

# What About Firstfruits?

By the way, for those tithing proponents in the church who are money-focussed, have you forgotten about firstfruits? **Firstfruits is part of the Law just as tithing is.** If we rob God with our tithes, we must be robbing God of his firstfruits if we aren't giving them to him.

Have we all forgotten this for any reason? Or was it ignored because tithing was sufficient to bring the church organisation's finances in?

It amazes me. Why have church leaders in their legalism singled out only 2 of the legal requirements of the OC? Oh, I can understand the reasons for adhering to the Sabbath as it pre-dated the Mosaic Law. But why only choose the Sabbath and tithing? It makes no real sense, especially when they use Malachi to reinforce tithing. Why not use the multitudes of other messages from the OT prophets which berated the Israelis for ignoring components of the Law? It's illogical! **If you keep part of the Law, you're obligated to keep all of it.**<sup>1</sup>

Any way, back to the issue of firstfruits. The firstfruits was the best<sup>2</sup> of the agricultural produce<sup>3</sup> or a loaf of bread from a house<sup>4</sup>, not money or the first portion of a person's wage.

Firstfruits goes even further than just a presentation of sample goods:

- The first progeny of livestock was consecrated<sup>5</sup> to the Lord as a firstfruit<sup>6</sup>
- The first child was consecrated to the Lord as a firstfruit<sup>7</sup>
- Israel as a nation was God's firstfruit<sup>8</sup> as the first of many righteous sons

Today, under the NC, even firstfruits is not a legal issue any more for us. **We are not under the Mosaic Law.**<sup>9</sup> The caveat is: Provided we do everything lovingly, heartily, in honour of our liege, King Jesus.<sup>10</sup>

While ever we extravagantly give away the best of our agricultural produce<sup>11</sup> to those in need and don't hog it for ourselves, and while we give financially to them from our household income, we are exceeding the 'letter of the Law'<sup>12</sup> and adhering to the 'spirit of the law'<sup>13</sup>.

*“The **letter of the law** versus the **spirit of the law** is an idiomatic antithesis. When one obeys the letter of the law but not the spirit, one is obeying the literal interpretation of the words (the "letter") of the law, but not necessarily the intent of those who wrote the law.”*<sup>14</sup>

What about the child firstfruit? We are all bought with a price and consecrated<sup>15</sup> to the Lord when we are born again. So, there's no need to consecrate the 1<sup>st</sup> born child, just lead all your children into the Kingdom to be sanctified.

As NC believers we don't even need to mention firstfruits. All we need to do is to live frugally and give extravagantly out of our excess, whether it be produce or money. Our brothers and sisters must be supported, as they are family, especially if they lack in any area.<sup>16</sup>

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1 – Galatians 5:3

2 – Numbers 18:12

3 – Deuteronomy 18:4; Leviticus 23:10; Exodus 34:26

4 – Leviticus 23:17-20

5 – Consecrated = dedicated, sanctifies, set apart, hallowed, sacred

6 – Exodus 13:2

7 – Exodus 13:2

8 – Romans 11:16-17

9 – Galatians 5:18; Romans 8:4

10 – Colossians 3:17

11 – Whatever is produced from the land. Including: veggies, eggs, milk, fruit, rabbit meat, chicken meat, etc.

12 – See Romans 7:6

13 – See Romans 7:6, 14

14 – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letter\_and\_spirit\_of\_the\_law

15 – 1 Corinthians 1:2; 6:11; Hebrews 10:10, 14 (Jude 1:1; Acts 20:32; 26:18)

16 – 1 John 3:17; James 2:15-17 (Matthew 25:31-36)

**Remember:** If we keep any part of the Law, we are obligated to keep all of it.<sup>17</sup> That includes whether we support tithing, Sabbath, festivals or firstfruits in the church today.

## **FREEDOM!**

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