

THE GRACE OF GIVING

2 Corinthians 8:1-9

I. THE EXAMPLE OF HUMAN GIVING

8:1) Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia

It Was Sacrificial

(8:1-2)² that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.

It Was Spontaneous Giving

(vs. 3-4) ³ For I bear witness that according to *their* ability, yes, and beyond *their* ability, *they were* freely willing, ⁴ imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

It Was Spiritual Giving

(8:5) ⁵ And not *only* as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and *then* to us by the will of God.

(Matt. 6:3-4) ³ But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

2 Cor. 9:7; ⁷ So let each one *give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

(8:5) ⁵ Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which *you had* previously promised, that it may be ready as *a matter of* generosity and not as a grudging obligation.

II. THE EXAMPLE OF DIVINE GIVING

(8:9)⁹ As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."[[]

1. Christ Giving Was Sacrificial

“...offered Himself without spot to God...”
(Heb. 9:14).

(1 Tim. 3:16)¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory

