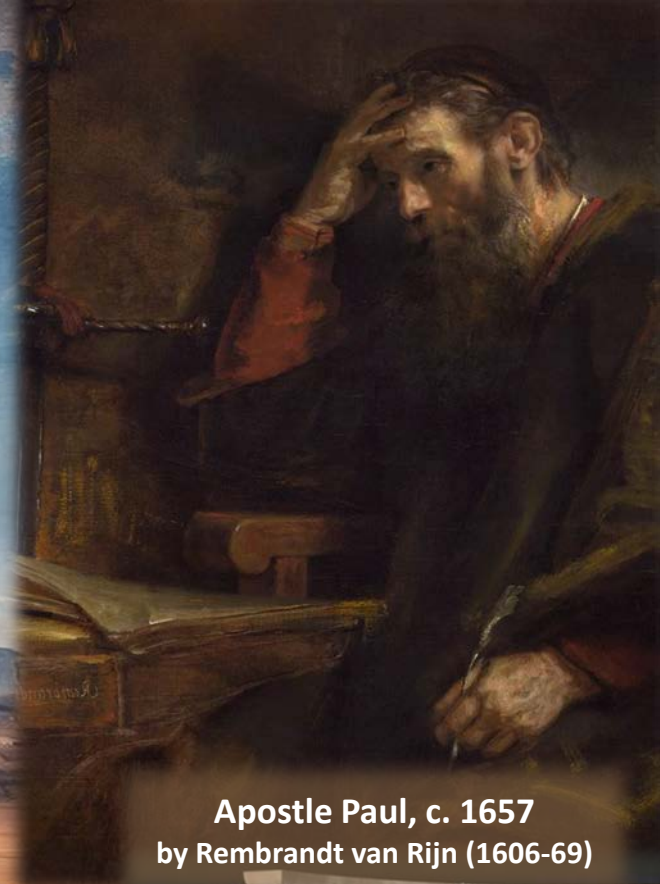


May 20 – Becoming New – 2 Corinthians 9

# Give and be Blessed

Corinth with Acrocorinth, 1847  
by Carl Anton Joseph Rottmann



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
by Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



FBC Woodville  
Sunday School Class  
Michael G. Maness  
see  
[PreciousHeart.net/SS](http://PreciousHeart.net/SS)



## 1 Corinthians

*chapter*

## from Ephesus

- |           |  |      |                              |
|-----------|--|------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mar 4  | United in Christ                       | 1    | No Divisions – Wisdom of God |
| 2. Mar 11 | Glorifying God                         | 6    | Bought with a Price          |
| 3. Mar 18 | Keeping Commitments                    | 7    | Marriage for Life in Love    |
| 5. Mar 25 | Influencing for Christ                 | 9-10 | All Things to All People     |
| 6. Apr 1  | Easter Sunday – Sunrise Easter Service |      |                              |
| 7. Apr 8  | Remembering the Sacrifice              | 11   | Examine Oneself              |
| 8. Apr 15 | Serving God's People                   | 12   | Gifts of Same Spirit & Lord  |
| 8. Apr 22 | Understanding Love                     | 13   | Greatest of These Is LOVE    |

## 2 Corinthians

*chapter*

## from Macedonia

- |              |                        |       |                             |
|--------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 9. Apr 29    | Enjoying God's Comfort | 1     | Afflicted for Your Comfort  |
| 10. May 6    | Displaying the Gospel  | 4     | Light Shone in Our Hearts   |
| 11. May 13   | Becoming New           | 5-6   | In Christ – a New Creation  |
| ★ 12. May 20 | Giving Faithfully      | 9     | Ministry to the Saints      |
| 13. May 27   | Finding Strength       | 12-13 | When Weak, then I Am Strong |





## Theme

**Believers show trust in God by using their resources to meet the needs of others.**

**8:1-24 Paul Commends Macedonians & Titus**

**9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance**

**9:6-11 Benefits Found – Sow Accordingly ... Seed to Sower**

**9:12-15 Adoration Gained – Generosity a Witness**



**Key Verse #1 – 2 Cor. 9:15**

**Thanks be to God  
for his  
indescribable gift!**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)c





Charles H. Spurgeon reflected on our dismal  
destiny had NOT God given His Son—*The Gift*

brightest saints in heaven,  
upon whom the eternal light  
has risen never to set,

would have been now  
in the outer darkness,  
weeping and wailing  
and gnashing their teeth,

if it had not been for  
this unspeakable gift.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
(1834-92)



