Beth-El Baptist Church SS0371 12/06/2015 Pastor Greg Tomlinson

## What is the relationship between giving and financial freedom?

Many people believe that they cannot possibly give to the work of the ministry or in support of non-profit organizations until they have obtained complete financial freedom.

1. What is the purpose behind giving?

Leviticus **27:30** Deuteronomy **10:8-9**; 18:1-2

1 Corinthians **9:7-11** 2 Kings **12:4-5** Leviticus 19:9-12 Romans **15:26** 

Philippians 4:15-16

Giving is intended to provide for the work of the ministry. Whether it functions as the source of income and feeding for the ministers themselves or for the care of the temple of God, part of the giving is for the continued work of the ministry. Giving ought to also be used for the benefit of the poor.

2. Why should we give if we feel we cannot afford to?

Haggai 1:5-9 Mark 12:41-44

Proverbs 22:9

The first thing for us to consider about giving is that it is a request from God. By it God is able to demonstrate His trustworthiness and that it is He who provides all that is needed for life. Despite what we might think, when we refuse to trust God by giving, we cannot prosper. It is only through trusting God that He will prosper us.

3. What is the impact of not giving?

Malachi **3:8-11** 1 Corinthians 4:7-8

Proverbs 28:27

By not giving, we are dishonoring God and refusing to acknowledge His blessings and His provisions.

4. What should guide our giving?

2 Corinthians **9:7**Deuteronomy **26:2, 11-12**1 Corinthians **16:1-2**1 Timothy **6:17-19** 

We should seek to give unto the Lord in proportion to how He has prospered each of us individually. The Lord ought to be the first we consider when giving in accordance to His blessings and as an opportunity of thanksgiving. One of the reasons that God give to us riches is so that we can give to others and bless them.

5. Isn't tithing an Old Testament thing only?

Matthew 23:23 Luke 11:42

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

While tithing may have been part of the law of the Old Testament, Jesus does encourage tithing as identifying it as something that "ought to be done". Paul also expected tithing to continue into the work of the New Testament church. It was a support mechanism for the minister and the work of the ministry.

6. Is giving a guarantee of becoming wealthy?
Proverbs 11:26
1 Timothy **6:9-12**Matthew **19:24-26** 

Giving is not a guarantee of becoming wealthy. God provides an income to people in order that they may be blessed and by being blessed that they might bless others. Giving in order to obtain the riches of the world is not giving from the heart but is a giving in order to receive. It is a pursuit of money in order to be rich, which is a sin.