

# NEW TESTAMENT GIVING

**Why a Collection on Sunday?**

# The Sunday Collection

- ◆ We have O.T. precedence in the tithe commanded for the support God's work – Heb. 7:1-3; Lev. 27:30, 32; Num. 18:23-24
- ◆ We have similar N.T. instructions:
  - ◆ When a need arose, Christians contributed to a church treasury to meet that need – Acts 4:34-35
  - ◆ Paul commanded the churches to collect money to support the Lord's work – Gal. 2:9-10; 1 Cor. 16:1-2

# What We Learn from 1 Cor. 16:1-2

- ◆ When a scriptural need arose, churches were **commanded** to meet that need
- ◆ Churches were commanded to act on “**every first day of the week**” to meet this need
- ◆ Individual members were to **set aside funds** to be **stored up**, or placed in a treasury
- ◆ Christians were to determine the amount to give by how God had **prospered them**, or **carried them on life’s journey**.
- ◆ This money was placed in a **church treasury**
- ◆ NOTE: Although this collection was for benevolence, local churches were commanded to support the preaching and teaching of the gospel – 1 Cor. 9:11, 13-14; Phil. 4:15-16; 2 Cor. 11:8

# How Can Churches Support God's Work Today?

- ◆ We know it is right to collect money by freewill giving
- ◆ We know it is right to collect this money on Sunday.
- ◆ We know it is right to store, or treasure up this money for future use.
- ◆ We know it is right for collected funds to be used for various scriptural purposes.
- ◆ **Conclusion:** A general church treasury is scriptural today and we must support it properly.

# Questions Answered

# Proper Attitude?

- ◆ The O.T. tithe is helpful:
  - ◆ Holding back in one's tithing was to **rob God** – Mal. 3:8
  - ◆ **Honesty** was required – Deut. 26:12-13
  - ◆ Although the O.T. tithe is no longer, Christians have it much better in every way than did Israel! **More is expected!**
- ◆ N.T. requirements:
  - ◆ Our giving must be **motivated by Christ's gift** of Himself – 2 Cor. 8:8-9
  - ◆ A **willing mind** to give according to what one has – 2 Cor. 8:12
  - ◆ **Cheerfulness** in giving **bountifully** – 2 Cor. 9:6-7

# How Much Should I Give?

- ◆ God's kingdom must take priority – Matt. 6:31-33
- ◆ The amount is dependent on one's income and situation.
  - ◆ If you are living a blessed lifestyle, your generosity must reflect this.
  - ◆ **Good rule of thumb:** 1) Multiply your Sunday contribution by 10; 2) Ask God to provide you a weekly income of that amount!
- ◆ Extraordinary circumstances require extraordinary sacrifice – Acts 4:33-35