



LIGHT  
OF THE GOSPEL

# GOSPEL-FORMED GENEROSITY

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

***We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 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. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints — and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. But as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you — see that you excel in this act of grace also.***

***— vv 1-7***

***Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.***

***– 1 Corinthians 16:1-4***

*We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, 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. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints — and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. But as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you — see that you excel in this act of grace also.*

*— vv 1-7*

**“Something had happened in the hearts of these people that runs counter to all common sense and cross grain to every fleshly impulse of self-preservation. It is as if the fast-flowing current in their souls had not simply been diverted but reversed. Something suprahuman had inverted their values, turning their thinking on its head and their behavior topsy-turvy.”**

**— Sam Storms**

*And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do the work but also to desire to do it. So now finish doing it as well, so that your readiness in desiring it may be matched by your completing it out of what you have. For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. For I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness, your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, and there may be fairness. As it is written, "Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack."*

*— vv 10-15*

***I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.***

**— vv 8-9**

*But God shows  
his love for us in  
that while we  
were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.*

*— Romans 5:8*

*For Christ also suffered once  
for sins, the righteous for  
the unrighteousness, that he  
might bring us to God*

*— 1 Peter 3:18*

***I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.***

**— vv 8-9**

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.***


*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.*

***In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.***

***— Ephesians 1:3-14***

➤ **“By grace, the little man had become immense. Acceptance by God had given the tax collector what he had vainly sought in the accumulation of wealth — wholeness and satisfaction. He went in mastered by the passion to get; he left mastered by the passion to give. Something had happened inside that house with Jesus.”**

**— Kent Hughes**



**“Grace comes down, joy rises up, and generosity flows out.”**

**— John Piper**

**ACTS 29**  
**(COVID-19 RELIEF, CHURCH IN HARD PLACES, RURAL COLLECTIVE)**

**CROSSPOINTE BENEVOLENCE FUND**

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**  
**(WHICH SUPPORT CHURCH PLANTS IN NEED)**

**DIRECT CARE AND PROVISION**  
**FOR THOSE WE KNOW HAVE NEEDS AROUND US**



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