HC-CBLB TEACHING - TERUMAH

The teaching of the Terumah (with the first and second tithes) is unfortunately not well known nor taught to the body of Christ today. Here are some terms, a practical example, and attached verses that I use. This represents the way the Hebrews and the early church biblically managed their giving from Genesis through the fourth century A.D.

Terms:
A. Bikkurim: first fruit offering of the farmer’s produce (first fruit to blossom on the vine)
B. Terumah: first fruit offering that is
   a. High and lifted up
   b. Presented to the Cohen, Rabbi, or Spiritual Authority that is speaking the Kingdom of God into your life.
C. Maaser Rishon: First tithe brought to the storehouse where you are fed whether it is a church, ministry, home group, etc.
D. Maaser Sheni: Second tithe to yourself. God cares as much about your savings account as He does about His own house.
E. Maaser Ani: Tithe to poor, homeless, widows, or orphans. It is part of the second tithe. Every third time, you pay your second tithe to the poor in lieu of Maaser Sheni.
F. Free will offerings and giving of Alms are also an optional part God’s Divine System of giving. They are not covered in this summary document.

Terumah Simplified:

Step One: Give your Terumah/first fruits offering. Terumah is 1/40th or 2.5 % of your total increase.

Step Two: Give your Maaser Rishon. The first tithe is 10% of your total increase.

Step Three: Give your Maaser Sheni/Maaser Ani. This tithe is based on your net income after Terumah and the first tithe are taken out. The first two times this tithe goes to your savings account. The third time you pay this tithe, you give it to the poor, homeless, widows, or orphans (people that can’t pay you back).

Practical example on $1000 dollars gross increase:
1. Terumah equals $25.00.
2. Maaser Rishon (first tithe) equals 10% of $975 ($1000-$25), which equals $97.50.
3. Maaser Sheni/Ani (second tithe) equals 10% of the $1000 gross minus your Terumah and first tithe. Therefore, your second tithe total would be $1000 minus $25 Terumah minus $97.50 first tithe for a total second tithe gross amount of $877.50. This would result in a net amount of $87.75 for your second tithe.
The whole system of giving is referred to colloquially as Terumah. Terumah is mentioned 80 times in the original Hebrew texts of the Old Testament. For example, in the Hebrew, Malachi 3:8 “tithes” is tithe (Maaser) and the word translated “offerings” is the word “Terumah.”

The Jewish people of Constantine’s day had 4% of the population and 40% of the wealth because of Terumah. This was the main reason Constantine started the income tax system in 325 A.D., according to the Nicene Fathers. The meaning of Terumah was gradually changed by the state church to be first prayer of the day. When the King James translators encountered Terumah in 1611, they did not know its roots in Hebraic history or true meaning.

Terumah is the way the Hebrew people and early Christians handled their money and prospered. There was no question about it. Terumah/first fruits was also made mention of by Jesus, Paul, and Jude. It applies not only to finances but also to many other principals, temporal and spiritual. The bottom line is that everyone we have personally seen embrace this biblically based system of giving/living has seen blessings and immediate results.¹

¹ Heavens Call - Creative Blue Light Beings