

Romans 15:27-29

The Duty to Give

1. 15:27 – It Pleased Them

- a. Why do these grace believers give to saints in Jerusalem? The faith Paul teaches. (Gal 1:23)
- b. *"It hath pleased them..."* - This is grace doctrine working in the saints to give.
- c. A pattern of working to have to give - 2 Thess 3:6-14, Eph 4:28
- d. A responsibility for yourself and your own family - 1 Tim 5:4, 8
- e. To protect and adorn the doctrine - 1 Tim 6:1, Titus 2:10
- f. *"not grudgingly or of necessity"* - There is not a law (tithe, unwilling, pressured) 2 Cor 9:7
- g. *"it is more blessed to give than to receive"* - said Jesus to Paul - Acts 20:35

2. The Duty to Give

- a. Never preaching our duty to give, is just as bad as doing it weekly and twice in tax season.
- b. *"their debtors they are"* - Where does their duty come from? A: the grace given to Paul.
- c. *"their duty..."* - A duty can come from a law, or it can come from nature, virtue, grace.
 - i. If you benefit freely, something is owed, honor, gratitude; a duty - Rom 1:19-21
- d. To God – to serve him, glorify him, in holiness and righteousness - 1 Cor 6:19-20, Rom 6:17
- e. To higher powers: as to the highest power – Rom 13:7-8
- f. To marriage: due benevolence 1 Cor 7:3-4, family duties - Eph 5:33-6:4
- g. To Christ by love not law: *"the love of Christ constraineth"* - Gal 2:20, 2 Cor 5:14-15, 19-20
 - i. Grace giving is in the motive - 2Cor 12:14-15, 9:7
 - ii. Grace giving aligns your heart and purpose with God's (like prayer) - 2 Cor 9:8,14-15
- h. To the poor saints in Jerusalem: *"partakers of their spiritual things"*
 - i. To the believing remnant there, not unbelieving Jews/Israel (except their salvation)
 - ii. 1st - You have a Bible written by Jewish saints - Rom 3:1-2
 - iii. 2nd - Christ (Messiah) was theirs, the remnant died for him first - Rom 9:5, 1Th 2:14
 - iv. 3rd - Hope: salvation, forgiveness, faith, resurrection - Jn 4:22, 1Co 15:11, Ro 11:11
 - v. The grace given to all through Paul was a result of Israel's fall = they had it first.
 - vi. 4th - The Holy Ghost - they received in Rom 15:8, Gentiles receive in Rom 15:16
 - vii. What Gentiles partake from remnant, does not include things kept secret (mystery)
 - viii. 5th - They were in Christ, too – brothers according to the mystery → Eph 1:9-10
 - ix. Remnant saints helped Paul: Barny, John M, Silas, Junia, Peter-Acts11:27,13:1,15:23
- i. To ministers of the spirit, they should reap carnal things - Gal 6:6, 1Tim 5:17, 1Cor 9:1-14
 - i. Benefitting spiritually means there is understanding, growth, fruit (not any work)
- j. Paul's pattern was not to claim that power, so as to see a greater return - 1 Cor 9:15-19
 - i. The duty remained, even though Paul did not demand it - Phm 6-9, 14, 17-19
 - ii. Paul ministered his own necessities, and others, but also received gifts gladly.

3. 15:28-29 – Fruit and Blessing

- a. *"I have sealed this fruit"* - Paul saw gifts as fruit abounding to their account - Phi 4:14-18
- b. *"I am sure that..."* - 3 'sure' things in Romans 1) 2:2; 2) 4:16, 3) the blessing of the gospel
- c. *"when I come"* - When he comes to Rome, he comes in the full blessing of the gospel.
- d. *"fulness of the blessing"* ...to finish his course with joy in Acts 20:24, Col 1:11, Phi 1:25,2:16
 - i. Rome (center of the world) was as antichrist and need of salvation as Jerusalem.
- e. *"gospel of Christ"* - Not to be ashamed of nor suffer its perversion - Rom 1:16, Gal 1:7
- f. God had the ability to stablish them according to what Paul wrote - Rom 16:25