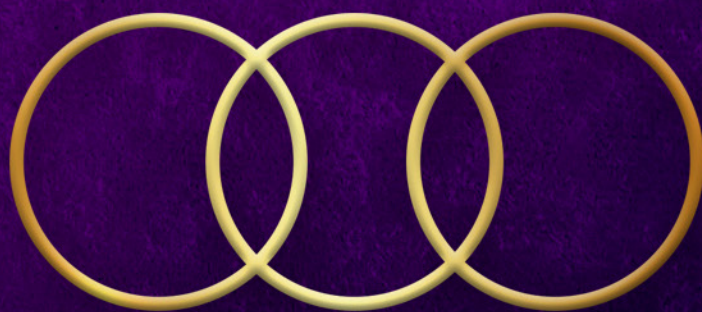


*You Can*

PROVE  
GOD  
NOW



— *Study Guide* —

AL TAYLOR

**T**he purpose of this study guide is to strengthen your memory of the Scriptural basis for the practice of tithing. This will also expand your *understanding* of the opportunity God has provided for each one of us to share in the “family business” as faithful stewards of our possessions and skills. Whatever work we do or career we follow can be dedicated to Christ through the practice of tithing.

Biblically guided *worship* is the most important practice for each of us. That regular practice of worship sets *truth* as the guiding standard of our lives. It clarifies our understanding. It sets priorities. We have the benefit of not only receiving God’s blessings, but we are also enabled to realize the worship aspect of our work when God is our priority.

Solomon said, “Money answers all things.” This means money is the compensation for all kinds of work. It is also the medium of exchange for our purchases, investments, and gifts. Money can easily become a false god because of its usefulness and universal appeal. Thus, when we put God first financially, we are protecting ourselves from slipping into idolatry. We provide an *example* that blesses our family and friends. Hopefully, when you have completed this study, you will be enabled to assist others in understanding this awesome stewardship principle God has provided to bless us and make us to be “workers together with Him.”

This study indicates every believer in Jesus Christ as Savior has a calling from God. You might not be called to be a pastor, but you are called to be a steward of the Gospel as well as steward of the abilities and possessions God has entrusted to you. At the end of this introduction, you will be invited to take an honest assessment of your abilities and possessions. This will be a preliminary list for your own use of what God has entrusted to you as one of His trustees. Your list is likely to expand as you continue your study, but it will always help you to recognize elements of your personal calling.

Your trusteeship is subject to expand as God brings forth His favor in your life. You have latent abilities that may not be visible to you now. Your ever-increasing trustworthiness may provide the Holy Spirit with occasions to increase your spiritual gifts. Walking with Christ is an exciting journey. Empowerment by the Holy Spirit is the great *enablement* regardless of circumstances. You are about to progress into an ever-more fulfilling life as a trusted and anointed “steward of the King.” Opportunities for ministry are all around you. They often appear as problems or needs. You will minister from God’s resources as well as from your own.

You will observe as you study the Scriptures and the text of *Prove God Now* that much of the language comes from the world of agriculture. All of us have some affinity for the language of the farm because we all love to eat. Therefore, the principles of farming are pertinent to everyone even in the spiritual elements of life. Most of us understand if the farmer fails in the task of food production, he will ultimately lose the land and the opportunity. That makes it serious business. However, if we fail in the spiritual arena by neglect or deliberate disobedience, the consequences are even more serious because they affect our eternity.



## INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

*Pages 17-20*

1. Why does God use believers as His proof that His promises are true?
2. Why does God use money and possessions to illustrate the truth of His Word?
3. List people who should be on your prayer list for salvation.
4. Make a preliminary list of personal talents, abilities, and possessions God may use:
  - A. God-given talents:
  - B. Developed skills:
  - C. Possessions:



## PREFACE QUESTIONS

*Pages 21-27*

1. Does the Bible give us sufficient information regarding the creation of the physical universe and Planet Earth?
2. The Bible says God spoke the created universe into existence (Genesis 1). What was Albert Einstein's concurrence with that?

