

**G R E A T B I B L E W O R D S**

*Generosity*

Introduction: We are studying great Bible words. One of the topics submitted for this series was giving, but we are going to extend that to include generosity. What does it mean to be generous? What does the Bible say about giving to God? Let's study together...

Discussion:

**I. Generosity Through Tithing**

- A. Tithing had a spiritual purpose (**Leviticus 27:30-33, Deuteronomy 5:1-5, 12:6-7, 16:17**).
- B. Tithing preceded the Old Law (**Genesis 14:20, 28:20-22**).
- C. Tithing was commanded by God (**Numbers 18:20-28, Deuteronomy 12:5-18, 14:22-27**).
- D. Tithing was commanded in God's house (**Deuteronomy 12:5-14, II Chronicles 6-7, 31**).
- E. Tithing was used to support the Levites (**Numbers 18:21-24, Deuteronomy 14:22-27**).
- F. Tithing was often ignored or abused (**Isaiah 1:11 -13, Haggai 2:14, Malachi 1:6-14, 3:8-10**).
- G. Tithing is in the New Testament (**Matthew 23:23, Luke 11:42, Luke 18:12, Hebrews 7:4-9**).

**II. Generosity Through Offerings**

- A. The sacrifice offering (**Genesis 8:20-21, 22:15-18, II Samuel 24:24**).
  1. The burnt offering (**Leviticus 1:1-17, 6:8-13, 8:18-21**)
  2. The grain offering (**Leviticus 2:1-16, 6:14-23**)
  3. The fellowship offering (**Leviticus 3:1-17, 7:11-34**)
  4. The sin offering (**Leviticus 4:1-5:13, 6:24-30, 8:14-17**)
  5. The guilt offering (**Leviticus 5:14-17, 7:1-6**)
  6. The free will offering (**Deuteronomy 16:10, I Chronicles 29:6-9, II Chronicles 24:8-11, Ezra 2:68**)
- B. The special projects offering (**Exodus 25:1-8, 35:4-9, 36:5-7, II Kings 12:4-12**).
- C. The census offering (**Exodus 30:14-15, Numbers 25-28**).
- D. The first-fruit(s) offering (**Exodus 34:19, Leviticus 2:12-14, Leviticus 23:20**).
- E. The thanksgiving offering (**Leviticus 22:29, Psalm 50:14, Psalm 107:22, Psalm 116:12**).
- F. The welfare offering (**Deuteronomy 15:7-11, Proverbs 19:17, Proverbs 28:27**).
- G. The prophet offering (**I Samuel 9:6-9, I Kings 17:10-24, II Kings 4-5, Matthew 10:41**).

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### *III. Generosity Through Good Works*

- A. Good works bless many others (**Psalm 37:26, II Corinthians 9:5-6, I Timothy 6:18**).
- B. Good works build character (**Matthew 10:8, II Corinthians 9:7, Galatians 5:22-23**).
- C. Good works become part of Christian living (**Ephesians 2:8-10, Titus 2:11-14, Titus 3:1-14**).
- D. Good works bring glory to God (**Matthew 5:13-16, Ephesians 5:8**).
- E. Good works baffle the unbeliever (**I Peter 2:11-12, I Peter 3:1-2**).
- F. Good works bolster our faith (**James 1:27, James 2:14-17**).
- G. Good works bear the image of Jesus (**Luke 6:46, Acts 10:38, Ephesians 5:23**).

Conclusion: We are no longer under the old law, therefore, we are not obligated to give 10% (tithe), or 1/3 of our net worth (Jews), plus additional offerings. Nor are we bound by the 100% giving of the early Christians which had disastrous consequences (**Acts 2-6**). However, we are commanded to give (**I Corinthians 16:1-2, II Corinthians 8:1-5, 9:7**). We can choose to stingy or generous with what God has given us. Which would God prefer? Will you be generous today with your offering? Will you be generous telling others of how God has been generous to you? Will you acknowledge the gift of Jesus? Will you allow God to purchase your sins? Let's share this wonderful word with others!