LEVITICUS 27:
FUNDING THE SANCTUARY
TITHES JUST ONE KIND OF FUNDING

- NT does NOT deal directly with tithing
- NO command is given in the NT to tithe
- Tithing was ASSUMED in the NT
- Principle was already established in the Torah and followed as a given
- NT was not established to repeat the Law in order to validate each part of it
MODERN TEACHINGS ON TITHING COMES FROM O.T.

- NAS Luke 11:42 "But woe to you Pharisees! For you pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, and yet disregard justice and the love of God; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

COMPARE TO:

NAS Matthew 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.

- Yeshua says tithing is expressly a provision of the Law (Torah)……..and one should “do these things without neglecting the others”
THE N.T. ASSUMES THE READER ALREADY UNDERSTANDS TORAH

- Torah was 1300 years old by the time of Christ
- No need for Jesus to explain what tithing is
- We don’t first explain WHAT a Bible is before we read it each week!
VOWS TO THE LORD

• Men habitually make rash vows to God in time of trouble
• Vow = promise
• Making vows was a big part of Hebrew culture
• Often these vows were impulsive
VOWS WERE PUBLIC AND PRIESTLY RITUAL WAS INVOLVED

- A person who made a rash vow was STUCK with it!
- However, a person could REDEEM their vow
  - REDEEM = buy back
  - A vow always involved something of value
  - Redemption cost typically 120% of value
  - MAKING A NAZARITE VOW
VOWING A HUMAN BEING

- Service to the Sanctuary
- Only rarely possible, because ordinary Jews could not serve in the Sanctuary
- Nazarite vow another kind of “vowing a human”
- Means giving one’s life of service to God
- Nazarites did NOT serve the Sanctuary
- Sampson, Samuel
Vss. 3-8: Establishing the Redemption price

- Men 20 – 60 years old  50 Shekels
- Women 20 – 60 years old  30 Shekels
- Boy children 5 – 20 years old  20 Shekels
- Girl children 5 – 20 years old  10 Shekels
- Boy Infants 1 mo. – 5 years  5 Shekels
- Girl Infants 1 mo. – 5 years  3 Shekels
- Elderly Male over 60 years  15 Shekels
- Elderly Female over 60 years  10 Shekels
PRINCIPLE OF EQUIVALENTS

• Also shows up in value of Sacrificial animal in relation to the seriousness of the sin
• Woman’s redemption price always less than man’s
• Woman WERE allowed to vow on their own
• Children WERE pledged by their parents
• NOTICE: Women and children had VALUE and RIGHTS
• Women had every right to establish a personal relationship with God
ANIMALS

• A person could pledge an animal, and then redeem it for 120% of its normal value
• Priests set the value
• This value bled over into the marketplace
• “Offering to the Lord” may NOT be redeemed
• REASON: Principle of Holy Property
• The animal already belonged to the Lord
• No substitution
BOTH CLEAN AND UNCLEAN ANIMALS COULD BE VOWED

- An unclean animal MUST be exchanged for money because it cannot be used at the Sanctuary
- 120% of value to redeem
HOUSES AND LAND VOWED

- These are not called “vowed”
- Instead, “consecrations”
- At times a “free will” offering
- House redemption cost 120% of normal value
- Land redemption cost based on the number of years of crops until Jubilee
SANCTUARY SHEKEL

• Coin content must be Silver
• Weight must be 20 Gerahs
• No standard existed, so anybody could mint their own coins
• By 1st Temple Period, the Temple began minting their own coins
• By 2nd Temple Period, foreign coins HAD TO BE exchanged for Temple coins
FIRSTLINGS

• Refers to firstfruits (first and best of produce)
• Also to firstborn (animals)
• ALL Firstlings automatically belong to the Lord, so they cannot be redeemed (bought back)
• Vs. 28, represents another type of offering, called “devote” or “proscribe”
• This is setting apart something for God in a permanent way, with no redemption
• The point is: there are a number of kinds and classes of giving things to God
Vs. 29:
“…..he must be put to death…..”

- This means that no one who has been sentenced to death can be redeemed (for money)
- A person who has been condemned ALSO belongs to the Lord, but in a negative way
- The curse for violation of some of God’s laws is PHYSICAL DEATH
- This is NOT by human determination, God has set the law AND it’s penalty for violation
- It is but man’s duty to carry out God’s justice system
- We are only being obedient when we carry out the execution of a murderer
- A condemned man becomes God’s holy property in the same way a sacrificial animal does!
THE TITHE

• Final category of giving
• 10% of animals and produce
• ALL of these kinds of giving and offerings were REQUIRED!
• Can’t choose which one or two….must do ALL
• A tithe is NOT the best of animals or crops, just a random (representative) sampling
• Yeshua says better NOT to make a vow
• “make our yes, yes….and our no, no”