

The Grace of Giving 2 Corinthians 8:6-15

Corinthian Problems:

-Division. -Followers of man. -Worldly wisdom focused. -Some exceedingly sinful. -Prideful, self-promoting. -Unloving.

Corinthians Previous Promise Of Giving "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: 2 On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come." 1 Corinthains 16:1-2 NKJV



Why The Gift Believers In Jerusalem?

-They were taking care of many widows -The brethren were being cheated and persecuted in Jerusalem. (Acts 6:1-4, 11:28-30; James 5:1-6)

- -There was a famine predicted or happening



"1 Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: 2 that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality." 2 Corinthains 8:1-2 NKJV



"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." 2 Corinthains 8:3-4 NKJV



"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. 6 So we urged Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also complete this grace in you as well. 7 But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also." 2 Corinthains 8:5-7 NKJV

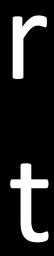
"8 I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich." 2 Corinthains 8:8-9 NKJV

"10 And in this I give advice: It is to your advantage not only to be doing what you began and were desiring to do a year ago; 11 but now you also must complete the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have." 2 Corinthains 8:10-11 NKJV



"12 For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have." 2 Corinthains 8:12 NKJV

"13 For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; 14 but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack—that there may be equality." 2 Corinthains 8:13-14 NKJV



"15 As it is written, "He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack."2 Corinthains 8:15 NKJV

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Areas Of Needed Change

-We may be oblivious to the area, or have ignored the Holy Spirit in regards to it. -The areas of change are clearly seen by God, and sometimes seen by others. -The areas revealed are for our growth Christ and our great blessing and God's glory!

"A man who isolates himself seeks his own Proverbs 18:1 NKJV

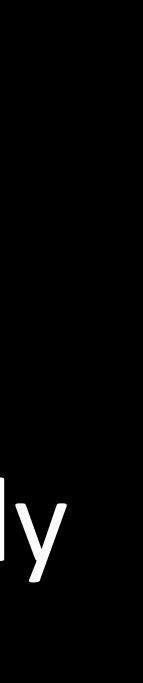
desire; He rages against all wise judgment."

"10 He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. 11 Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?" Luke 16:10-11 NKJV 17

"12 And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? 13 "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." Luke 16:12-13 NKJV

"17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." 1 Timothy 6:17-19 NKJV





"10 And in this I give advice: It is to your advantage not only to be doing what you began and were desiring to do a year ago; 11 but now you also must complete the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have." 2 Corinthains 8:10-11 NKJV



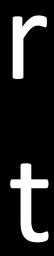
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"16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" 1 John 3:16-17 NKJV

"18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him." 1 John 3:18-19 NKJV

"13 For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened; 14 but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack—that there may be equality." 2 Corinthains 8:13-14 NKJV



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