

## **Series "Our Giving" "Grace Giving" 2 Corinthians 8:1-24**

### **What Giving is Not:**

1. An "investing" formula for material goods and/or wealth
  2. "To get something back"
  3. Manipulation, motivated, or coerced by emotional appeals.
  4. Impulse by tradition, customs or ritual.
  5. Out of peer-pressure, "Everyone is doing it!"
  6. When giving is not in accordance to your prospering.
  7. "Removing" guilt (thus the term "guilt-money")
- 1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 8-9 Are passages dealing with the giving of an offering to the saints at Jerusalem.

### **We will look at 10 Principles of Grace Giving:**

#### **1. Verse – 1 Our Giving Demonstrates God's Grace:**

- 2 Cor 8:1

**Grace** – The word means **"give, to give abundantly, to give with no expectation of anything in return."**

- 2 Cor 8:6-9
- 2 Cor 8:19

#### **2. Verse – 2 Our Giving Is In Spite Of Circumstances:**

- 2 Cor 8:2

that in a great ordeal of affliction "Being placed under great pressure, to determine worth" Here Paul describes believers that are suffering themselves.

their abundance of joy That they were being tested and refined and there was joy not just joy but an abundance of joy.

and their deep poverty overflowed in the wealth of their liberality. Notice that they were not only wanting but really in want. **Even though they were hurting they were overflowing in generosity. deep poverty – "Destitute"**

They were giving in spite of circumstances!

**Liberality** – “give with the single-minded purpose to glorify God, uncalculating and free from ulterior motives”

### **3. Verses – 3-4 Our Giving Is To Be Willing And Enthusiastic:**

- 2 Cor 8:3

**They gave Proportionately:** For I testify that according to their ability,

**Gave Sacrificially:** and beyond their ability That this speaks about giving sacrificially to God.

- 2 Sam 24:24

**Gave Willingly:** they gave of their own accord, “according to their own choosing”

- 2 Cor. 9:7

- 2 Cor 8:4

**Begging To Give:** begging us with much entreaty for the favor of participation

Tabernacle of Moses Building Project: • Ex 36:5-7

### **4. Verses – 5-6 Our Giving Is A Result Of The Giver:**

- 2 Cor 8:5

Acts 5 Ananias, with his wife Sapphira

- 2 Cor 8:6

### **5. Verse – 7 Our Giving Is Evidence Of Spiritual Maturity:**

- 2 Cor 8:7

But just as you abound in everything, These believers had blessed lives. Spiritual endowments.

**in faith “trusting God for great things”**

**and utterance** “speaking forth the Word, forth-telling”

**and knowledge** “ understanding of the revealed truth, doctrine and practice”

**and in all earnestness** “zeal to do God’s will”

**and in the love we inspired in you,** “loving in spite of difficulty”

see that you abound in this gracious work also. They were abounding knowledge, diligent, love but that you would also be a giver.

- Romans 12:8

#### **6. Verse – 8 Our Giving Demonstrates Our Love:**

- 2 Cor 8:8

**“We can give without Loving, but we cannot Love without giving!”**

- John 3:16

#### **7. Verse – 9 Our Giving Authenticates Our Son ship:**

- 2 Cor 8:9
- Romans 8:32

#### **8. Verses – 10-12 Our Giving In Promise Mean Performance:**

- 2 Cor 8:10

**That when we give to God it does several things:**

1. When we give to God we are honoring our commitment
2. When we give we becoming extensions or channels of God

**There are 3 things that we can use to invest in eternity:**

1. Our Time

2. Our Talents, Gifts and Abilities

3. Resources

- 2 Cor 8:11

Our giving should be manifested in willingness: that just as there was the readiness to desire it,

- 2 Cor 8:12

### **9. Verses – 13-15 Our Giving Brings Balance To Our Stewardship:**

- 2 Cor 8:13

**Those that have an abundance of resources, have been given a responsibility!** 1 Tim 6:6-10; 17-19 God has blessed in order to bless others!

- 2 Cor 8:14-15

- Exodus 16:16-21

### **10. Verses – 16-24 Our Giving Should Be Done With Integrity:**

- 2 Cor 8:16

But thanks be to God, Paul was thanking God for His working in the hearts.

**1. Handling of God's Resources should be by those who love God's People** (16-17): who puts the same earnestness on your behalf in the heart of Titus.

- 2 Cor 8:17-18

**2. Have a Burden For Lost Souls, Evangelism** (18): whose fame in The things of the gospel

- 2 Cor 8:19

**3. A Desire to Honor God** (19): which is being administered by us for the glory of the Lord Himself, and to show our readiness,

- 2 Cor 8:20-21

**4. A Reputation For Honesty** (20-22): sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

- 2 Cor 8:22-23

**5. Our Giving involves partnership in unity** (23-24): he is my Partner and fellow worker among you

- 2 Cor 8:24

**Application:**

**God's Standards In Giving:**

1. Regeneration - You must be "Born-Again!" A personal relationship with God.
2. Understand the Principles and Standards of Giving - 2 Cor. 8
3. "No strings attached" - giving without a hidden agenda - Matthew 6:2
4. Giving is something we are, not something we do.

**Failure To Not Honor God Thru Our Giving:**

1. We rob God! - Malachi 3
2. Forfeit the blessings promised in Malachi 3:10
3. Contradiction - To claim to have experienced the Grace of God in forgiveness and yet to be ungracious is a contradiction of New Testament truth, "Freely you have received, freely give". Matthew 10:8
4. Suspended Growth - Failure to thrive to Christian maturity.
5. The Sin of Forgetfulness - Deuteronomy 8:11-20