

"And King David said to Ornan, 'Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the LORD, nor offer burnt Offerings Without Cost." 1 Chronicles 21:24 KJV



Many give only leftovers to God. New furniture suddenly transforms the old furniture into an "offering." God gets the unwanted. We begrudge two or three hours in the Assembly, not to mention daily time. Many refuse to tithe saying, "The Church isn't getting my money!" So a dollar goes in the offering plate and fifty goes to the nearest "food temple" to the idol of pleasure! We're to be good stewards of God-given increase. Not giving to Godless organizations or heretical religions. Tithe, and let God manage its use. Demonstrate faith in God's provision by returning the first tenth of any increase. Tithe applies to finances, time, and substance. Tithe of time is 2.4 hours a day or 16.8 hours a week. Time robbed from God is subtracted from life. Twenty minute jobs take a whole day if you don't give God His due! You don't redeem time by robbing God of it, but by letting God's Word Guide your daily path. *"In ALL thy ways acknowledge Him and He Shall Direct thy path."* The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. We use maps to find the shortest routes. Why? Less travel "time." Anyone who has ever traveled long distances by car knows the drudgery of the journey. Robbing God of tithe clearly indicates a love and trust of money more than Him! You are then dependent upon your own wisdom and capability to supply your needs! When disaster strikes, and it will, you'll have no one to call on for healing or deliverance. Those in your care will suffer as a result of your thievery. You may prosper by men's standards, but *"what doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"* We wouldn't dare not pay taxes, but we blatantly rob the Sovereign of Eternity without so much as a twinge of conscience! Under Mosaic Law, unpaid tithes were doubled. Our difficulties in life are of our own doing! If needs are not met, God is owed something, because He Promises to *"supply all your need. No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly."* Seek God first and *"ALL these things shall be added."* Lack is not necessarily need. *"Having food and raiment, therewith be content."* Discontent marks a covetous heart!

Discontent produces want; mundane tasks arise that daunt,
But those who offer to the Lord show faithful trust upon His Word;
And ev'ry need unknown to man, provided by God's grace and plan,
Will knit their heart to God in love until they see His face above. –CGP

Offerings are what is given above and beyond tithe. Items purchased with tithe remains and given to God are an offering. Time used to serve God beyond a tenth is an offering. Serving the Body of Christ is serving Christ. *"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My Brethren, ye have done it unto Me."* God doesn't promise pleasure or leisure on earth. *"If any would not work, neither should he eat. All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His Purpose. All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake."* No sacrifice; no offering. What "offerings" can anyone give God?

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by The Mercies of God, that ye PRESENT YOUR BODIES a Living Sacrifice, Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. – By Him therefore let us offer the Sacrifice of Praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name."
Romans 12:1 – Hebrews 13:15 KJV