

Be Liberal (Part 4)

Text: Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Introduction:

1. This book is actually Moses farewell sermons. Moses will not be going into the Promised Land. Joshua will be the chosen leader to lead the people of God into the Promised Land. This is the 11th month of the 40th year and before he dies, he is preparing the next generation to be ready to go in and possess the land.
2. As we progressed in this series we would be dealing most on the application side of the sermon.
3. We know that the Word of God is powerful. But I have already mentioned to you that there are 2 things that are more powerful in effect than the word of God which is working in the lives of many people. You will find this very real among the secular and the religious circles. It is called unbelief and tradition. But unbelief and tradition of men can also be affecting God's people.
4. When God's people stick to unbelief like a gecko and people base their direction on human tradition a selfish heart becomes wicked and hardened like a flint stone. But then when we allow the Word of God to change our thinking what happens is that a selfish heart like mine will develop into a heart of obedience, love and kindness. When these three dynamics comes together it will make a liberal person out of you.
5. I would like to conclude this message tonight trying to put these three dynamics, Obedience, Love and Kindness done for others.
6. I mentioned to you that God requires 3 tithes from Israel. Levitical Tithe, Festival Tithe and The Poor Tithe. These are the Dynamic trio of tithing in the OT.
7. Now we only teach and practice one tithing and that is the Levitical tithing principle to begin with. But then in the New Testament we go beyond what is required, we practice grace giving which motivates us to give according to love and kindness.

8. To help you understand this let me give you a chart.

Tithes = Obedient Giving = Blessings upon the earth
Offerings = Love and Affection Giving = Rewards on earth
and in heaven
Alms = Merciful and Kindness Giving = Treasures in heaven.

9. I want you to see the relationship of these three.

III. Be Liberal vs. 22

- A. Tithing is the starting point of Liberality.**
- B. Terminate Debts Towards Liberality**
- C. Treat People with Your Liberality vs. 7-11**
- D. Treasure in heaven laid up for Liberal People**

1. Superlative Tithing vs. 19-23

What does superlative tithing does to a tither? *Mal. 3:10-13*

I do not know about you, but I have made up my mind and my mind has been stronger now than the day I started tithing my first 1 peso blessing in 1986. And I am not changing. God started this good work in me and God will be the one to close this good work in me. I am tither. I do not care what people say so negative about tithing but let me tell you God blessed me. Because I am tithing, I believe me and my wife will finish together as a couple stronger than the day we started living together in 1990. The day I die is the day of my highest potential. Because I am tithing I believe my children will make it through a pure life, finish their course and Bible training and get direction from God what to do full time if God calls them and marry the right person and serve God and time comes God will call them home, I believe the day they die they reached their potential for God. God says, God has a wonderful blessing for tithers.

- a. God will open the windows of heaven.

- b. God will pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it. This mean that in your whole lifetime you would not be able to use all the blessings to enjoy and to share.
- c. God will rebuke the devourer for you.
- d. God will not destroy the fruit of your ground.
- e. God will not let your children fail before their time.

Illustration: The Life of Jacob Gen. 28:16-22. Then he went to Laban – Laban thought Jacob was an easy target. He tricked and cheated on Jacob. But he made it through 21 years. 7 years for Leah (the wrong bride) 7 years for Rachel (the one Jacob loved) and 7 more years as cattle raiser with Laban. For 21 years his cattle becomes the best in the land and Laban’s cattle became inferior compare to the superiority of Jacob’s cattle. (How did Jacob did it! Remember, he promised God that he will tithe every increase. God had opened the windows of heaven and gave Jacob wisdom to breed cattle on a certain way.

Was Laban the father in law a tither? No He was not a tither.

Read Gen. 31:14-15 The 2 sisters were complaining that their father had not been obedient to God and therefore a devourer had hurt them as a family. He was the richest cattle raiser but they are receiving nothing from father because the devourer has taken Laban’s cattles. But these two ladies have a reason to thank God for that they are married to man named Jacob who covenanted with God that he would tithe. God has protected Jacob’s cattle from Laban who started to get interested on Jacob’s cattle but Laban could not really touch the man Jacob. God has protected Jacob’s family.

Did you know how all the children ended up. Well you need to understand that it was not an easy life Jacob went through but the turning point of Jacob was when he tithe.

A husband who do not tithe is disobedient and God will raise devourers and you will not be able to protect your family, your

business and your personal interests. I mean dare our drivers not drive any of our vehicle if you are robbing God of His tithe. I mean and I dare any SS teacher you stop teaching if you are robbing God of His tithe. I dare any orchestra or choir member not sing and not play if you rob God of His tithe. I dare say, any usher and any of our men dare pray whether be it an opening, offering, closing prayer pray if you are robbing God. It's really dangerous to ride with people who do not tithe.

I have seen enough families, individuals God is not rebuking the devourer for these people because they robbed God. Car wreck, accidents, sickly, death, moth and rust is eating up their pay check. I mean.

When I am tithing, God install a protection program around you and your family. The word of God in your heart will bear fruit. God will not let your children fail before their time.

Sons of Jacob – they all were protected because one of the child Joseph reached his potential so that a whole family will not be destroyed and a family is preserved in the most unlikely place, Egypt. God has really made a way that the wealth of the sinners is laid up for the just.

2. Sacrificial Offerings

Offerings are the sacrificial expression of our inward devotion to God.

Illustration: Abraham Story of Abraham - The father of faith – we can see faith grows in his life.

