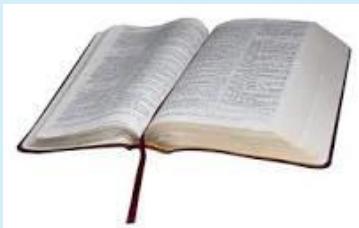


BETHANY BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 10 PART-12

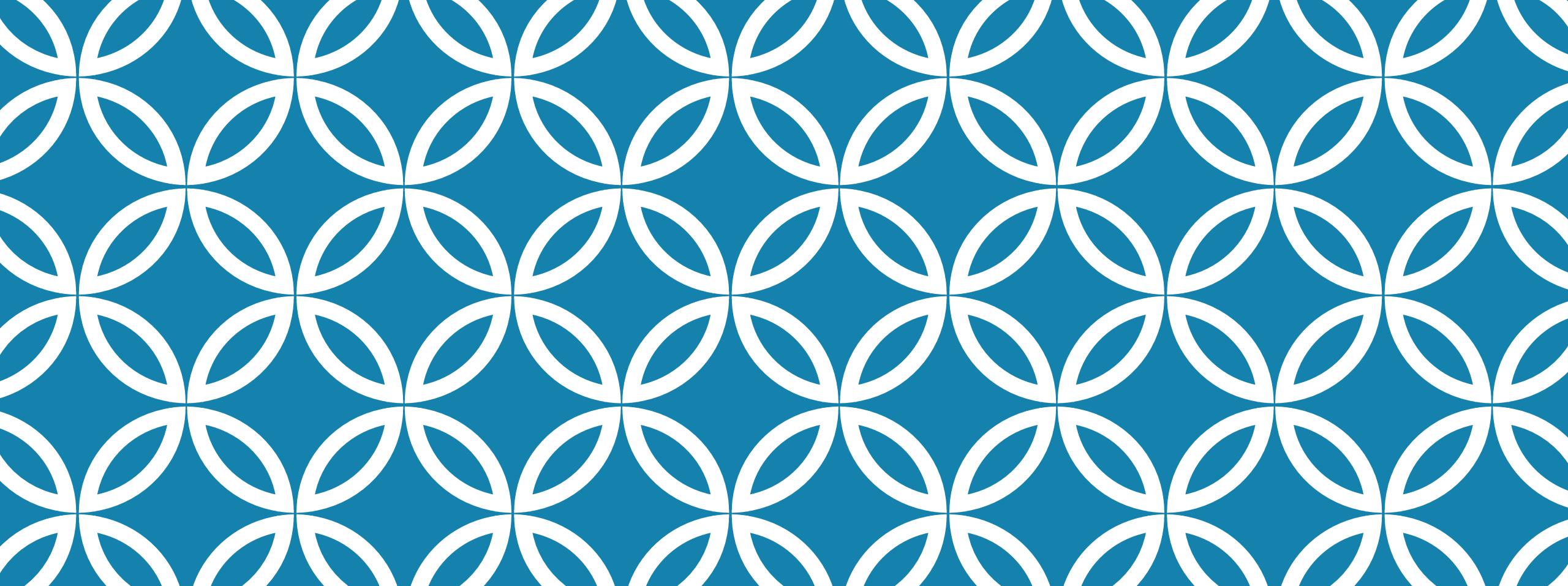
KJV

10.01.2025

ISRAEL's COVENANT WITH GOD (Cont.)

THE COVENANT (29-39): What were the three main elements of the covenant?

REFLECTION



ISRAEL'S COVENANT WITH GOD (CONT.)

