

Giving and Contribution in the New Testament

THEY GAVE TO MEET CERTAIN NEEDS...

1. The church was noted for its love for one another
 - a. As exemplified in the church at Jerusalem - cf. [Ac 2:44,45](#);
[4:32-35](#)
 - b. Such love went beyond those in the local congregation - [Ac 11:27-30](#)
2. A weekly collection was instituted
 - a. To provide for the needs of the saints - [1Co 16:1-2](#)
 - b. Principles were taught to determine how much one should give
 - 1) "As he may prosper" - [1Co 16:2](#)
 - 2) Whatever is given with "a willing mind" - [2Co 8:12](#)
 - 3) "According to what one has" - [2Co 8:12-13](#)
 - 4) "As he purposes (plans) in his heart" - [2Co 9:7](#)
 - 5) Whatever one can give "cheerfully", not "grudgingly" or "of necessity" - [2Co 9:7](#)
 - 6) Keeping in mind the principle of "sowing and reaping" - [2Co 9:6,8](#)
3. Funds so collected were used to help needy Christians, including those who devoted their lives to preaching the gospel - cf. [2Co 11:8,9](#); [Php 4:10-18](#)

CONTRAST THEIR GIVING WITH O.T. TITHING...

1. The OT required a specific amount (a tithe, or ten percent), which could easily be given in a obligatory manner, automatic without the heart involved.
2. Tithes were given by Jews for the support of the Levites to do their spiritual service.
3. There are no Levites today nor a temple for them to maintain in Jerusalem.
4. So there is no need for such a system of Old Testament practices.
5. Christ fulfilled the law to bring us a better covenant. [Heb. 8-9](#)
6. If we go back to OT to justify our practices what does [Gal. 5:4](#) tell us occurs?

Giving in the NT was based upon principles requiring careful thought and proper attitudes

- a. As one prospered and purposed in their heart [1Cor. 16:1-2](#)
- b. Cheerfully, without grudging obligation [2Cor. 9:6-7](#)

No where is the New Testament church instructed to tithe.