

## Numbers 18:21

***Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the tabernacle of meeting.***

Did you know that the Levi's were paid by God for their service in the temple? That's just what we read in today's devotional verse. But they weren't happy with what God paid them. We also know this through scripture.

† ***Matt 21:12-13 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.' "***

Jesus was mad because the priests were robbing God's people and Jesus cleaned house because of this. Basically what the priests were saying to God is that His pay wasn't good enough, and they tried to make some extra money at the expense of the people of God.

Before we get to down on the priest, we have to examine our own lives and hearts. We pray to God for our provisions, and when we think that He isn't taking good enough care of us, we find second and third jobs. Now it's not wrong to work more than one job, but you need to examine your life and look to see if it compromises your walk with the Lord. Does it cause you to miss church or even church functions that you know you should be involved in?

Does it take away from your time in the word of God and/or prayer?

Does it take time away from your family so much so that they only see you as you leave in the morning and drag yourself in at night?

Sometimes it's not a matter of not making enough money, but more of how you are spending the money God has given you.

If you have to work a second job to get that new car, or have steak and lobster every night for dinner, or just to go out and eat all the time. Those are the types of things you need to reexamine in your life and ask yourself, *"Is the car God has given me good enough, and I just want a new car because that's more important to me than God and my family?"*

Or, *"We go out to eat all the time, but what we spending going out twice a week, would actually cover our meals all week if we went to the grocery store and made our own meals."*

Once again, it's a question of how you are spending your money, not if you are making enough money.

Also, are you tithing? People shun away from the "T" word "Tithing" and think it's just a scam by the church or Christian ministries to get you hard earned money. If that's your thinking, then you need to go back and read your bible, because even though there are

those scamming churches and ministries out there, by far, the churches that exist, are not out for your money, but rather are there to equip you as a believer and minister to the needs of others, not to take from the needs of others. Therefore, your mind set should never ever be, *“I have to tithe to the church”* but rather, *“I get to give back to God part of what HE has blessed me with!”*

When I give back to the Lord, I never think, I am giving to the church, but rather, I say thank you Lord for providing for me and my family.

So pray for God’s provisions, then trust that He will supply. Also pray and ask the Lord to show you where you may be wasting His provision for you.

† **Phil 4:19** *And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

Notice this verse says, *“need”* not *“greed”* God would rather have you spend time with Him, your family and serving others rather than have a nice new car or home that forces you to work two or three jobs.

Also, reexamine your expense, and ask yourself, how many are needs and how many are wants or even greed’s?

† **Romans 13:14** *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*

† **1 Thessalonians 5:18** *in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

† **Malachi 3:8-10** *"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.*