3. How did Dr. David Zaukelies refute the evolutionist theories of creation by chance?
4. In what respect is the first verse in the Bible a deed?
5. Has God told us how to conduct ourselves on His property?
6. Why is it difficult to fit the Creator into the human mind, yet easy to fit in an idol?



## MAGNIFICENT PURPOSE CHAPTER 1 QUESTIONS

*Pages 29-37*

1. Why did God create you?
2. Describe *image*, *likeness*, and *dominion*.
3. How can we grow in our relationship with God and our response to Him?
4. How important is it that we should have “choice” available to us? And how does Planet Earth provide “choice”?
5. What is the symbol of ownership in today’s world?
6. If we trust money as our security, will we ever have enough? Why or why not?
7. If I bring the tithe of every increase as an act of worship unto the Creator God, may I trust Him as my provider, my security, and my destiny?



**BLESSED WORSHIP  
CHAPTER 2 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 39-59*

1. What were the occupations of the first two sons born to Adam and Eve?
2. How does the Septuagint describe the cause for rejection of Cain's offering?
3. How important is it to have a right attitude in life and in worship?
4. "If you love \_\_\_\_\_ more than money, you will be able to follow Biblical instructions about using money. If you love money more than you love God, you will try to use \_\_\_\_\_ to get more money. If you love \_\_\_\_\_ more than money, you will minister to \_\_\_\_\_. If you love money more than man, you will exploit \_\_\_\_\_ for more money. If you love yourself more than money, you will do that which is best for \_\_\_\_\_ and money will be a tool while you prefer that \_\_\_\_\_ be your Master. If you love God, you will be free to use money. If you do not love God, money will become your master and will enslave you while you try to get increasingly more of your god."

*Example:* Cain loved money (possessions). Abel loved \_\_\_\_\_. Abel worshiped by giving the firstlings of his flock. Cain gave an offering but not the firstfruits offering. Because Abel loved \_\_\_\_\_ he freely sacrificed of his sheep. Cain loved possessions and sacrificed his \_\_\_\_\_."

God chose Abraham to be the father of the \_\_\_\_\_.

5. What blessings did God promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:2-3?
6. What happened to Sarah in each nation where Abraham failed to build an altar?

7. In the U. S., where approximately half of the marriages end in divorce, what is the divorce rate in marriages where husband, wife, and family pray together daily?
8. Describe how God entrusts grace to us so we always have a ready supply to meet the spiritual needs of those we encounter in our daily routines. We are trustees of His grace.
9. Summarize the story of Abraham's defeat of the marauding armies of Chedorlaomer.
10. How are you impacted by the tithing testimonies of Christians whom God has blessed with great wealth?
11. Do you already have a tithing story to tell? If yes, summarize it here:
12. What did the Apostle Paul tell us about God's bookkeeping system? (See Philippians 4:17.)  
How important is your account to you?



## LOOK AT THE PRINCIPLES CHAPTER 3 QUESTIONS

*Pages 61-72*

1. When Abraham returned from his great victory over the four kings and their armies, who met him first?
2. Why did Abraham appear to have no interest in the likely accolades from a defeated king?
3. How did Abraham's time of worship illustrate the Sunday principle?
4. Who was the king/priest who directed the time of worship?
5. What was unique about this individual?

6. List parallels between Jesus and Melchizedek.
7. What do you remember from the worship service led by Melchizedek?
8. The Apostle Paul said God preached the Gospel to Abraham (Galatians 3:8). Compare it with the Gospel we now believe and teach.
9. What can we learn from Romans 4:3, 22?
10. Why did Abraham pay tithes on the wealth retrieved in the battle against the four kings?
11. Do we receive the same deliverance from and protection against idolatry that Abraham received through the practice of tithing? (See Romans 11:16.)
12. What significance do you see in Melchizedek being used of God for both the first teaching on tithing in the Old Testament and the last teaching on tithing in the New Testament? (See Genesis 14 and Hebrews 7.)



