

Capital Gains Tithe

READING

Malachi
Revelation 3

Yeshua said, "Because you say, 'I'm rich. And I've become rich. I don't have any need of anything.' And you don't know that you're miserable, and pitiable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

We're familiar with Capital Gains Tax. In Australia it's 15% of the profit adjusted for inflation, etc... So, if you bought a house 30 years ago for \$100,000 and you sold it this year for \$1,000,000, (which are both fairly common in Australia).

Then you would pay 15% tax on the \$900,000 profit that you made. (With some adjustments).

If it's your family home, you don't even pay that. It's tax free.

But I've hardly ever heard of an Australian Christian who sold their house and gave even 1% of the capital gains they made to God's work.

Why is that? Most Christians realise that if they earn money through their work, or have investment income, then they should give some percentage of that to God.

(That percentage is between them and God, and not a fixed 10% as some people believe. That is Old Testament law and not New Testament grace. But you're quite free to give whatever you feel is generous.)

But somehow when it comes to the capital gains on their own home Christians think that it is all theirs. Even though they did nothing at all to earn it. They paid off their mortgage for 30 years, and the value of their property skyrocketed. As much out of their control as it would have been if the value had halved. No contribution on their part at all except for making the payments which were cheaper than renting anyway.

Australian churches would be overflowing with funds if every Christian in the country gave even 1% of their capital gains to the church when they sold their house. But modern Australians are becoming greedy. Entitled. Self focused. Sadly, even a lot of the Christians. They want wealth. They think they deserve wealth. And they are sharing less and less of it with others, especially the needy. Both in Australia and overseas.

This is not an article attacking Australians. It's an article challenging your heart. Are you being generous? Or just selfish?

Do you think you're entitled to keep all your capital gains when you sell a house?

Do you think you somehow earned it?

If you won hundreds of thousands of dollars in a lottery, would you give any to God and his work?

If you did a business deal that netted you a million dollars, would you give any to your church?

If you inherited way more money than you need, would you share any?

So if you sell a house and make a massive profit?

In the letter to the Laodiceans Yeshua said, "Because you say, 'I'm rich. And I've become rich. I don't have any need of anything.' And you don't know that you're miserable, and pitiable, and poor, and blind, and naked. I advise you to buy gold from me which has been refined in fire, so that you should be rich, and white clothes so that you may be clothed, and the disgrace of your nakedness mightn't be revealed, and eye-salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. Whoever I'm fond of, I expose and discipline. So be zealous and repent."

Maybe you should read the book of Malachi.