

The **SECOND STEP** in **PROSPERITY**

A. DOES GOD WANT US PROSPEROUS?

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| 1. The Lord has pleasure in our prosperity. | Psalm 35:27 |
| 2. Wealth and riches will be in our house. | Psalm 112:3 |
| 3. May the Lord increase you more and more. | Psalm 115:14 |
| 4. Prosper in all things. | 3 John:2 |

B. THE FIRST STEP

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| 1. The Tithe --- God's 10%. | Mal 3:8-12 |
| 2. Giving the tithe to God is the test, with God rewarding our FAITH and OBEDIENCE. | |

C. THE SECOND STEP

1. Offerings over and above the tithe.
2. Webster's Dictionary: presentation of a gift, a contribution, a sacrifice to God in worship and thanksgiving.
3. Zondervan's Bible Dictionary: the need for purification from sin or the desire of the worshipper to enter into fellowship with God.
4. Old Testament / Old Covenant OFFERINGS
 - a. Different types for different purposes with different specifications.
 - 1) Sin Offering (provided for acts of unconscious transgressions, mistakes, or other inadvertencies). Lev 4:1-35
 - 2) Trespass Offering (or Guilt Offering, signified restitution). Lev 5:14-6:7
 - 3) Peace Offering (for right spiritual relations with God). Lev 3:1-17
 - 4) Meal or Meat Offering (in services of consecration). Exod 29:41
 - 5) Drink Offering (accompanied many sacrifices). Gen 28:18 & 35:14
 - 6) Wave or Heave Offering for peace: movement back and forth, and up and down, making the sign of the cross). Exod 29 24-28
 - b. Tithes and Offerings must follow the letter of the law but be given to God in the spirit of the law with right attitude and expectation (partnership --- we do our part and God will do His part).

5. God's Scriptural Support for Giving Offerings

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| a. Work to have something to give. | Eph 4:28 |
| b. Robbing God in Tithes and Offerings. | Mal 3:8 |
| c. Give Offerings so as not to rob God. | Eph 4:28 |
| d. Cast your bread upon the waters. | Eccl 11:1 |
| e. Scatter (be generous) and increase (be made rich). | Prov 11:24-25 |
| f. Give and it will be given unto you. | Luke 6:38 |
| g. As you sow, so shall you reap. | 2 Cor 9:6-7 |
| h. The Parable of the Sower. | Mark 4 |
| i. Seed yields according to its kind. | Gen 1:12 |

6. Practical Applications in Giving Offerings

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| a. Name your seed. | Gen 1:12 |
| 1) 30-, 60-, 100-fold return. | Mark 4:20 |
| 2) Seed yields after its own kind. | Gen 1:12 |
| 3) The latter rain overtaking the former rain. | James 5:7 |
| b. Have money with you at all times (cash, checks, etc.). | |
| c. Money Magnet (not for spending nor for emergency nor for a rainy day, but for GIVING as the Holy Spirit directs). | Matt 25:29; Luke 19:26 |
| d. Give at every opportunity. | Prov 11 & Eccl 11 |
| e. Do not despise small beginnings. | Zech 4:10 |
| 1) Special project: break into smaller steps. | |
| f. Don't be weary in well-doing. | Gal 6:9 |
| g. Abound to every good work. | 2 Cor 9:8 AmpC |
| h. LIVE to GIVE!! | |