**JESUS IS PROPRIETOR  
CHAPTER 4 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 73-79*

1. Why did Stanley Tam give away his multimillion-dollar corporation?
2. What differences could Stanley identify in his life after he gave his business to God?
3. What similarity do you see in your life and in your commitment to the Lord?

4. What lessons do we take away from the lives of Cain and Abel?
5. Is it still possible for us as born-again believers to live as faithful stewards regardless of our profession?



**PURPOSE AND PROCESS  
CHAPTER 5 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 81-94*

1. What is the key to being a faithful and effective *steward* of the true and living God?
2. What do Scriptures teach us about God's love for every person; Christ's sacrificial death for everyone; and the Gospel being for everyone?
3. Can you be sure you are called to be one of God's stewards?
4. How do we know God was serious when He told us to "make disciples"?
5. List truths that must be learned if we are to take on the likeness of our Heavenly Father:
6. From the Biblical account of the gift of Jesus' blood, describe the significance of each way His blood was shed for your benefit.





**THE TITHE  
CHAPTER 6**

*Pages 95-107*

1. What is the most common excuse offered by those who do not want to tithe?
2. More than four centuries before the Law was given to Moses, God had already established tithing as a part of the covenant of blessing with Abraham. Are the believers in Christ “seed of Abraham”? What does the New Testament say?
3. Is the priesthood of Melchizedek still in effect today? What Scriptures did the author reference for the answer?
4. Under the heading of “Law and Logic,” the author cited some of the prohibitions from the Ten Commandments and asked if Christians are prohibited from those same sins. Do you agree?
5. Compare the world’s foolish ideas of get-rich-quick schemes with the Scriptural teaching of receiving blessing from the promises of God for honest work and true worship according to the Word of God.
6. How important is it to promptly bring the tithe of the increase to the house of the Lord as an act of worship and faithfulness?



**GOD'S ILLUSTRATIONS  
CHAPTER 7 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 109-123*

1. What do the Feasts of Jehovah illustrate for us?
2. Which one of the feasts illustrates the ministry of Jesus in salvation?
3. Who was the priest designated by God to teach each family Passover?
4. Which feast illustrates the ministry of Jesus in sanctification?
5. Who was the designated priest in the Feast of Unleavened Bread?
6. Which feast teaches the principles of management of possessions?
7. Describe the meaning of the “firstfruits” ceremony beginning with the “three rings.”
8. What is the meaning of the three empty places left in the field?



**THE TITHE BLESSING  
CHAPTER 8 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 125-148*

1. Why does God give us the power to get wealth?
2. Discuss the renewed covenant Jacob vowed to follow just as his father Isaac and his grandfather Abraham had lived by.

3. What happened to Esau?
4. What similarities are there between America today and the problems in Israel in Malachi's time?
5. Are you satisfied with the author's explanation regarding whether tithe is due on the net (take-home pay) or the gross (the total amount before taxes, costs of doing business, etc.)?
6. Do you believe God has unlimited resources? Are His resources available to bless us when He is truly first in our lives? Why then does He ask us to tithe and give when He could easily fund it all? See Matthew 6:21.
7. Why do you feel God issues the challenge found in 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"?
8. Respond to the current stories of God's intervention to rescue His people against all odds because of the promise to bless and protect the tither. Do you want to be one of those people?



**ROBBING AND RECONCILING  
CHAPTER 9 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 149-168*

1. God had promised to give the city of Jericho to His people, the children of Israel, as the firstfruit of His promise. However, this was a walled city. Describe the part that God's people played in the victory and the miraculous part God performed.

2. How important is it to place God first in every aspect of your life?
3. Has God communicated plainly and repetitively that He should be first in every victory and in every increase? (Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and write your view of this teaching.)
4. Why does our spiritual enemy hate the practice of tithing so viciously?
5. Why do you think Achan turned to idolatry after seeing God do so many miracles for His people?
6. Do you believe the defeat of Joshua's soldiers at Ai was the consequence of Achan's sin?
7. Could the spiritual weakness in God's people today, and our failure in evangelizing, be because too many are robbing God? What can we do to change these circumstances?
8. How can you and I bless our fellow believers and financially empower the church to complete the task Christ assigned us?



