

God First

by Arthur Vess

God demands the first 10% of our income, not what's left over after paying our bills, and prioritizing Him is essential for a healthy relationship with Him.

Scripture: Proverbs 3:9, Proverbs 11:24, Proverbs 22:9, Malachi 3:10, Matthew 6:33, Luke 6:38, Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Philippians 4:19, 1 Timothy 6:10

Topics: "Stewardship", "Tithing"

Description

Arthur Vess addresses the excuse of 'I pay my own bills and then tithe what is left,' emphasizing that our bills are not the Lord's bills. He illustrates this with a story of a colored boy asking for the rind after being denied a piece of melon, likening it to selfishness. Vess questions how one can tithe what is left when there is nothing left after bills are paid, highlighting God's claim on the first-fruits of all increase. He stresses the importance of prioritizing God's tithe over personal expenses, as God's world is in darkness and sin, and tithers are known for being prompt and faithful.

Transcript

4. Excuse Four: "I pay my own bills and then tithe what is left." Your own bills are not the Lord's bills. This reminds us of the colored boy who asked for the rind after he had been refused a piece of the melon, and received the selfish reply, "Dey ain't gwine ta be no rine." How can a man tithe what is left when there is nothing left? How many of us have anything left after our bills are paid? God claims the "First-fruits of ALL thine increase," not the "left-overs -- the bones for the dogs, the pennies for the Church." All your living expense, such as groceries, clothes, and houserent belongs to your own affairs, and is to be settled by your part, -- the nine-tenths.

How can we take God's tithe for these things when God's world is in darkness and sin?

Those who say that they pay man first, often fail to pay God or man. Tithers make good prompt customers.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/arthur-vess/god-first/>

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