

Eastside Baptist Church



Equipping the Saints for Ministry by First Seeking the Kingdom of God

(Ephesians 4:12/Matthew 6:33)

Volume XI Issue IV **Every day is a priceless gift of God** APRIL 2016

Does the Bible require a Christian to tithe?



*Check out the Article inside:
HOW MUCH DO I HAVE TO TITHE?*



Rev. Dr. Arthur C. Banks
1st Lady Jacquie Banks

**"This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it"**
(Psalm 118:24)

From the Editor
Eric Grimes

This year marks **11 continuous years** of publication for the Messenger! If you would like to contribute information, pictures or articles, please submit them to: erg58@aol.com. If you would like to receive an **electronic copy**, the current and past year issues of the Messenger are now available on our church web site @

www.eastsidebaptistchurch65.org

Articles and views expressed in this publication are presented for the information and benefit of the members of Eastside Baptist Church **and may not necessarily reflect the position of the Church.**

Church Motto:

Where God is praised and Disciples Are Made

Listen to, or View EBC sermons on our website!

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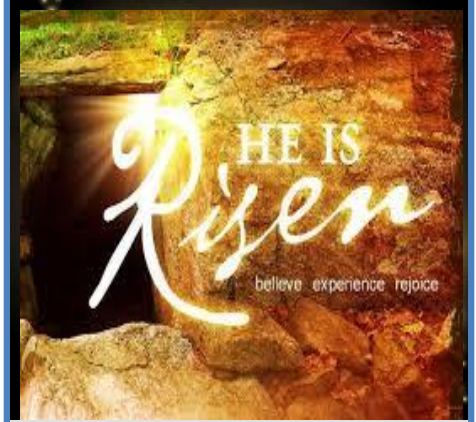
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Praise Him!



HEALTHY LIVING

Jehovah-Rophe
"Jehovah heals"

"I WILL PRAISE THEE; FOR I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE: MARVELLOUS ARE THY WORKS; AND THAT MY SOUL KNOWETH RIGHT WELL." (Psalm 139:14)

10 REASONS TO QUIT SUGAR

10 WAYS IN WHICH EATING TOO MUCH SUGAR CAN AFFECT YOUR HEALTH

#1 DIABETES

Until recently, researchers believed that obesity was the major cause of diabetes, not sugar. However, new research has shown that sugar has a contributory effect to diabetes, beyond simply the calories that it contains. An increase of roughly one can of soda per day was associated with a 1.1% increase in diabetes prevalence. [1]

#4 ASTHMA

In a 2012 Australian study, children who drank more than half a liter of soft drinks per day were significantly more likely to suffer from asthma or COPD. The greater the consumption of soft drinks, the more likely an individual is to suffer from one of these respiratory conditions. [13]

#6 IMBALANCED GUT FLORA

Research shows that switching to a high-sugar diet can alter the composition of your gut flora within 24 hours. [8] Imbalances in our gut flora can weaken immunity, impair digestion, increase inflammation, and much more.

#8 INCREASED RISK OF CANCER

Sugar consumption has been linked to increased risk for ovarian cancer [9], esophageal cancer [10], and endometrial cancer [11], among others. Sugar also leads to obesity, which has been linked to a longer list of cancers.

#10 FASTER AGING

It has long been known that diabetics age faster than other people. Excess blood sugar leads to glycation, when sugar binds with amino acid molecules. The resulting 'advanced glycation end products' prematurely age our skin, and are a factor in many age-related diseases. [7]

#2 IMPAIRED LEARNING & MEMORY

A UCLA study shows that a diet high in fructose can impair the ability to learn and remember. This is particularly concerning given the consumption of high-fructose corn syrup. A diet rich in omega-3 can reduce the damage. [5]

#3 TOOTH DECAY

The link between sugar and tooth decay is well-established. There is also significant evidence that maintaining your intake of excess sugars at below 5% of your diet will help to avoid cavities. [6]

#5 HEART DISEASE

A 2014 study examined sugar consumption and heart disease. Those individuals who consumed 25% of their calories in the form of sugar were found to have double the risk of heart disease vs those whose intake was 7%. [2]

#7 OBESITY

Studies in both adults and children have demonstrated a link between sugar sweetened beverages and weight gain. [3] In 2014 the Obesity Center revised its guidance and recommended that children minimize their intake of these drinks. [4]

#9 HIGHER CHOLESTEROL

Researchers at Emory University found that increased sugar consumption increased several risk factors for heart disease, including the amount of LDL cholesterol and the ratio between LDL ('bad') cholesterol and HDL ('good') cholesterol. [12]

Created by Lisa Richards, digestive expert and creator of
TheCandidaDiet.com

Lisa's book, *The Ultimate Candida Diet Program*, contains strategies designed to improve digestion, boost immunity, and improve overall health, through the encouragement of healthy, balanced gut flora.