NEHEMIAH
Chapter 10 (Cont.)
October 1, 2025

THE COVENANT

The commitment to covenant reached after a long prayer of confession



9:38 And **because** of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it;

THREE ELEMENTS OF THE COVENANT

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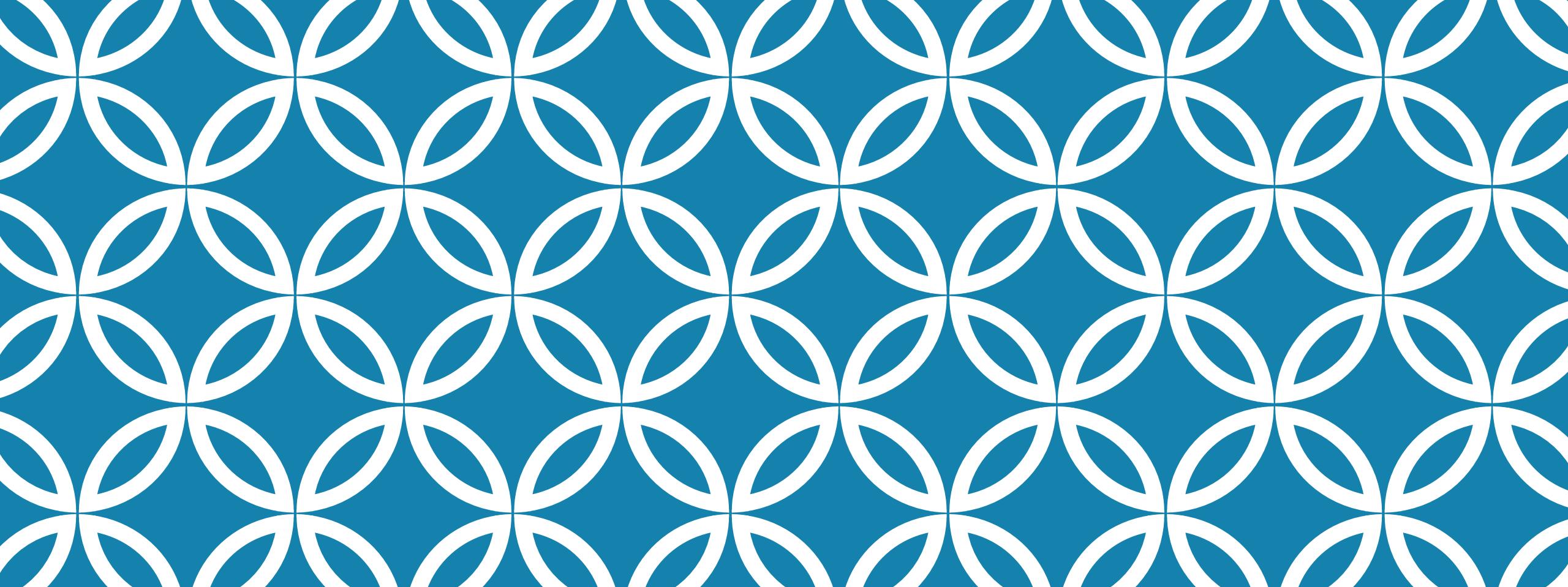
FOUNDATION:

WILL OBEY GOD'S WORD (29)

1. NOT TO BE UNEQUALLY YOKED

2. HONOR SABBATH

3. SUPPORT GOD'S WORK



1. SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK

2. TITHES, OFFERING & GIVING

Nehemiah, Ch.10 (Cont.)
10.01.2025

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK (32-39)

39

**We will not forsake the
house of our God**

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK (32-35)

³² Also we made ordinances for us, to charge ourselves yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God;

³³ For the shewbread, and for the continual meat offering, and for the continual burnt offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.

³⁴ And we cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the law:

³⁵ And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the Lord:

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK

Yearly contributions (32-33) for the service of the house of the Lord (1/3 shekel) – (a) providing shewbread or holy bread, (b) providing for meat-offering, burnt-offerings and sin offering made on sabbath and other appointed festivals

Wood offering (34) – to supply wood to keep the fire burning continuously

First fruits (35) of ground and of all trees

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK (36-39)

³⁶ Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God: ³⁷ And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

³⁸ And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

³⁹ For the children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and the priests that minister, and the porters, and the singers: and **we will not forsake the house of our God.**

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK

Firstborn sons and animals (36) - first born animal given to the Lord, first born son redeemed by the gift of substitute lamb.

