



Harvest of Righteousness

2 Corinthians 9 | Ryan Pfeiffer + Dan Toro | August 30, 2026

-Ryan Pfeiffer

INTRO. JUNE 362 AD. Emperor Julian in a letter to Arsacius, high priest of Galatia: “Why do we not observe how the kindness of Christians to strangers has done the most to advance their cause? It is disgraceful that the impious Galileans [Christians] support not only their own poor but ours as well, all men see that our people lack aid from us... Each of these things, I think, ought really to be practiced by us.”

- Emperor wasn’t threatened by Early Church’s armies, political power...
- But by their radical generosity! And the influence it gave them!
- How did God cultivate this kind of culture in the Church!?

In February... In a teaching on Acts 2...

1. Dan & I shared giving in our church: 300 households —> 80% giving.
2. Invited 100 new households to give at \$300/month...
3. We reached that goal! Big step forward... huge morale boost... \$\$ Stability!

After— People asked Dan/ I for a fuller teaching on tithing/ giving OT—>NT.

Today we want to give you that message... there’s no ask/ pitch... Teach Bible

What is God’s plan to cultivate Kingdom level generosity in you?

FOCUS. We’re going to look at the idea of the Tithe... 1) What is it. 2) Why God gave it to us. 3) How do we apply it today.

WHAT IS THE TITHE?

Abraham in Gen 14:20. After a battle... he encounters a mysterious character

- Melchizedek... King of Salem... Priest of God Most High...
- He blesses Abram... v 20 Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Jacob in Gen 28:22 says “Of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.”

Both offer a tenth in spontaneous response to God’s grace! Battle/ Promise.

Then with Moses as God calls him to establish a covenant people.

- Deut 14:22 Set aside a tenth.. so that you may learn to revere the LORD...
- Num 18:21 I give to the Levites all the tithes in Israel as their inheritance.
- Deut 14:28 At the end of every three years bring all the tithes of that year’s produce ... and the the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows.. may come and eat and be satisfied.

What’s a Tithe? Heb (Ma’āšēr) = a tenth of a person’s net worth... given to God.

1. The Tithe was inspired by God & given as a gift to train God’s people.
2. The Tithe was the baseline of giving for God’s people.
3. It was part of larger culture of giving: freewill offerings, gleanings, etc...
4. It served as training wheels to teach them that all they have is from God.

1 Chronicles 29:14: But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

WHY DID GOD GIVE US THE TITHE? Let's move into the New Testament.

It's true that the New Testament doesn't explicitly command tithing.

- But as we read in 2 Cor 8:9 God "loves a cheerful giver"
- Jesus assumed tithing would continue Luke 11:42.

Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint... but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone. Luke 11:42.

Jesus doesn't abolish tithing... he calls us to something greater!

The question isn't simply do I give 10% its Has the generosity of God captured my heart and begun rot reshape how I use everything he's entrusted to me?

Why Tithe?

1) It's an act of Worship. "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." Matthew 6:24

2) As an act of Faith it opens our hearts to be transformed. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21.

Treasure comes first... heart follows... money leads; heart follows. Stocks

3) Strengthens the Unity and Mission of the Church. Acts 2:44 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

-Dan Toro

How do we practice biblical generosity?

1. Establish a Rhythm

"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income." —1 Corinthians 16:2

Biblical giving is:

1. Regular
2. Intentional
3. Proportional
4. Participatory

The tithe provides a meaningful starting point for putting God first.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." —Matthew 6:21

Next step: Choose a percentage, establish a rhythm, ask God to grow you.

2. Remain Responsive

- Tithes establish a planned rhythm of generosity.

- Offerings respond to specific needs and opportunities.

The tithe says, “God, you come first.”

An offering says, “God, I’m still available.”

Leave room in your life to respond when God places an opportunity before you.

3. Remember: We “Get To,” Not “Have To”

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” —2 Corinthians 9:7

God does not need our money. He invites us to participate in what he’s doing.

Every act of generosity declares:

- Jesus, you come first.
- Jesus, I am available.
- Jesus, I trust you.

The Outcome: Readiness

When God’s people live generously:

- God supplies — 2 Corinthians 9:10
- We participate — 2 Corinthians 9:11
- Needs are met — 2 Corinthians 9:12
- God is glorified — 2 Corinthians 9:13
- Relationships deepen — 2 Corinthians 9:14

My Next Step

- Begin: Establish a regular rhythm of giving.
- Grow: Move toward the tithe as a biblical benchmark.
- Respond: Leave room to give beyond what you planned.

God supplies. We set aside. We stay responsive. People are loved. God gets the glory—and we get to be part of it.