Sources:

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END TIMES TIMELINE



No Need To Fear

Perhaps your picture of the great tribulation has always resembled this terrifying recipe:

"Pour the entire contents of Armageddon into a pressure cooker, and then slowly mix in the seven last plagues with one full bottle of Jacob's trouble and one whole crushed Babylon. Next, evenly stir in two full boxes of wrath - one from God and one from Satan. Cover securely and cook on high."

We all seem to conjure up frightening images when we think of the coming tribulation. Do yourself a favor; try this instead. Picture Jesus in a fragile little boat on a dark sea, with the waves mounting and wind roaring. Mark 4:38-40 records the scene: "He was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." Then Christ said to them, **"Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?"** Jesus rested with the peace of a baby because He lived by faith in His heavenly Father. One message He delivered repeatedly throughout His ministry was **"Fear not."**

In John 16:33, Jesus said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

God does not want us to live by fear, but rather by faith. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love" (1 John 4:18).

During the world's darkest hour and greatest trial, God will supply the greatest peace and faith. We need only to remember that Jesus is in the boat with us. Though the furnace be heated seven times over, we can pass safely through it if Jesus is at our side.

The ninety-first Psalm contains special promises for those living during the last great tribulation. It says, "You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, And see the reward of the wicked" (Psalm 91:5-8, NKJV). The Psalmist makes it clear we will be in the midst of the world during the plagues, yet remain untouched, if God is our refuge. "No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling" (Psalm 91:10, NKJV).

Rescue from the Skies

On Friday, June 2, 1995, Captain Scott O'Grady was flying his F-16 over Bosnia when the jet was cut in two by Serbian anti-aircraft fire. He quickly ejected and parachuted to the ground. Suddenly he found himself in a different,

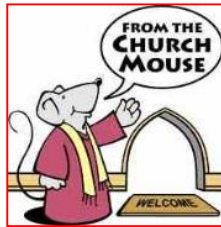
hostile world with the entire Serbian army combing every inch of ground in search of him.

For six days he prayed, often hiding with his face in the dirt to avoid being seen by enemy soldiers passing within a few feet. For six long days he survived - cold, wet, tired, hungry, eating bugs and drinking dirty water, calling every night on his little radio for help from above, running from enemies, and hiding under bushes.

Then came a daring rescue from the skies. Forty airships, hundreds of soldiers, satellites, and the combined technology of all NATO were all engaged to rescue one hunted soldier.

Will God do less for His people? When Captain Scott O'Grady returned to the United States, he was hailed as a hero. Why? Because he had come out of great tribulation. We too may have to endure a brief time of trouble, but it will fade into insignificance when compared with the glorious moment when Jesus comes crashing through the skies with His angelic armies to rescue His children.

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).



HOW MUCH DO I HAVE TO TITHE?

Tithing in the church has often been a source of confusion and debate, but as usual, Scripture gives us clear direction.

First, the word tithe simply means tenth, and the first use of the word occurs in Gen 14:20, when Abraham gives a tenth of his war spoils to the high priest, Melchizedek. Later, God incorporated the principle of tithing into His Law, and specified the rules Israel would follow in tithing.

In the Law, God requires three distinct kinds of tithing for Jews. First, Jews were required to tithe to support the Levite priests (Num 18:21-24). Since the priests were devoted entirely to serving the Lord in the temple, tithes were collected from the other tribes to support priests.

Secondly, the Jew were required to give an additional tithe in support of the three festivals of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles (Deut 12; Deut 14:22-26). These three key festivals were funded by the tithes of the Jewish community.

Finally, Jews were instructed to give another tithe every third year for the poor (Deut 14:28-29). ***Taken together, all three tithes totaled between twenty to thirty percent of a Jew's income, depending on the year.***

Where did a Jew give their tithe? In Malachi 3:8-10, a Jew was taught to tithe to the "storehouse," which meant the Temple coffers. The Jew brought his gifts to the Temple, and the Temple authorities distributed the funds according to God's Law and direction. Under the Law, the Jew was not free to decide for himself where to direct his tithing but always had to give it to the Temple.

Interestingly, there are no New Testament tithing requirements. Remember, the Christian is not bound by the Law of Moses (Rom 6:14; 7:6; Gal 5:18), therefore New Testament believers are not obligated by the tithing requirements given to the Jews in the Law.