Exodus 34: 19 All that openeth the matrix is mine; and every firstling among thy cattle, whether ox or sheep, that is male. ²⁰ But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem. And none shall appear before me empty.

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK

Support through tithes (of income or produce) to support the priests and the Levites.

Once Levites received offerings, they must tithe 10% to the house of God.

Without tithes, priests and house of God will suffer.

PROMISE FOR SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK

Proverbs 3:9 Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: ¹⁰ So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

BURDEN & COMMITMENT

WE WILL NOT FORSAKE THE HOUSE OF OUR GOD

Israelites covenant reflects **Planned & Prioritized giving** to support the work of God

TODAY MANY HAVE BACKSLIDEN AND FORSAKEN THE HOUSE AND WORK OF GOD DUE TO PREOCCUPATION WITH PERSONAL GOALS

Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

BRIEF ON . . . TITHES, OFFERING & GIVING



BEFORE LAW



MOSAIC LAW,
OLD TESTAMENT



NEW TESTAMENT

BEFORE MOSES AND THE LAW



ABRAHAM GAVE TITHES

Context: Abram gave tithes upon successful rescue of Lot & family, and possessions taken from enemies.

Genesis 14:16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

ABRAHAM GAVE TITHES

Genesis 14:18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,

19 and he blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High Creator of heaven and earth.

20 And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” **Then Abram gave him a tenth (tithe) of everything.**

ABRAHAM GAVE TITHES ... SHOULD WE?

Melchizedek (see Hebrews 7) seen as a “type of Jesus”.

Since tithe given to Melchizedek, some argue that tithe should also be given to priests/temple, and pastors/church.

Not correct interpretation.

Nature of Abraham’s Tithe

It was a one-time gift given voluntarily

Tithe, like taxes, represent regular giving

ANOTHER EXAMPLE/RESPONSE TO VICTORY IN WAR

NUMBERS 31:25-30

Israel defeated Midianites and captured their possessions

The spoils split 50% to those who went to war and 50% to others

Soldiers asked to give tribute of 1/500 (.2%) and others 1/50 (2%)

Again, one-time gift ... and much less than 10%

JACOB . . . PROMISE OF TENTH

Genesis 28: ²⁰ And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, ²¹ So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God: ²² And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Did Jacob honor the oath?

THE LAW PERIOD: TITHE FOR LEVITES, FESTIVALS, AND THE NEEDY



TITHES FOR LEVITES

Tithe for Levites for their service and lack of inheritance:

Numbers 18:21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

▪ **Numbers 18:20** And the Lord spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.

TITHES FOR FESTIVAL

Tithe for Festivals:

Deuteronomy 14:22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. ²³ And thou shalt eat before the Lord thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks;

TITHE FOR NEEDY

Deuteronomy 14:28-29 At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates: ²⁹ And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

(offerings stored locally for needy,
negligence to give these referred to in Malachi 3)

ANIMAL TITHE/OFFERINGS

Leviticus 27:32 And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord.

7 OFFERINGS

Burnt Offerings (Leviticus 1) Entire animal consumed on the altar; symbolized atonement for sins

Grain Offerings (Leviticus 2) a tribute of thanksgiving.

Peace (or Fellowship) Offerings (Leviticus 3) Shared meal between worshiper, priests, and God;

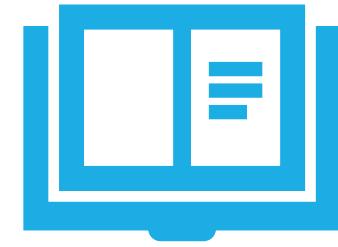
Sin Offerings (Leviticus 4) Offered for unintentional sins;

Guilt (Trespass) Offerings (Leviticus 5:14–6:7) For sins requiring restitution

Firstfruits Offerings (Exodus 23:19; Deuteronomy 26:1–11)

Freewill Offerings (Leviticus 22:18–23; Numbers 15:3)

NEW TESTAMENT PERIOD & TODAY



NEW TESTAMENT ...PRACTICE OF TITHING/GIVING

Luke 20:25 And he said unto them, **Render** therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God'

We must pay our taxes

We must also support the work of God

Focus is on “GIVING” not on “TITHING”

HOW TO GIVE?