- a. **Gen. 12:1** - We need to be willing to step out and be willing to change. God is not going to help you if you will not be willing. God must override your free will. Unless you are willing to do things His way God will not help you. He start out as an idolater. He went to another place. We need enough faith to stop relying on self and obey where God wants you to do. Get out of your comfort zone.

- b. **Gen. 12:10** - Then Faith is tried. Faith is trust (How much do you trust and how much do you not trust God). He went out Canaan and there was a famine. His need is not being met. He decided to go to Egypt. He went to Egypt. Egypt stands for the world. Either you eat of the tree of good and evil. You will decide, what is good for you, what is evil for you, be your own God decide for yourself and rely for self. What happened to Abraham? He thinks God is not meeting his need. He went to Egypt. Then he was afraid. Abraham lied. Sarah ended up in Pharaoh's court. Abraham could be sued for abuse for doing that today. There will be bumps along the road. But in spite of Abraham's selfish move, God has to bail her out. God is great in mercy. Abraham messed up and have to suffer for it. But do you know what God did. Abraham went back a rich man. He screws up and God blessed him. God is going to help you even beyond what we think or think. When God does not meet our needs the way we want it done we need to trust him and see this as a test of our faith.
- c. **Gen. 13:7** Abraham and Lot – Strife between them. If Abraham is selfish gave Lot the best choice. Abraham is trusting God now even more. Abraham have grown. We must learn persevering faith. God promised Abraham that he will have a son. But it took 10 years for that to happen.
- d. **Gen. 16** Sarah – ashamed could not have a child. She suggested Hagar. Go in to her and make that my child therefore I will not be ashamed because people think that is my child. Is that a wonderful solution? How much faith is that? But Gen. 14:4. Even though you messed up again, My promise for you will still happen.
- e. **Gen. 17** God and Abraham made a covenant. Everything the other person is mine if I needed it and what I have is theirs if they need it. Everything we have is God's and everything God has is ours if we need it. This is the time when God change his name. It is God putting His name to our name. Abram to Abraham and Sarai to Sarah. This is what happen when we get saved.

- f. **Genesis 20** He gets into another situation and ask Sarah to lie again. Faith thing goes like this. There are areas in your life that you have faith and there are areas in your life that your faith is this low. There are areas in your life that you have no faith at all.
- g. **Genesis 21** Sarah gets jealous – Ishamel is doing that irritates Sarah and she wants to kick out Hagar.
- h. **Genesis 22** Abraham’s greatest test . This makes no sense. Here is the child that is suppose to be the heir. The child that will be seed to millions of children, God says I want you to kill him for me. Abraham’s faith has grown and takes Isaac, wood, fire and bring them to Mount Moriah, What is Mount Moriah today? it is Golgotha. Lifts the knife to kill him. He must have thought, God will raise him from the dead. See how much faith Abraham had. **Gen. 22:13 – 14.** The Lord my provider. Jehovah Jireh.

3. Secret Giving *Matthew 6:1-4*

Lu 12:33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

When we give with mercy, compassion and kindness this is when we lay up treasures in heaven. Tithing and Offering will lay up rewards in heaven but it is actually giving alms secretly that will lay up treasures in heaven for you.

When you are a tither, God will pour out His blessings. But God will reward you a special jewel for tithing.

Mal 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. 17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my

jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

When we give a sacrificial offering like Faith Promise Mission Offering because you love the Lord Jesus Christ, His Gospel to be made known around the world our collective offerings are received by the missionaries. We see the fruit of mission work while we are here on earth. But the reward of giving to missions is that your heavenly account records and by the time a pressing need occurs, you can call and God will let you withdraw from your account plus the interest that it earned.

Phil . 4:17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

When we give a sacrificial offering for the building because of our affection for the house of my God in A. Bonifacio. Your offering will lay up some earthly reward one day and your account again increases in balance. When you need something for your own personal need, the Lord will let you have also yours needs and sometimes also the wants.

1Ch 29:3 Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

Illustration: Luke 7:1-10

But secret giving – This really attracts God. This kind of giving guarantees treasure in heaven. You are laying up for yourselves treasure in heaven. For where you treasure is there will your heart be also.

Illustration: Acts 10

Conclusion: Will you ever see your tithe in heaven? Most likely not. But there is a reward and token of appreciation for doing that. Will you ever see your faith promise in heaven? Most likely not. But there is the reward of the souls of men, women, boys and girls won and brought in the mission field and in the local church. Will you ever see your alms giving done in secret in heaven? Most likely Yes. Because Secret giving of an offering and alms directed to people attracts God.

Tithes and offerings we receive the blessings on earth but anonymous and secret giving we will see the treasures laid up there.

"Be liberal," he says. Give the tithe unto the Lord. In fact, in the Old Testament they had more than one tithe. Look at the end of verse 28. It says, "At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year." That was the second tithe.

Verse 29 says, "And the Levite (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee), and the stranger." The second tithe was used to care for those who served the Lord in a full time capacity.

Look at what it says in chapter 15, verse 1. "At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release; every creditor who lendeth ought unto his neighbor, shall release it," that is, he will write it off, cancel it, "he shall not exact it of his neighbor, or of his brother, because it is called the Lord's release."

That means that every seven years they had a year when they wrote it off. I don't think that means that they were no longer

due to pay what they owed. But I think it simply means that every seventh year there was kind of a make up year.

How many of you would like to have one year off to give you a year off on your house payment or your car payment? Wouldn't that be nice? That's what they did in the Old Testament. They had a year of release.

Then he says in verse 4. This gets very interesting. It says, "Save when there shall be no poor among you." That's God's standard. That's God's intention. "That there be no poor among you."