

THE GRACE OF  
**GIVING**

**2 CORINTHIANS  
8:1-3**

**ELDER DAMON PERCY**



# INTRODUCTION

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# OUR VISION:

To raise up anointed disciple-makers who are empowered to change their world for Christ.

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# 2023 - OUR YEAR OF GREAT GRACE

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# Acts 4:33 (ESV)

And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:1-3 (ESV)

1 We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 2 for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord,

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# Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

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# UNDERSTAND THAT GIVING EXPRESSES LOVE

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# 1 John 3:16 (NLT)

We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:5 (NLT)

They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:9 (NLT)

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:8 (NLT)

I am not commanding you to do this. But I am testing how genuine your love is by comparing it with the eagerness of the other churches.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:24 (NLT)

So show them your love, and prove to all the churches that our boasting about you is justified.

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UNDERSTAND

THAT GOD IS THE SOURCE  
OF EVERYTHING WE HAVE

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# Psalm 24:1 (NLT)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.  
The world and all its people belong to him.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:10a (NLT)

For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:11a (NLT)

Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous.

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# Hebrews 13:5 (NLT)

Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said,  
"I will never fail you.  
I will never abandon you."

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# UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS OF GIVING

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# A. GOD BLESSES US TO BLESS OTHERS

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# 2 Corinthians 9:8 (NLT)

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (NLT)

For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then **produce a great harvest of generosity in you.**

Yes, you will be enriched in every way **so that you can always be generous.** And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

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# Malachi 3:10-12 (NLT)

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! 11 Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not fall from the vine before they are ripe," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. 12 "Then all nations will call you blessed, for your land will be such a delight," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

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# B. GIVING BRINGS JOY

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# 2 Corinthians 9:12 (NLT)

So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:2 (NLT)

They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.

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# C. GIVING GLORIFIES GOD

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# Matthew 5:16 (NLT)

In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:11 (NLT)

Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:12 (NLT)

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# 2 Corinthians 9:13 (NLT)

As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:14 (NLT)

And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you.

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# MAKE ROOM FOR GIVING

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# Leviticus 23:22 (NLT)

“When you harvest the crops of your land, do not harvest the grain along the edges of your fields, and do not pick up what the harvesters drop. Leave it for the poor and the foreigners living among you. I am the Lord your God.”

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# 2 Corinthians 8:11 (NLT)

Now you should finish what you started. Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have.

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# 2 Corinthians 8:12 (NLT)

Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:5 (NLT)

So I thought I should send these brothers ahead of me to make sure the gift you promised is ready. But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given grudgingly.

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# 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

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# CONCLUSION

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