

## Individual Tithes

### The first tithe:

This one we trace back to Abraham in *Gen. 14:18-20* and clarified in *Numbers 18:21-26* and *Deuteronomy 12:17*, is the sacred tithe, given to the Levites and priests for their service to the temple and the congregation in the Old Testament. This is the tithe we continue to give under the priesthood of Melchizedek in the New Testament. It is the tithe consecrated to God and the furtherance of the gospel and, therefore, has continual validity for all believers in Christ.

### The second tithe:

In *Deuteronomy 14:22-27*, the Levitical law required that a Jew had to go to Jerusalem on certain occasions to celebrate Holy Days. The head of the household was to set aside and provide for their family so they would be able to attend a time of renewal in the presence of God. By setting aside a second tithe, as in *Deuteronomy 14:22-27*, our families will be prepared to be refreshed in God's presence, attending church outings, church campaigns, Bible school etc.

### The third tithe:

According to *Deuteronomy 14:28-29*, this was given only every third year to the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow. This tithe was the welfare tithe of those in our community. This could be via the church or directly to those in need that we come across.

### Summary:

The three types of tithing are given to:

1. **first** - God;
2. **second** - man's own physical and spiritual welfare; and
3. **third** - their neighbours' needs.

God, you, and your neighbour are a good trinity in planning one's giving! (*Deuteronomy 14:28-29*; *Deuteronomy 15:1*).

## Minister of God Tithe

### The fourth tithe:

God gave the first tithe to the Levites for their work in the tabernacle, and as an inheritance (*Numbers 18:21-24*). From the tithes, the Levites received, they were also to pay the minister's tithe (*Numbers 18:26*). Among the Levites, God selected Aaron and his family to serve as Head Priest and the Priesthood (*Exodus 4:14*; *Numbers 3:10*). Because Aaron and his family were also Levites, they too would have been expected to tithe.

As there is no longer a priesthood in the order of Aaron and his family, we see that the church, when it receives its tithe, should follow the same principle and tithe as well. Not to a High Priest, as Jesus is now our high Priest, but to the mission of our High Priest. As such, we use the minister's tithe to bring the kingdom of God outside of our local church and work with our movement (the "CRC Churches International") and its Missions.