**IT WAS A REALLY BAD DAY!  
CHAPTER 10 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 169-176*

1. How have you wanted to change things that are pulling America down?
2. Have you ever wondered if you might be a negative influence on your nation, or local community? If so, how?

3. The Bible communicates how we can be a blessing to others and how we can bless our nation. However, this chapter is about a practice that brought calamity upon Israel. The prophet Joel said to the nation, “Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” We should be ready to heed that admonition with our own children to protect them from God’s judgment. Describe the four waves of locusts and the damage they inflicted.
4. What questions does the author asks us personally regarding the judgment becoming apparent in America (page 171)?
5. The prophet Joel declared “their joy” had withered away. Why is it offensive to God when His people lose their joy?
6. Where does your joy in serving the true and living God stand at this time?
7. Joel said it was time in Israel for “all in” repentance beginning with the priests and the ministers. How does this apply to us today?
8. Why do many Christian ministers today not stress the importance of God being in first place in our lives and in our finances?
9. The prophet declared how merciful our Father in Heaven would be when His people give up financial idolatry in true repentance. Joel predicted one of the greatest revivals in history (2:28-29). Write out those verses:



**COMMON QUESTIONS  
CHAPTER 11 QUESTIONS**

*Pages 177-188*

1. Explain the three Old Testament tithes and their purposes:
  - A. The lord's tithe for Levites only (Leviticus 27:26-32)
  - B. The festival tithe (to be shared) for travel and presence at the feasts (Deuteronomy 14:22-27)
  - C. The third-year tithe for the poor and needy (Deuteronomy 26:12-15)
2. Discuss the New Testament truth regarding grace and works and how they fit together.  
(See Ephesians 2:8-10.)
3. Is God the owner of all His creation?
  - A. What was Adam's role in his original assignment?
  - B. What changed when Adam acted upon the serpent's lie?
4. The Apostle James was a plain talker in his teaching, as James 2:15-19 shows.
  - A. How important is it for our works to match our words?
  - B. Is it legalism for you and me to *think* God's Word, *speak* God's Word, and *do* God's Word?



## NEW TESTAMENT TITHING CHAPTER 12 QUESTIONS

*Pages 189-209*

1. Does the Bible teach the practice of tithing in the New Testament?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ (Check the correct answer)

2. What are key components in propaganda?

What are Satan's motives in attacking Biblical tithing?

3. Why did the prophet Malachi call Satan "the devourer"?

What did Jesus call Lucifer?

4. Abel was a member of the first family God created, and he brought the firstlings as his offering to God. Adam and Eve were his parents and teachers. May we therefore conclude the tithing principle has always been with us?

5. What did Jesus say about tithing?

See Matthew 6:33; 10:25; 22:21; 23:23; and Hebrews 7.

6. How should we respond to teachers who teach when Jesus said we ought to pay our tithes, He was teaching the Old Testament Law to Jews still under the Law?

Let us quote to the false teachers what Jesus said about that: "The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time, the kingdom of God is preached" (Luke 16:16). John was already gone when Jesus said believers ought to pay tithes. Then Jesus further confirmed we are to teach what He taught: "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20). God's wisdom nullifies false teaching.

7. How is Jesus himself a prototype of the principle of tithing? (See Colossians 1:15, 18.)
8. Describe a statement from the “history of tithing summary” that stands out to you (pages 195-200).
9. Why did Jesus put Caesar first in His answer relating to tax and tithing?
10. Why did Jesus identify matters that are “weightier” than the tithing?
11. Did Jesus personally tithe?
12. How do the parables of Jesus help us understand how people become confused on some of the spiritual truths in the Word of God?
13. How does full commitment to Christ improve our understanding of spiritual truths such as tithing?