Give Generously: For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required (**Luke 12:48**)

Give Cheerfully: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver (**II Corinthians 9:7**)

Give Secretly: But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly (**Mathew 6:3-4**)

Give regularly

HOW MUCH TO GIVE?

IS IT 10%

% NOT PRESCRIBED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Don't give as a tradition or to follow the law or as good works

Pray & Give regularly, cheerfully, generously, secretly and with faith

If you pray and ask God, He will tell us how much %

It is good to practice disciplined regular giving (give first fruit and not the left over)

WHY GIVE TITHES & OFFERING TO LOCAL CHURCHES?

TO SUPPORT

Ministers (if paid)

Ministries

Maintenance

Missionaries

Needy in church

*Without Tithes & Offering,
all of the above will be impacted*

BLESSINGS OF TITHING/GIVING

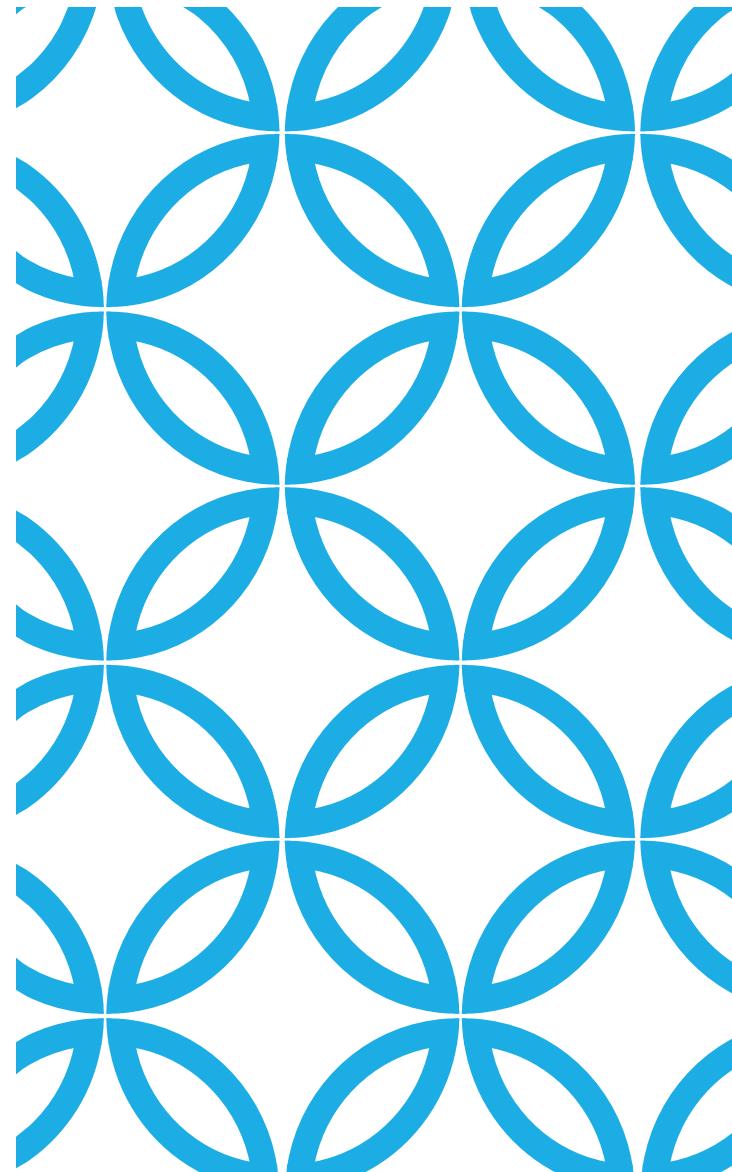
We will grow in faith as we learn to trust in the Lord

