

PLATE-PASSING

CHURCH COLLECTIONS AND GOALS

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INTRODUCTION: Plate-passing, collecting monies, selling magazines, or raising goals inside the House of God and during church services, are not exemplified, commanded or authorized in the Scriptures nor in the Spirit of Prophecy. Neither did SDA pioneers practice plate-passing, or the like.

1. **The Old Testament Church Used "Chests" Or Gathered Money In The Court Or Entrances To The Sanctuary But Not Inside.**

2 Kings 12: 9-10 2

Chronicles 24: 8-11

2 Kings 22:4

2. **In The Time Of Christ They Used Chests In The Court**

a. "The Enemy made Laodiceans believe they have no need of truth,...Now we really are enriched with Truth if we have studied and assimilated what has been given us,...There the Devil is not going to attack us where he attacked Laodicean, but he will tell us that we are poor in truth." 1 SC 2:11.

b. "From these and many other examples, we see that God not only never delegates one agent to alter, to reset, or to countermand the message with which His first making the matter known to both,..." 1 Ans p. 58.

c. "Remember, too, that the practice of comparing statements stripped of the context is fundamentally disingenuous, and leads today to as many perversions and misapplications of truth as does the deliberate wresting practiced in Satan's challenge to Christ." 1 Ans p. 48

d. "Those who desire to doubt will have plenty of room. God does not propose to remove all occasion for unbelief. He give evidence, which must be carefully investigated with a humbly mind and a teachable spirit, and all should decide from the weight of evidence..." 57675.

3. **Christ Did Not Allow "Vessels" – Plate Bags, Etc. To Be Carried Through The Temple**

Mark 11:16

4. **The Early Church Was Advised To Collect Monies On The First Day Of The Week**

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

5. **Paul's Counsel Is To Be Followed Today**

Adventist Home p. 389

Counsels on Stewardship p. 80
Counsels on Sabbath School Work p. 129

6. **SDA Pioneers Followed Paul's Example**
Adventist Review, March 1994 p. 12
7. **No Merchandising Or Raising Goals In The House Of God**
Testimonies, Vol. 1 pp. 471-473

Conclusion: Since there are no Biblical examples, commands or authorization to collect funds during services, in the Sanctuary, then as history bears out, plate-passing must have originated with paganism and made its way into Catholicism and Protestantism and then adopted by the Seventh Day Adventists.

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