The distance between the  
depth unfathomable of  
deserved woe and the  
height unutterable of infinite  
grace & glory an angel's  
wing cannot measure;  
hence it will always be  
impossible to tell the  
height and depth of this  
unspeakable gift.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
(1834-92)





## Key Verse #2 – 2 Cor. 9:8

**God is able to bless you  
abundantly, so that in  
all things at all times,  
having all that you need,  
you will abound in  
every good work.**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)c



**Alternate Title**

# **Give and Be Blessed**





Alternate Title #2



# Generosity Generates Thanks to God



Alternate Title #3

# Kingdom



# Money





# Outline of 2 Corinthians

**You're HERE**

<b>I. Special Greetings</b>	<b>1:1-11</b>
A. Address	1-2
B. Praise & Encouragement	3-7
C. Paul's Trial in Asia	8-11
<b>II. Paul's Ministry</b>	<b>1:12-7:16</b>
A. Paul's Itinerary	1:12-2:13
B. Paul's Message	2:14-5:10
C. Paul's Purpose	5:11-7:16
<b>III. Collection for Needy Christians</b>	<b>8:1-9:15</b>
<b>IV. Case Against False Prophets</b>	<b>10:1-13:10</b>
<b>V. Final Greetings</b>	<b>13:11-13</b>

Sec. 1 - Love

Sec. 2 - Quacks



I. Special Greetings	1:1-11
II. Paul's Ministry	1:12-7:16
III. Collection for Needy Christians	8:1-9:15
A. Commending Macedonians	8:1-6
B. Appeal to Corinthians' Earnestness	8:7-15
C. Mission of Titus	8:16-24
D. Commending Achaia	9:1-5
E. Collection & Unity of Church	9:6-15
IV. Case Against False Prophets	10:1-13:10
A. Paul's Self-Vindication	10:1-11
B. Issue of Paul's Ministry	10:12-18
C. Emissaries Identified & Opposed	11:1-15
D. Paul's Fool's Story	11:16-12:10
1. Boasting: True & False	11:16-21a
2. Paul's Trials	11:21b-33
3. Paul's Ecstasy & Its Evaluation	12:1-10
E. Paul's Apostolate Justified	12:11-18
F. Warnings & Third Visit Promised	12:19-13:10
V. Final Greetings	13:11-13