If decide on 10%

Obey God with 10%

&

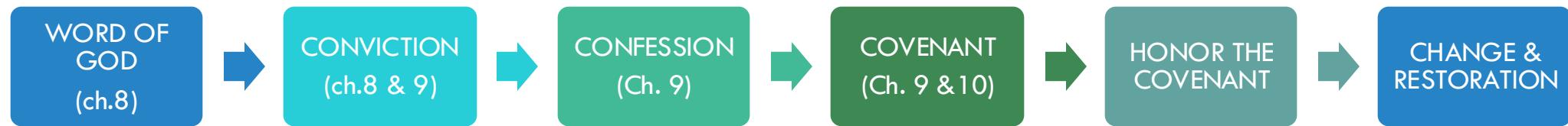
Trust God to bless the 90%

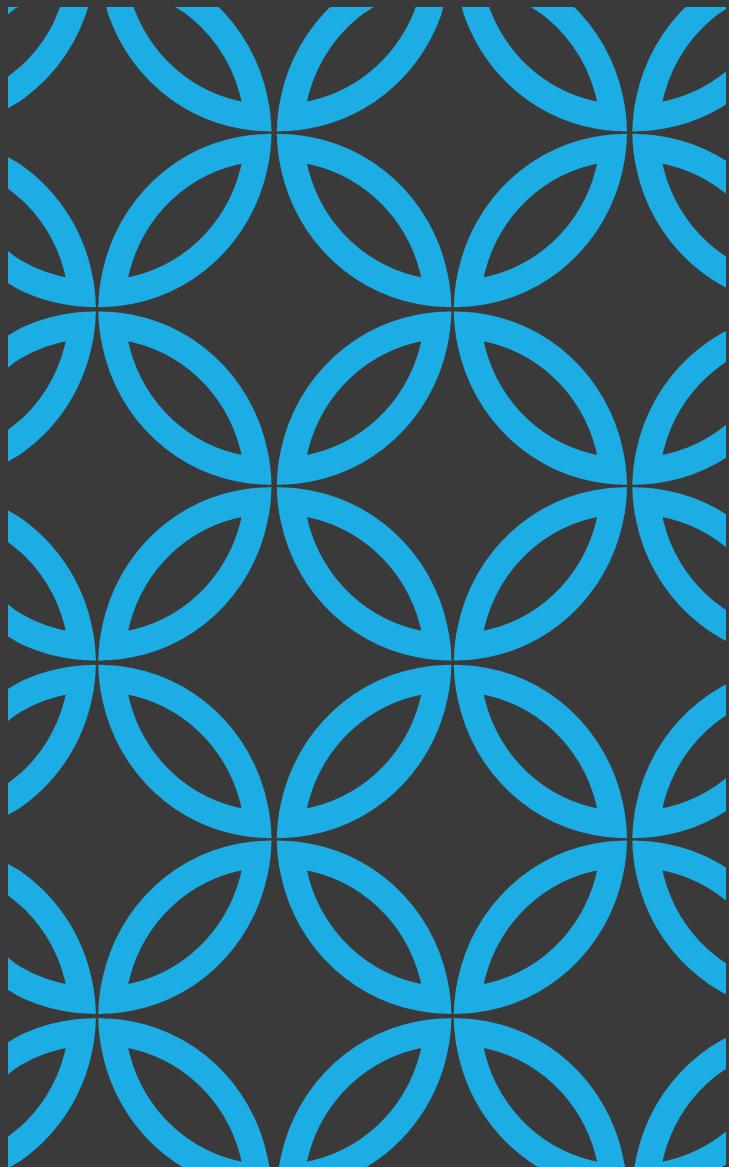


