never missed, if the heart is right. (Must make up mind to do it.)

1. Tithing is just as regular as lights, gas, groceries and actually is at the top of the list.
2. God will take care if the heart is right.

ILLUSTRATION . . . ROB

Scripture: **II Corinthians 9:7** *"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."*

IV. THE TITHER'S SURPRISE AT THE JOY THAT COMES IN GIVING UNTO THE LORD'S WORK.

- A. It brings a joy in knowing he is doing what God would have him to do.
 - 1. It brings joy to a true Christian to see his tithes used to win others to Christ.
 - 2. It brings joy to these to see his tithes being used in helping other work.
- B. It brings joy in knowing that God will be honored by it. (Not for show but for God.)
 - 1. It is used to bring honor and glory to Him.
 - 2. He will abound in joy.

Scripture: **II Corinthians 9:6** *“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”*

V. THE TITHER'S SURPRISE TO FIND THAT IT BELONGS TO GOD IN THE FIRST PLACE.

- A. Every single thing that you possess belongs to God.
 - You may call it your own, but it belongs to God.
- B. God is just letting you borrow it for a while.
 - 1. How are you going to treat it?
 - 2. Will it be for His honor or your greediness?

Scripture: **Leviticus 27:30** *“... all the tithe (tenth) of the land . . . is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord.”*

ILLUSTRATION . . . WHAT KIND ARE YOU?

Conclusion:

- 1. Are you giving to God what rightfully belongs to Him?
- 2. Are you truly a Christian in every way that Jesus has commanded?
- 3. Remember, that tithing to Him is part of it.

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