Furthermore, the concept of tithing is never carried over to Christians or repeated in New Testament scripture. Tithing was intended to support the Levitical priests, the operation of the temple and the observance of the Jewish festivals in Jerusalem. The Levite priesthood and the Temple no longer exist and the Jewish festivals are not commanded for Christian observance, therefore the tithe instructions in the Law have no relationship to Christian giving.

Instead, the Christian is called to live in accordance with the grace and freedom of the Spirit. **We are still expected to give generously to the needs of the saints,** and the New Testament contains many scriptures encouraging Christians to give according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Paul taught this point specifically in 2Corinthians 8, as did James in his letter.

However, **the New Testament never directs how much a believer should give,** because all financial giving is voluntary and to be done without compulsion. The believer has liberty in the area of giving just as he does in many other areas of his life.

This is not to say that the Bible gives us no instruction on giving. On the contrary, the Bible gives clear direction on how a Christian should pattern financial giving in 1Cor 16:1-2:

Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

In writing to the church in Corinth, Paul said he gave these same instruction to the church in Galatia, therefore we know Paul viewed this direction as a model for all Christians. In this verse, Paul outlines seven requirements for Christian giving.

First, Paul directed that giving should be a regular, consistent habit. Giving should be a way of life for a Christian so that it becomes a part of our financial routine. When giving isn't routine, we may find ourselves less willing to give generously when needs arise.

To ensure regularity, Paul directed the church in Corinth to give on the first day of every week. Paul wasn't necessarily establishing a rule for what day we must give. Rather, Paul was giving an example of how to become regular and consistent in giving. Whether we give on Sundays or any other day, we should discipline ourselves to give in a consistent pattern (i.e., weekly or monthly) rather than only when it's convenient.

Secondly, Paul says "each of you" should give. Giving is the responsibility of every individual Christian, not just of a Christian household. Even if the head of the household produces all the family income, it is still important for every Christian living in the home to participate in the distribution of the family giving. This opportunity trains younger family members to give and allows everyone to share in the blessing of giving.

Thirdly, Paul specified that our giving be "to the saints." Just as the Jewish tithe was for the benefit of the priesthood or the Jewish people overall, likewise Christian giving is for the benefit of other Christians, whether for their personal needs or for official ministerial functions. Though our giving to the Lord should always be directed to Christian individuals or causes, we are always free to make additional charitable contributions to other organizations as we please.

Fourth, Paul asked that collections not be made "when I come." This curious addition suggests Paul was concerned that his arrival might become an occasion for taking a special collection. Paul knew that if giving were based merely on special occasions (i.e., Paul's visit) rather than as a result of regular, disciplined sacrifice, it would lead to an unhealthy and unsustainable pattern. Paul didn't want regular giving to become an exception rather than the rule.

More importantly, Paul was did not want his visit to be exploited by church leaders for fundraising. Paul wanted his arrival to be refreshing rather than a reason for personal sacrifice. Paul's teaching on this point is a sobering rebuke of any minister who requires an honorarium or other stipend as a prerequisite to teaching or ministering to a body of believers.

Fifth, Paul instructs that our giving should be in keeping with our prosperity (v.2, "as he may prosper"). The New Testament believer is to give according to the Spirit, but the specific amount of our giving should vary according to our means. Poor believers will naturally give less than rich believers. Again, Paul didn't

specify the amount, but he did connect the Christian's degree of generosity to his prosperity, so we should expect to give more as we earn more.

Sixth, Paul gives no specific destination for our giving, but says our giving is to be done by "putting aside in savings." This is an important (and rarely followed) practice. The literal phrase in Greek in verse 2 means "to store up privately." Paul's expectation was that the believers in Corinth would consistently set aside some of their earnings reserved for the needs of the saints. The believer wouldn't distribute these funds until a need presented itself, so until there was a need, their weekly giving would remain "stored up" privately.

Giving was conducted this way, in part, because the early church didn't own buildings, nor did it maintain church bank accounts. Therefore, the church wasn't in a position to collect and store tithes. Instead, the money remained in the hands of the individual believer until it was needed for some specific purpose within the Body, at which time each believer would be asked to withdraw some funds from their savings and give it in support of the need. This is why Paul wanted believers to save each week - so that they could be ready to give a donation when asked!

Storing up privately is a perfectly appropriate form of New Testament giving today as well, provided the Christian is self-disciplined enough to store and distribute the funds as the Holy Spirit leads. ***Like all New Testament giving, it should be done freely, without obligation, according to the Holy Spirit and for the benefit of the saints.***

In light of these six requirements, there is nothing wrong with a Christian following the traditional practice of sending ten percent of his income directly to a local church every month, just as many Christians have chosen to do. Any Christian who feels led by the Holy Spirit to contribute in this manner should do so.

