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2 Corinthians 9
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By Dan Maines

2 Corinthians 9

2 Corinthians 9:1-2

For it is superfluous for me to write to you about this ministry to the saints, for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the Macedonians, namely, that Achaia has been prepared since last year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them.

- † Paul acknowledges the Corinthians' eagerness to give.
- † Their zeal became an example that stirred other churches.
- † Clement of Rome (1 Clement 2) praised the Corinthians' early

reputation for zeal and generosity.

2 Corinthians 9:3-4

But I have sent the brothers, in order that our boasting about you may not prove empty in this case, so that, as I was saying, you will be prepared, otherwise, if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we, not to speak of you, would be put to shame by this confidence.

† Paul sent others ahead to ensure the Corinthians' gift was ready.

† Preparation avoids embarrassment and proves sincerity.

2 Corinthians 9:5

So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers that they would go on ahead to you and arrange in advance your previously promised generous gift, that the same would be ready as a generous gift, and not as one grudgingly given due to greediness.

† Paul wanted their giving to be cheerful and generous, not reluctant.

† True generosity flows from love, not compulsion.

2 Corinthians 9:6

Now I say this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows generously will also reap generously.

† Giving is like sowing seed, the harvest reflects the measure sown.

† This principle echoes Proverbs 11:24, "There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more."

2 Corinthians 9:7

Each one must do just as he has decided in his heart, not

reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

† The heart determines the value of the gift.

† Cheerful giving reflects trust in God's provision.

2 Corinthians 9:8

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

† God's grace enables believers to give abundantly.

† Generosity never depletes because God replenishes.

2 Corinthians 9:9

As it is written: "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His righteousness endures forever."

† Paul quotes Psalm 112:9 to show that generosity reflects enduring righteousness.

† The righteous are marked by generosity.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

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

† God is the source of both seed and harvest, both gift and result.

† Giving multiplies thanksgiving to God, not just material blessing.

† Origen (On Prayer 29) explained that God provides resources so believers can abound in good works.

2 Corinthians 9:12-13

For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying the

needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God. Because of the proof given by this ministry, they will glorify God for your obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all.

- † Giving meets needs and glorifies God through thanksgiving.
- † Generosity confirms the sincerity of the gospel confession.

2 Corinthians 9:14-15

While they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

- † Giving produces unity, love, and prayer among believers.
- † Paul concludes with praise for God's gift, Christ Himself.
- † Athanasius (On the Incarnation 54) called Christ the unspeakable gift of God to the world.

How it applies to us today

- † 2 Corinthians 9 reminds us that giving is sowing seed for eternal fruit.
- † Cheerful, willing giving reflects God's generosity toward us.
- † God provides both the seed and the harvest, enabling believers to abound in good works.
- † The greatest gift is Christ Himself, the foundation of all generosity.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

- † Clement of Rome, 1 Clement 2 - Corinthians' reputation for zeal and generosity
- † Proverbs 11:24 - principle of scattering and increase
- † Psalm 112:9 - righteousness expressed through generosity
- † Origen, On Prayer 29 - God provides resources for good

works

† Athanasius, On the Incarnation 54 - Christ as God's
unspeakable gift

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