PROMISE: OFFERING UNDERGOD'S BASIC SYSTEM

HOW MUCH:

The Principle of the Purpose:

2 Cor. 9:7 "... give as he purposes in his heart..." A purpose about 'how much' to give must be established in the heart prior to the act of giving. It will not be moved by any circumstances.

The Principle of the Proportionality:

Deut. 16:17; I Cor. 16:2 "... according to the blessing ...", or "... as he may prosper...". The change on prosperity will bring an equivalent and fair change on the amount given as tithe and Promise are proportioned to the income (CS 73).

WHEN:

The Principle of the Priority:

Matt. 6:33; Prov. 3:9, 10 "But seek first...", "... with the first fruits..." - that what belongs to God (tithes and offerings) should be returned by the worshiper immediately after the tithe, and before any other expense is met or giving is done (Prov. 3:9; Matt. 6:33; CS 80-81).

The Principle of the Regularity:

Prov. 3:9 "... with the first fruits of all your increase," when there is an increase, and every time there is an increase.







ADAPTED FROM CHRISTINA HAWKINS' INFOGRAPHIC ON REGULAR OFFERINGS.







WHAT IS PROMISE?







WHAT IS PROMISE?

It is a regular and systematic offering, "purposed" by the worshipper (2 Cor. 9:7) as a porportion or percentage (1Cor. 16:2; Deut. 16:17) of any income (Prov. 3:9).

It is considered as binding as the tithe (Mal. 3:8-10).

PRINCIPLES GUIDING OUR GIVING

A token of a life surrendered to God. Lev 1:4,9

An exercise of trust in God's ability to provide. Psm 34:8-10, 1 Chr 29:14

Must come from a heart at peace. Matthew 5:23,24

Following Jesus' pattern, who sacrificed all for our sake. 2 Cor. 8:1,9

An expression of gratitude, trust, praise and honor to God by His blessings. Prov. 3:9, 10; 2 Cor 9:12,13

PHILOSOPHY & NATURE OF PROMISE

Promise, or regular offerings (regularity determined by the income), and the tithe, are required by the Lord.

Not to return themconfigures dishonesty to Him (Mal. 3:8-10).

Tithe and Promise (regular and systematic offerings) are under the same principle: proportioned to the income. 1 Cor. 16:2; Deut 16:17 (CS 73).

Promise (regular and proportional offering) is the most basic way of giving. Prov. 3:8; Mal. 3:8-10.

Freewill offerings may be given in addition and beyond Promise. Ex. 25:2; 36:3.

It is called "Promise" because the percentage must be vowed or "purposed" in the heart. 2 Cor 9:7.

The fact that the regular offering is percentage-based, makes the amount to be fairly adjusted as income or increase adjusts.

God's blessings (my increase or income) will determine when I will give Promise, not my feelings, sympathies, calls or even relevant projects or ministries. Prov 3:9, 10 (CS 25, 80, 81).

SUGGESTIVE DESTINATION OF PROMISE

According to Christ's missionary (Acts 1:8)

50-60% Local church: The local budget, missionary projects, building, the needy, to help other churches.

20-30% Regional Mission-Development and missionary projects of your conference, union and division.

International Mission-Adventist World Radio, Hope Channel, ADRA, Global Mission (Centers of Influence)

