

NEW TESTAMENT GIVING

WHY A COLLECTION AND LOCAL TREASURY?

WHY A COLLECTION?

- O.T. precedence – Heb. 7:1-4; Lev. 27:30, 32; Matt. 22:21; Num. 18:23-24
- N.T. precedence:
 - Early Christians pooled their money to do the Lord's work – Acts 4:34-35
 - Paul commanded money be **collected on every first day of the week** to help needy saints – Gal. 2:9-10; 1 Cor. 16:1-2

WHY A LOCAL CHURCH TREASURY?

- The **command** was for **local churches** to have a **collection** – 1 Cor. 16:1
- Funds were to be set aside on the **first day of every week** -1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7
- Funds from members were to be **stored up** so **no collections would be made** when Paul arrived – 1 Cor. 16:2
- Paul says these funds were **from the churches** and **sent by the churches** – 2 Cor. 8:1-2, 19
- Local churches must support other scriptural works like preaching the gospel – 1 Cor. 9:11, 13-14; Phil. 4:15-16; 2 Cor. 11:8

REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTABLE GIVING

PROPER ATTITUDE

- Old Testament tithing (written for our learning – Rom. 15:4):
 - Willing generosity was required – Mal. 3:8-10
 - Honesty was required – Deut. 26:12-13
- New Testament freewill giving:
 - There must be a readiness, or eagerness – 2 Cor. 8:3-5, 12
 - We must give cheerfully – 2 Cor. 9:6-7

PROPER MOTIVATION

- Motivated by Jesus' grace – 2 Cor. 8:7-9
- Give in faith – Matt. 6:31-33
- Extraordinary circumstances demand extraordinary sacrifices – Acts 4:33-35

PROPER AMOUNT

- Based on how one has **prospered**, or **been carried on their journey of life** – 1 Cor. 16:2
- Determined by a **cheerful willingness to sow one's blessings bountifully** on God – 2 Cor. 9:6-7
- Based on:
 - The number and value of our blessings from God, not what is left over after we have enjoyed them
 - Careful consideration and planning to give a predetermined amount, not a spur of the moment decision