REFLECTION

Chapter 10

THE PATH TO RESTORATION

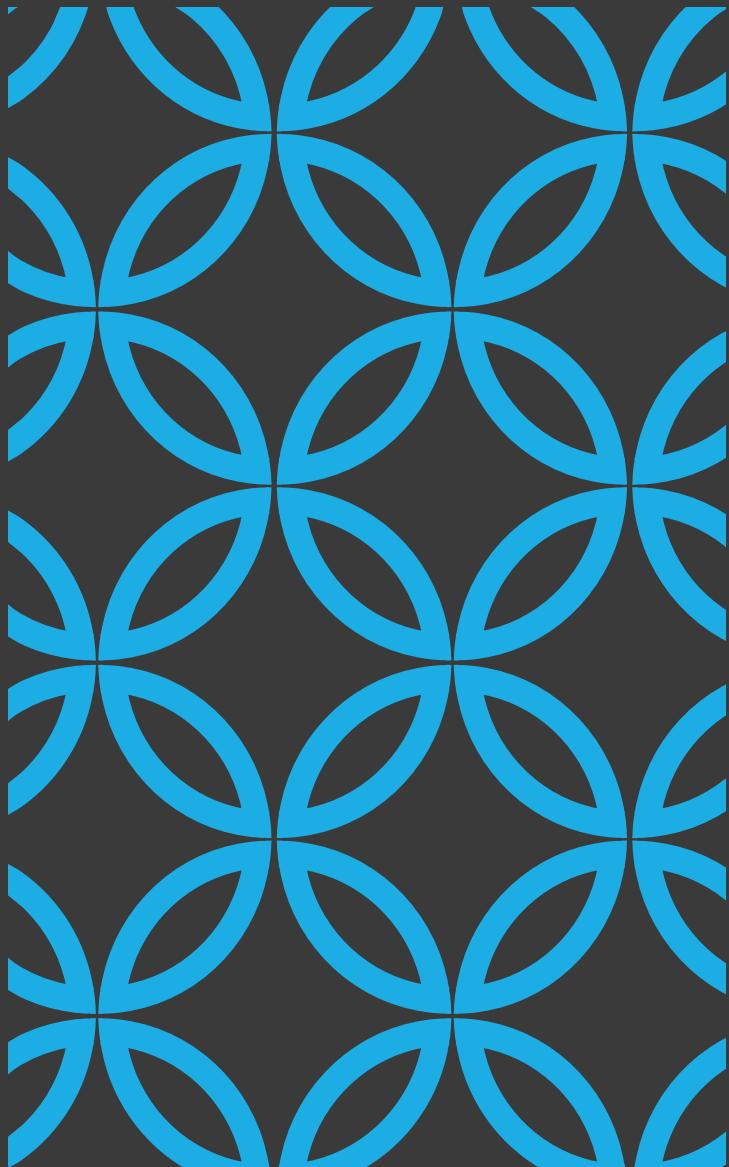




#1 IF YOU MAKE A COVENANT WITH GOD & PEOPLE, HONOR IT!

