

# Law or Grace Giving

## Malachi compared to the New Testament

(August 11, 2013)

### How do I know what to give?

#### 1) Five hindrances to giving

- a) Lack of understanding God
- b) Lack of understanding about giving
- c) Lack of discerning distractions – what’s important in life
- d) Lack of biblical teaching about tithing
- e) Lack of understanding about grace giving

#### 2) Law giving

- a) Tithing – there are three tithes that support:
  - i) The Levitical worship ministry Num. 18:21-24; Deut. 14:27
  - ii) The Festivals and Sacrifices Deut. 12:5-7, 10-19; 14:22-26
  - iii) For the poor collected every third year Deut. 14:28-29
- b) Store-house giving Malachi 3:8-10
- c) New Testament teaching Matt. 23:23; Luke 11:42; 18:9-12; Heb. 7:4-10
- d) Old Testament teaching Gen. 14:17-20; 28:20-22

#### 3) Five reasons a Spirit-filled Christian will give:

- a) He loves the Lord Matt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:17-18.
- b) He loves others 1 Jn. 3:17
- c) When what he can see does not matter to him Matt. 6:1-4
- d) Because giving more results in receiving more Luke 6:38
- e) Because by work he can give more Eph. 4:28

- 4) Grace giving principles
- 5) Grace giving: 2 Cor. 8
- 6) Grace giving: 2 Cor. 9
- 7) Hindrances to grace giving
- 8) Grace giving warning Jam. 5: 1-5
- 9) Grace giving living Titus 2:11-14

## *God wants us to leave behind “law giving” for “grace giving.”*

- Law giving is visual giving.
- Grace giving is when Jesus is more real than what you can see or touch.

## Message Based Discussion Questions

- 1) When did you first learn about giving to God? What were you taught?

### Digging Deeper:

- 2) How many commandments were put on the tablets that Moses brought down from Mt. Horeb? \_\_\_\_\_ Did these commandments emphasize what not to do, or exhortations to do right, or admonitions to remain dependent on the Lord? Why that emphasis?
- 3) Do you sacrifice animals to worship God today? \_\_\_\_\_. Why do people choose to follow some things from the Old Testament, but not others?
- 4) Does the Bible state that God told Abraham to give 10% to Melchizedek (Gen. 14:17-18)? \_\_\_\_\_. Is the passage descriptive or prescriptive? What is the difference?

### Making application from the message:

- 5) How would you help a person who says you have to give 10% to the church see that they are not Scriptural?
- 6) What motivates a person to give like the Macedonian Church of 2 Cor. 8:1-4 (This will be easier to answer after the second message on “Giving”)?
- 7) How will you avoid the rebuke God gave Israel in Malachi 3:8-10?