

CHAPTER 14

## Man Was Not Made for the Sabbath— Or the Tithe

The collective and consistent actions of the church reflect on the character of Christ. When the church demands ten percent of its members' income under threat of God's curse, it gives the appearance that God cares more about money than people. When it demands payment from people regardless of their financial status, it blasphemes Christ and preaches a false gospel. Yet many gullible people fall for this misrepresentation.

Many more, however, recognize the church's fundraising tactics as little more than a religious scam. In both cases the Lord is misrepresented and His appeal is damaged.

Fortunately, this is not the Middle Ages when access to the Scriptures was limited to church bureaucrats or the highly educated. We can read the Bible for ourselves and see whether Jesus values money above people. Not surprisingly, the Bible's portrayal of Christ directly contradicts the church's representation of Him as valuing money above people.