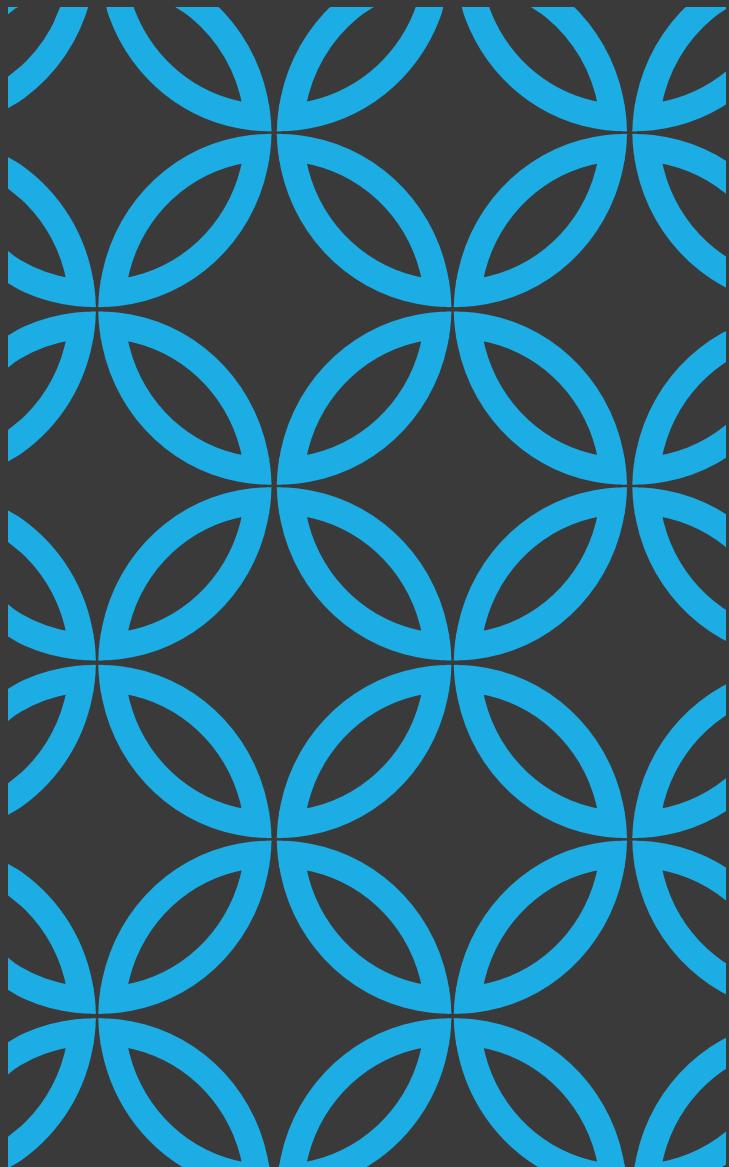
FOR SUCCESSFUL COVENANT

- PRAY before making a covenant
- + COUNT the COST
- + COMMIT 100%



#2 TO BE UNEQUALLY YOKED IS FOOLISH AND VERY COSTLY

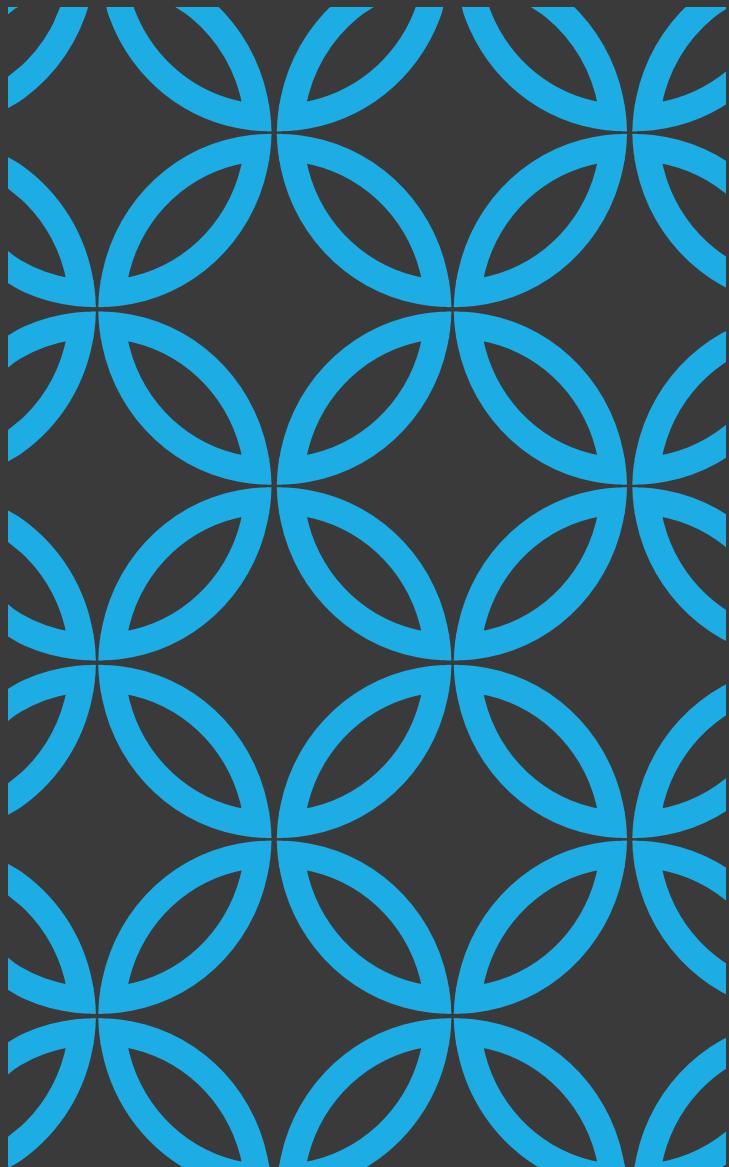
IT CAN LEAD TO SPIRITUAL POVERTY



#3 WE NEED TO TAKE DEDICATED TIME TO BE SPIRITUALLY REVIVED

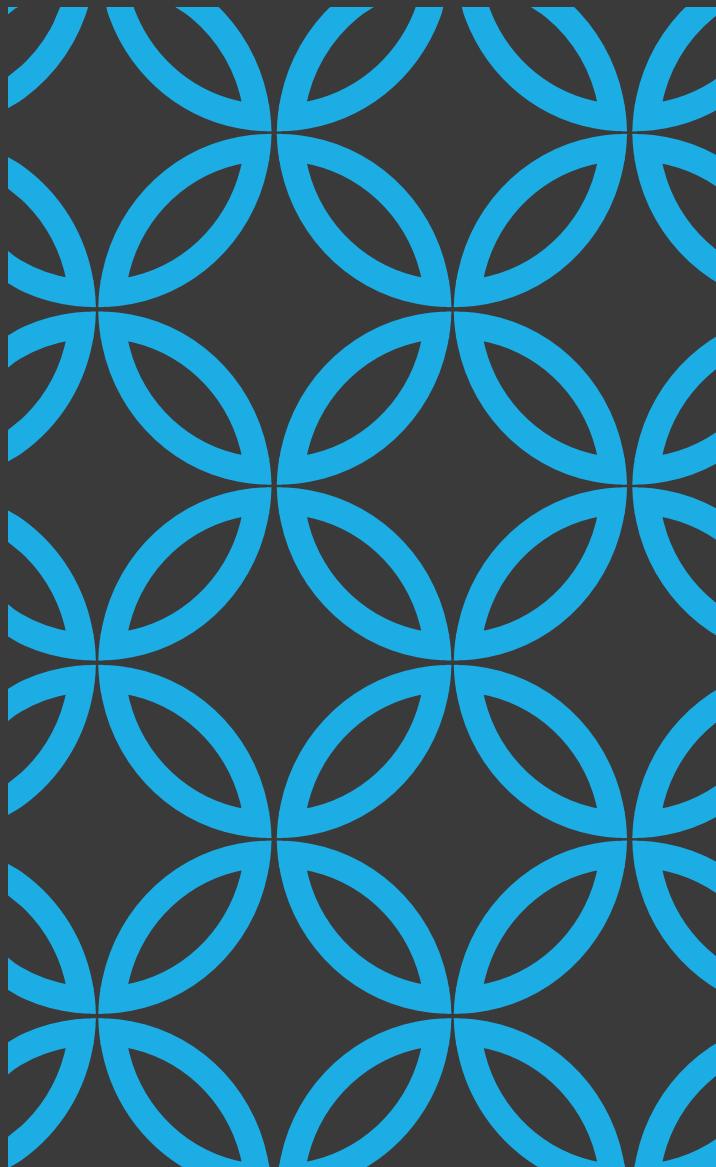
WITHOUT SPIRITUAL SABBATH WE WILL NOT BE PROFITABLE VESSELS IN GOD's KINGDOM

HOW MUCH TIME DO WE SET APART TO TUNE OFF THE WORLD, AND TUNE INTO GOD?



#4 DO NOT NEGLECT THE HOUSE OF GOD

Support God's House and God's work with your time,
talent, and treasures



IF WE SIGN A COVENANT WITH GOD TODAY WHAT WILL IT INCLUDE?

Israelites focused on 1. Spiritual union in marriage 2. Honoring sabbath 3. Supporting the work of God