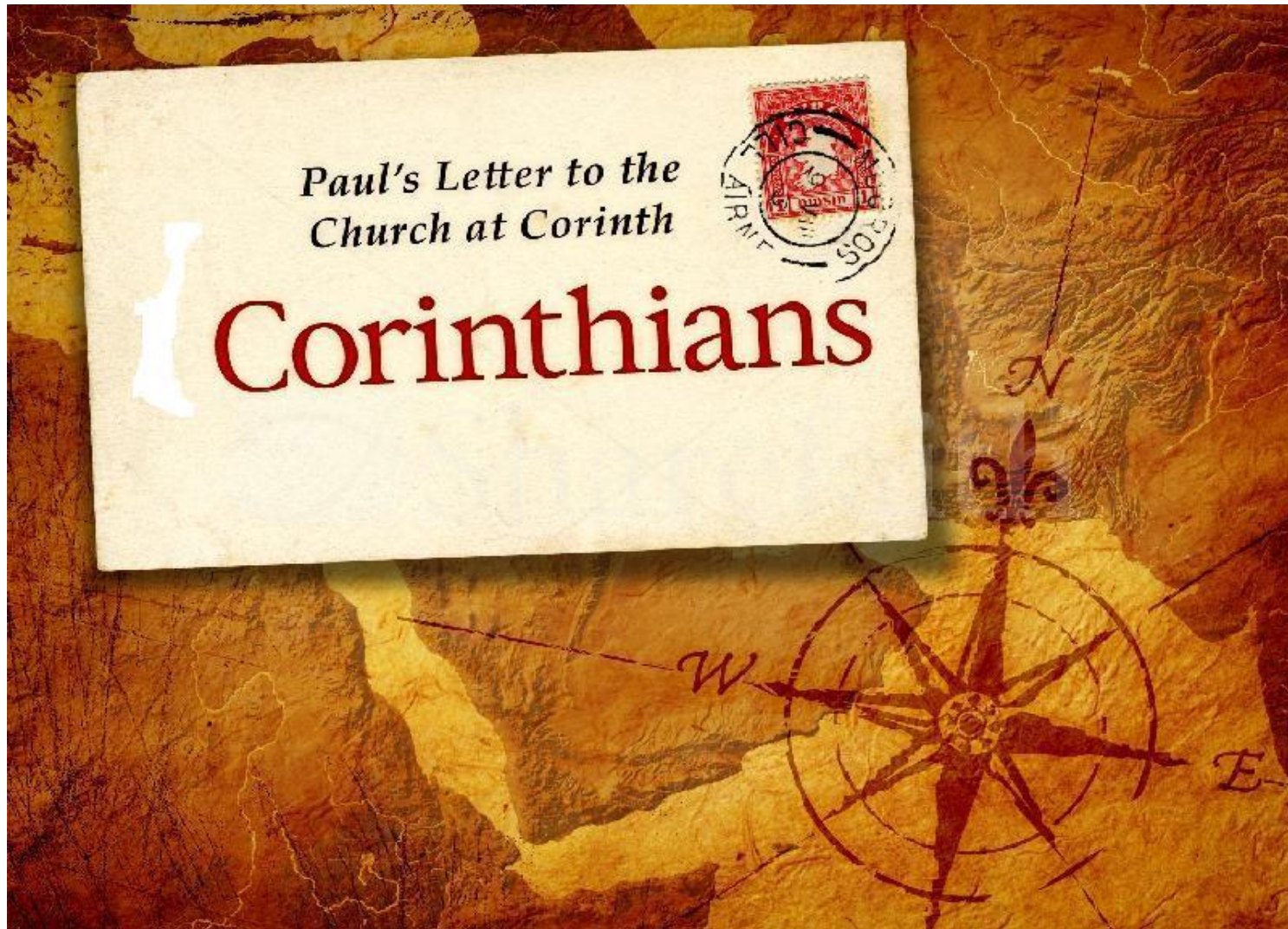




2 Cor 9:7-11 Be a Cheerful Giver, Not a Reluctant One



Outline*



Giving of oneself and financially:

- is out from God's grace - 8:1-6
- is a proof of our love - 8:7-15
- is to the glory of God - 8:16-24
- is called a readiness of mind by Paul - 9:1-6
- is not grudgingly or out of necessity - 9:7-11
- is out from God's grace & sufficiency - 9:12-15



⁶ Now this / say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Now this / say or but this is the point I wish to make*

- Paul will now relate the idea of giving to that of sowing seed by a farmer.
- In this section we are to see our gifts as sowing since God will make promises about the results of these gifts both for us and the recipient.
- What is given is not lost, but, like the seed sown by the farmer, contrary to all appearances, it possesses the potency of life and increase. Hughes via Constable
- Christian giving does not make you poorer but richer.*



⁶ Now this / say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

he [the one] who sows sparingly

sparingly - *pheidoménōs* - not plentifully, moderately in measure, slightly

- The word “sparingly” tells us the way [or manner] in which we are sowing. McCalley
- But the motivation must be gracious and not law based.

will also reap sparingly

- So the reaping will be in like manner to the sowing.
- Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.
- Prov 11:24b there are those who withhold more than is fitting or what is justly due, but it results only in want.



⁶ Now this / say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

the one sowing for [the purpose of] a blessing/bounty [to others]

Interlinear expanded*

- Grace giving looks at the benefit of the receiver and not the giver. Merryman
- In reality it's God's gift through us as conduits.*
- Also God is the only one who can bestow blessing.*

shall also reap with a blessing/bounty

- Acts 20:35b remember the words of the Lord Jesus, ---
“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”
- The idea is that the believer gets great blessing out of sowing. Merryman

Today's Verses



⁷ Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

⁹ as it is written, "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, his righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;

¹¹ you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.



