

IT STARTS IN THE  OF ONE
TRANSFORMATION

1. Church is a Community of Believers



**Church as a
Family**

**“Yet to all who
received Him
(Jesus), to those
who believed on
His name, he gave
the right to
become children
of God - children
not born of natural
descent, nor of
human decision or
a husband’s will,
but born of God.”**

John 1:12-13



¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body.

So it is with Christ.

¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or

*Many members,
one body.*

1 Cor 12:12-13

1. Church is a Community of Believers – in this world but not of it



The Army of God

**Finally, be strong
in the Lord and in
his mighty power.**

**Put on the full
armour of God ...**

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood,

**..... so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand
your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.**

Eph 6:10-13; also 2 Cor. 10:3-6.

2. Church is Where Believers Give in Tithes and Offerings



The Origin of Tithing

- Gen 14:18 Then King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was a priest of God Most High.
- Gen 14:19 He blessed Abram, and said, "Blessed is Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth.
- Gen 14:20 Blessed is God Most High, who has handed your enemies over to you."
Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.



Confirmed in the NT

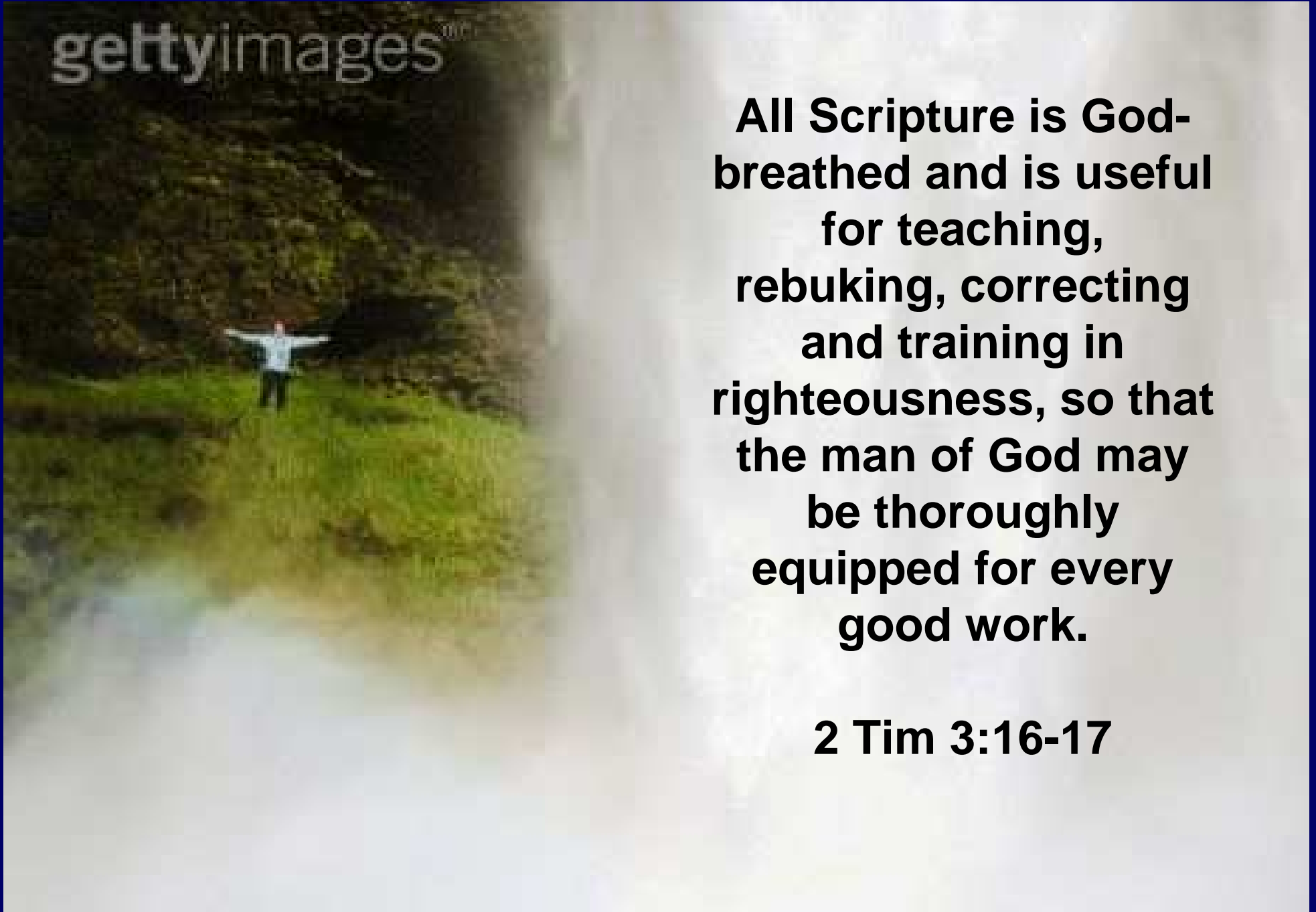
- [Heb 7:10](#) For although Levi wasn't born yet, the seed from which he came was in Abraham's loins when Melchizedek collected the tithe from him.



Conclusion on tithing

- The principle is greater than the law, because it preceded it.
- Abraham gave God tithes out of a heart of gratitude and worship – so should we.
- The tithe is a tenth of “everything” or “all that we win” through the labour of our hands
- It is a matter of the heart, not of law; born out of relationship with God, not of compulsion.
- The negative consequences arise from the fact that if our heart (hence our money) is not submitted to God, it is probably submitted elsewhere – classic idolatry.

Church is Where Believers Receive, ..



All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Tim 3:16-17

Church is Where Believers Serve and Give

⁵ You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a **holy priesthood**, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God..

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal **priesthood**, a holy nation, a people belonging to God,

1 Pet 2:5&9



3. Church is the 5 Fold Ministry in Operation

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service,

so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith

..... and become mature,

Eph 4:11-13



WORKING TOGETHER

*Getting together is a start, remaining together is advancement
and working together is an achievement.*

**A Ministry Gift to
the Body of Christ**

4. Church is Governed by Elders under the Headship of Christ

And He is the head of the body, the church;

He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Col 1:18



Church Leadership

Eldership is the vehicle that God uses to teach, oversee, correct, govern, solve disputes, pray for the sick and distribute finances.

**It is always plural / many
Acts 15:22;
Titus 1:5**

A Church is

1. A community of believers – ekklesia
2. Where believers receive, serve and give
3. The 5-fold ministry in operation – Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Teachers and Evangelists
4. Governed by a group of elders under the headship of Christ