**YOUR FATHER'S BUSINESS  
CHAPTER 13 QUESTIONS**

*Page 211-216*

Write your thoughts and feelings about the call of God on your life “to be about your heavenly Father’s business now.”



## BENEDICTION QUESTIONS

*Pages 217-223*

1. Write the definition of *benediction*.
2. How do we know God pays attention to all the details of our lives?
3. What provision has God made for the follower of Christ to dedicate material possessions to Him rather than enter into early forms of idolatry?
4. Why does financial weakness come to the church if Biblical stewardship is not made a standard part of discipleship training?
5. Explain the dilemma of “filthy lucre” and “unrighteous mammon” in the possession of Christians.

What is God’s solution to this dilemma?

6. How can we explain the importance of “right priorities” and “correct perspectives”?
7. Explain how Adam and Eve failed in their stewardship responsibility.
8. Fill in the blanks: *Any time I allow a \_\_\_\_\_ to come between me and my Creator, I am becoming an \_\_\_\_\_, I am becoming a transgressor.*
9. From whom did the heathen learn to tithe to their false gods?



**YOU CAN PROVE GOD NOW!  
SUMMARY QUESTIONS**

*Pages 225-241*

1. Why should YOU tithe?
  - A. What is your relationship to God's *forever family*?
  - B. What has God committed to you?
  - C. What is God's *family business*?
  - D. Are you now one of God's *trustees*?
  - E. To what important mission are you *called*?
2. How was the tithe symbolized in the garden of Eden?
3. How was the cross of crucifixion symbolized there?
4. In Genesis 12, God announced His covenant of blessings to Abraham. How does that apply to us? Is this covenant unending and unchangeable?
5. Who was Melchizedek? How does He pertain to us?
6. Is Abraham our father too? What do the Scriptures say?

7. How did Jacob demonstrate the continuing covenant of blessing?
8. Moses told us to subordinate all false gods to the true and living Creator God. Explain how tithing puts the money god into subordination to Christ.
9. How do the feasts of Leviticus 23 exalt Jesus Christ?
10. Explain how the “three empty places” left in the grain field by the priest represent three very important empty places in the life of Jesus Christ.
11. Is tithing supposed to cost us something?
12. What does the New Testament say about tithing?
13. Is the Lordship of Christ still important?
14. Do we need the blessing of Christ as we do the work of the church?
15. Is there a better way to make disciples and fund ministry?
16. Did Jesus say we should tithe?
17. Memorize the results of the Ronsvalle study, which demonstrates how the Great Commission could be completed as Christ instructed.
18. Why do so many people deny the Scriptures that teach us this vital path of personal blessing and the means to finish the all-important task of taking the Gospel to every nation? Jesus answers that question for us in Mark 4.

19. In 1 Corinthians 9:13-14, what did the Apostle Paul tell us the Lord has ordained for those who preach the Gospel?
  
20. Melchizedek was either Christ himself or an amazing “stand in” for Him. What does Hebrews 7 teach us about the tithe?

*Don't ever forget: You have an account in Heaven (see Philippians 4:17). That account lists all you have given in the name of Christ, both tithes and offerings, and it also records the increase from year to year. There are rewards here, but even greater rewards when we get home to be with Christ, our wonderful Savior . . . forever!*



## FINAL QUESTIONS:

1. Have you prayed a prayer of personal commitment to Jesus Christ as stated in Romans 10:9-13?

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (NIV).

If you have never prayed this prayer of confession and commitment to Christ, this would be an excellent time to do so.

2. Have you prayed the prayer of agreement with God's call for you to be one of His "stewards," as is recorded on pages 162 and 163? This is a definite call for every believer. This would be a good time to pray that prayer too.

Now watch for opportunities to share with others the good news that you are a born-again Christian and one of God's trustees. The Holy Spirit will prompt you each time an opportunity is available to share your story as one of the witnesses who knows Jesus personally. Enjoy the blessed life . . . it never ends.