



ASIA PACIFIC MESSIANIC FELLOWSHIP

with **The OLIVE TREE MESSAGE!** Romans 11

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We Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem! Psalm 122:6

FINANCIAL POLICY

From APMF Inc. documents: “**Purpose** of APMF: To be a non-profit religious educational mission organization to teach the whole Bible from Genesis through Revelation with its historical, cultural, and linguistic background to people anywhere in the world, and to emphasize the expectation of the LORD that each Believer will put into practice in his daily life God’s Torah Life Style and the formation of Messianic Congregations.

Financial operation of APMF Inc.: Since all personnel are Volunteers, no one will receive any salary or compensation other than reimbursement for expenses when on assignment with APMF if funds are available.”

“Religion is big business!” When money and power are involved there are many abuses, including in churches and religious organizations. Some have complimented us for not mentioning money at any of our Conferences, as money seems to be the purpose of many religious meetings. Some want to give and have said that we do not give any opportunity to give. OK. Giving is important! The Lord loves a cheerful giver! It is more blessed to give than to receive! In fact, the Lord requires a gift for Passover. The question is who gets these gifts today?

Giving to the LORD is basic in the Tanakh (OT), which included animal sacrifices, the tithe to the Levites, helping the poor, etc. The Temple and Levites do not exist anymore, so the purpose and obligation of the tithe no longer exists. Some use the tithe as a personal motivation and guideline for their giving, but it is abused when the church claims it is the “storehouse” of the LORD and the tithe must go to it. We also reject the non-biblical clergy – laity division of God’s people. Giving should be done individually, quietly, directly without channeling through any organization. 100% of the gift is then used for its intended purpose with no “handling charge.”

Rabbis in Yeshua’s time worked at a profession and taught in their spare time without pay. The Apostle Paul and others followed this pattern. He gladly accepted any love gifts to help meet his many expenses. He never asked for money for himself, but only for the poor brethren in Jerusalem because of famine and persecution. Each one will be held accountable for the stewardship of his Time, Talent (abilities) and Treasure. This stewardship cannot be passed on to a clergy class, even though some clergy would like to manage your life for you!

APMF is not a denomination. We respect the autonomy of every congregation to function as it sees fit. However, as teachers, we offer some suggestions for your giving, based on Torah and long experience.

Gifts for individuals should be given directly to the person, in cash or in kind. There are those who may be in need, for food, clothing, medicine, a Bible, expenses for ministry, Conference expense that they cannot afford, etc. To give anonymously, give through a trusted 3rd party. However, “those who will not work, do not let him eat.” Do not perpetuate poverty but help the poor get a job or train for one. Love gifts for teachers are always appreciated, but do not feel obligated. Any teacher with APMF teaches for the JOY of doing so as a Volunteer!

Gifts for projects or organizations can also be given directly. A group can combine their gifts for this purpose. For example, APMF Conference Registration fees are kept as low as possible to benefit as many as possible, basically for the food, lodging, and kit of materials. Usually there is a deficit at the end that the local Committee is responsible to cover. Our Invited Scholar Teachers are not paid, but their travel expense to Manila is met by donations if they cannot cover it themselves. Once in Manila, the Conference Committee is responsible for the Teacher’s care. This expense is not built into the Registration fee, but is also met by donations. We deeply appreciate these quality Teachers who have a heart for Yeshua’s work in our Asia Pacific region! Others would like to come to teach, but they want to be paid, so we say, “Sorry, you do not qualify.”

Dishonesty and mismanagement of money is very common in all spheres of society. We want safeguards to protect our funds and the honesty of those who handle our money. A Torah lifestyle helps, but temptations still happen. Therefore, 2 or more people handle the money, never only one, and paper receipts and records are kept. Blessings on you as you implement Torah, personally, in the family, and in your Congregation.

“If you love Me, Keep – obey, guard, implement – My Commandments!” John 14:15