7 Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Each one *must do as he has decided previously in his heart*

Interlinear modified

- *Must do [or give]* has been provided as the main verb of this verse.
- The imperative mood (command) is also understood by the preposition “*me*” = not. Molloy
- **each one** means every single believer-none is excluded
- next we are told how a believer should give:

as he has decided previously - *proaireō* - to choose for yourself, prefer, purpose

- This is the proper motive for giving. McCalley



7 Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

he has decided previously [cont.]

perfect tense – past completed action with abiding results up into the present – a settled state

- What you resolved or preplanned to give is to continually abide [i.e. not vacillating]. Molloy

indicative – it is a reality

middle voice – the subject is intimately involved in the action of giving

in his heart

- in fellowship between you and the Lord Molloy
- Next, we have the improper motive for giving:

7 Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.



not out of grief nor out of necessity

Interlinear

not out of grief - *lypē* - signifies pain or hurt

- lit: not out of grief or sorrow
- Giving is not to be out of grief (if it is, stop giving!)

Merryman

- These are emotions that come from within (i.e. the old man). Molloy

or out of necessity - *anankē* - a necessity, a must do

- lit. not out of necessity or compulsion
- These are demands that come from without (i.e. someone putting the law on you)

Molloy

for God loves a cheerful [*hilaros*] giver

- Signifies that readiness of mind, that joyousness, which is prompt to do anything.

Vine

v:8-9 God's Grace in the Context of Giving



And God is able

as it is written,
"He scattered abroad,
he gave to the poor,
his righteousness
endures forever."

to make all grace
abound to you,
so that always
having all sufficiency
in everything,
you may have an
abundance for
every good deed;

⁸ And God is able, to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;



God is able [*dynateō* - mighty, powerful] – present tense

- What “God is able” to do is described in v:8 and v:9.
- “God is able” is expressed in many verses:
- Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,
- 2 Tim 1:12b for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.
- Heb 7:25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

⁸ And God is able, to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;



to cause to abound all grace to you

Interlinear

to cause to abound - *perisseuō* - to make to abound,
e.g., to provide a person richly so that he has
an abundance [aorist, active] Vine

all grace to you

- All of His grace is to [eis - into] you as a believer.
- It is a fact that God has taken this action toward you.

so that – with a purpose that

- Now He will tell us the purpose for this abundance of grace in this context.

⁸ And God is able, to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;



always having all sufficiency in everything

sufficiency - *autárkeia* - sufficiency with oneself [a satisfied mind or disposition]

- This is His sufficiency not ours!
- Phil 4:11 Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.
- 2 Cor 3:5 Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God.
- This sufficiency is in our Christian giving.

⁸ And God is able, to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;



you may have an abundance

- He has made us to abound [8a] so that we now have an abundance [v8b] – present tense!
- We always need to remember that God is the One from whom everything we have comes. Constable
- We have an abundance because of His abundance.

Pool/Molloy

for every good deed

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

⁹ [God is able] as it is written, "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, his righteousness endures forever."



- Ps 112:9 supports Paul's point that God will provide grace (divine enablement) to givers. Constable
- Quote from Ps 112:9 – speaking about the actions of a righteous man

He scattered abroad,

- this is like the one from v:6 who sows bountifully Merryman

he gave to the poor,

- the giving of the necessity of life [i.e. sees his brother in need 1 John 3:17]

his righteousness endures forever.

- Phil 1:11 having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

¹⁰ Now the one supplying seed to the one sowing both will supply bread for food and will multiply the seed of you and will increase the fruits of the righteousness of you



Interlinear

- This verse reinforces v:8 and is a statement of fact in Christian giving.

Merryman

the one [God] supplying seed to the one sowing [believer]

supplying - *epichorēgeō* - to supply fully, abundantly present ten.

- Three aspects of God's provision in Christian giving:

1st - [God] will supply bread for food

- This is literal bread [necessity of life].* – future tense

2nd - [God] will multiply the seed of you

- This is the resource to bless others.* – future tense

* Merryman

¹⁰ Now the one supplying seed to the one sowing both will supply bread for food and will multiply the seed of you and will increase the fruits of the righteousness of you



Interlinear

3rd- [God] **will increase the fruits of the righteousness of you**

fruits - *genēma* - metaphorically, the fruits of righteousness (i.e., of material ministrations to the needy), 2 Cor. 9:10.

- As we walk by the Spirit the fruit of the Spirit is being manifested in our lives [love, joy, peace ---].
- Also we have positionally the very righteousness of Christ:
- Merryman says righteous acts have fruits.
- So God is increasing these fruits for you.
- So what do these fruits look like.

11 you will be enriched in everything for all liberality,
which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.



[you] being enriched in everything to all generosity Interlinear

being enriched - *ploutizō* - in the passive, to be
enriched, richly supply

followed by in everything [*en panti*]

- meaning “in everything” or “in every way”

to all generosity

- 1 Cor 1:4 I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in everything you were enriched in Him, in all speech and all knowledge. [aorist, passive]
- So now the believers have been enriched to all generosity!

¹¹ you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.



which produces through us thanksgiving to God

and [your generosity as it is] administered by us will bring forth thanksgiving to God. Amplified

- As we sow bountifully, thanksgiving will be given to God.
- So our gift results in God being praised, not us!
- This thanksgiving culminates in the last verse of this chapter.
- 2 Cor 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Final Thoughts*



- Notice that what God promised is seed for sowing, the opportunities and resources to make further investments of good works.
- He did not promise wealth for our own consumption.
- "In everything" implies that God may give generous Christians more material resources that they can pass on to others.
- However, we should remember that the context is primarily dealing with righteousness that comes back to the person who sows righteous acts, not Rolls Royces and Rolex watches.

* Constable