Just remember there is no Biblical requirement for all Christians to give in this manner. Every believer should guard against falling into any rigid practice of giving that isn't under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Christians are to be Spirit-led, not rule-driven.



In Honor of Black History Month



BLACK INVENTORS

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>INVENTOR</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Air Conditioning Unit	Frederick M. Jones	1949
Almanac	Benjamin Banneker	1791
Auto Cut-Off Switch	Granville T. Woods	1839
Auto Fishing Device	George Cook	1899
Baby Buggy	William H. Richardson	1889
Biscuit Cutter	Alexander P. Ashbourne	1875
Blood Plasma Bag	Charles Drew	1945
Chamber Commode	Thomas Elkins	1897
Clothes Dryer	George T. Sampson	1971
Curtain Rod	Samuel R. Scottron	1892
Curtain Rod Support	William S. Grant	1896
Door Knob	Osbourn Dorsey	1878
Door Stop	Osbourn Dorsey	1878
Egg Beater	Willie Johnson	1884
Electric Lamb Bulb	Lewis Latimer	1882
Elevator	Alexander Miles	1867
Eye Protector	Powell Johnson	1880
Fire Escape Ladder	Joseph W. Winters	1878
Fire Extinguisher	Thomas Marshall	1872
Folding Bed	Leonard C. Bailey	1899
Folding Chair	Nathaniel Alexander	1911
Fountain Pen	Walter B. Purvis	1890
Furniture Caster	David A. Fisher	1878
Gas Mask	Garrett Morgan	1914
Golf Tee	George T. Grant	1899
Guitar	Robert F. Fleming, Jr.	1886
Hair Brush	Lydia O. Newman	1898
Hand Stamp	Walter B. Purvis	1883
Ice Cream Scoop	Alfred L. Cralle	1897
Insect Destroyer Gun	Albert C. Richardson	1899
Ironing Board	Sarah Boone	1887
Key Chain	Frederick J. Loudin	1894
Lantern	Michael C. Harvey	1884
Lawn Sprinkler	John H. Smith	1897
Lemon Squeezer	John Thomas White	1893
Lock	Washington A. Martin	1893
Lubricating Cup	Elijah McCoy	1895
Lunch Pail	James Robinson	1887
Mail Box	Paul L. Downing	1891
Mop	Thomas W. Stewart	1893
Peanut Butter	George W. Carver	1896
Pencil Sharpener	John L. Love	1897
Record Player Arm	Joseph H. Dickinson	1819
Rolling Pin	John W. Reed	1864
Shampoo Headrest	Charles Orren Bailiff	1898
Spark Plug	Edmond Berger	1839
Stethoscope	Thomas A. Carrington	1876
Straightening Comb	Madam C. J. Walker	1905
Street Sweeper	Charles B. Brooks	1890
Phone Transmitter	Granville T. Woods	1884
Thermostat Control	Frederick M. Jones	1960
Traffic Light	Garrett Morgan	1923
Tricycle	Matthew A. Cherry	1886



The Kings Kids



HUNGRY FOR GOD!



Daniel 1

When Daniel first came to Babylon, he ate only fruit and vegetables. Unscramble the words in the foods and write them in the matching blanks. When you are done, you'll read about Daniel's life.



Look at the picture for 30 seconds. Then turn over your paper and write down all the fruits and vegetables you can remember.

MEDITATE ON THE MESSAGE

“So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God”
(Romans 10:17)

Did you enjoy the Sunday Service? Have you ever wanted to hear just the message, prayers, praise & worship or choir selections over again? Do you want a witnessing tool for a family member or friend? AUDIO CD's MP3's & DVD's are available: Sunday Morning Service... \$5.00 ea... Eastside 2015 50th ANNIVERSARY...(DVD Disc set \$30.00) or \$10.00 for individual day. Custom build your own MP3/CD selections \$10.00 each disc made from our digital downloadable library selections.

EBC MEDIA MINISTRY

Cascading Waterfall Chart of End Times Events




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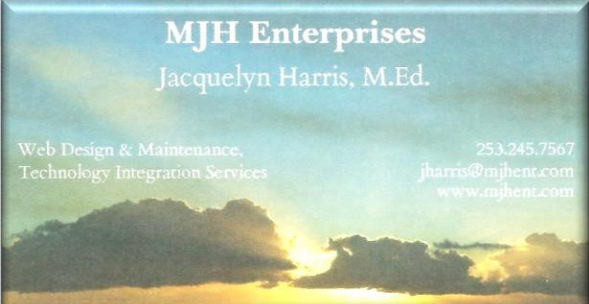
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