



SERMON NOTES

WHY I... GIVE

February 1 & 2, 2014

What is the secret to happiness?

Tithing.

I don't give because I am happy. I am happy because I give.

Genesis 14:18-24 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all. ²¹ Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." ²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'-- ²⁴ except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."

Why I Give?

- 1. At the age of 20, back in 1983, The Lord spoke to me through a similar message. I responded in obedient faith. I have never missed a tithe check!**
- 2. If we are not giving, we don't have a hold of our money. It has a hold of us.**



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3. If I can't trust God with my money, how can I trust him with my soul?

4. I don't give to get God to love me. I give because I know He already loves me.

5. If I can't live off 90% of my income, I can't live off a 100% of my income.

Why Some Don't Give?

1. I need it more than the church does.

2. I can't afford to give.

3. God understands, He loves me no matter what.

4. Tithing isn't part of the New Testament. God's standards from the Old Testament are raised not lowered in the New Testament.