

Tithing Settlement, LeGrand Baker

Tithing settlement this year caused me to reflect again on the grandeur of the system that is the Kingdom of God. Typically, there are three routine times when adult Latter-day Saints exercise the right to declare their own worthiness. One is tithing settlement, another is the temple recommend interview. The third is the sacrament. The blessing on the bread contains the words of the covenant. The blessing on the water gives one the right to assert that one is keeping that covenant. These declarations of personal righteousness (zedek) are made to the bishop, to the stake president, and finally to the Saviour himself. Each is a sacred rite wherein we may exercise the right to judge ourselves and to declare that judgement.