**You're  
HERE**





# Roman Provinces




Senatorial Provinces older  
appointed by Senate

Imperial Provinces  
appointed by Emperor

**Achaia an old Senatorial Province**



The Roman Empire in 117 AD

-  Senatorial provinces
-  Imperial provinces
-  Client states



**Paul is writing from Macedonia  
About 200 miles from Corinth**



# Corinth – Capital of Roman Province of Achaia

Satellite showing canal

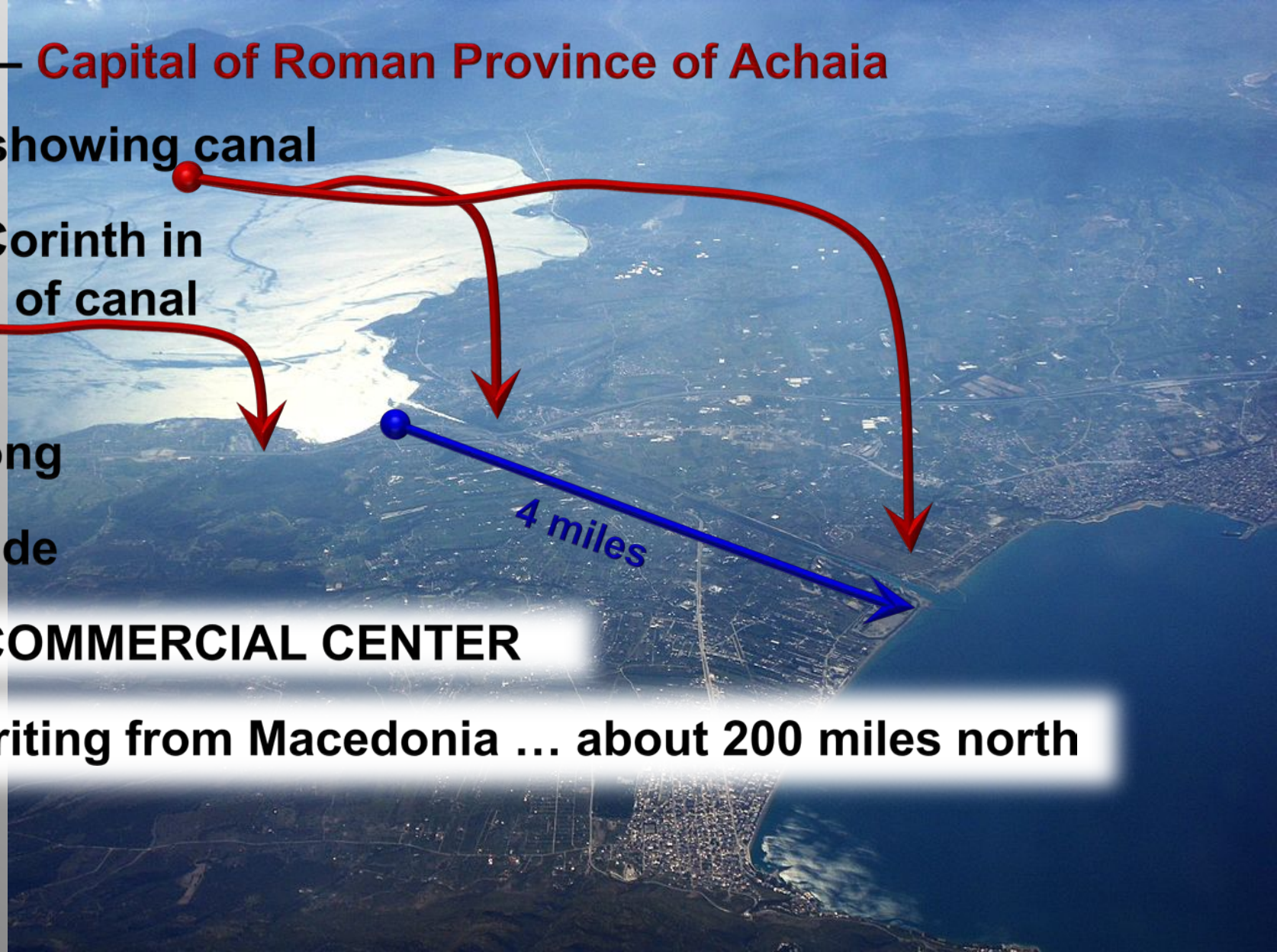
Ancient Corinth in  
west side of canal

Canal  
4 miles long

70 feet wide

**MAJOR COMMERCIAL CENTER**

Paul is writing from Macedonia ... about 200 miles north





## Chapter 8 opens Commending

- A. Commending Macedonians 8:1–6  
<sup>5</sup> they exceeded our expectations ...
- B. Appeal to Corinthians' Earnestness 8:7-15  
<sup>10</sup> Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the DESIRE to do so.
- C. Mission of Titus ... *Enthusiastic* 8:16–24  
<sup>21</sup> pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.
- D. Commending Corinthians 9:1–5
- E. Collection & Unity of Church 9:6–15



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)

**You're  
HERE**



## **9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance**

**After Chapter 8 ... comparing the POOR of Macedonia ... Paul commends the Corinthians**

**And ... listen to THIS ... of all the TROUBLES  
MONEY & Generosity was NOT their problem!**

**God Blesses some ... Blessed Corinth**

**<sup>1</sup> There is no need for me to write to you  
about this service to the Lord's people.**

**Yet ... Paul wrote chapter 8 ...**

**Praise People for the Good They Do**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





## 9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance

<sup>2</sup> For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most ... to action.

Corinthians are an example of generosity to

**All of Achaia**

**What is FBC Known  
for in Tyler County?**

and **YOU?**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)

Senatorial  
Province



## 9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance

Then a seemingly striking statement

<sup>3</sup> But I am sending the brothers  
in order that our boasting about you  
in this matter should not prove hollow,  
but that you may be ready,  
as I said you would be.

What does this say about Paul's relationship with them?

Remember, this is the 4th letter, following a severe letter.

Remember, Paul is asking for help for Macedonia.

**What about his RELATIONS with Corinth?**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





## 9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance

Corinthian church **MUST** be ready!

<sup>4</sup> For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we—not to say anything about you—would be ashamed of having been so confident.

<sup>5</sup> So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in *ADVANCE* and finish the arrangements for the generous *GIFT YOU HAD PROMISED*.

Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

**You know ... there are churches w MEANS**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



In the 1980s, First Baptist,  
Dallas built a parking garage ...

I was a student at the  
Criswell College at the time

To help raise funds (*I was told*)

Parking Spaces offered @ \$10,000 ea.

Manhattan Construction just finished  
FBC Dallas' new \$130-million  
campus connecting all

With another larger parking facility  
near by ... very, very nice!

**Downtown Dallas**

[www.manhattanconstructiongroup.com/manhattan-construction-group/2012/04/30/first-baptist-dallas-unveils-new-horner-parking-garage](http://www.manhattanconstructiongroup.com/manhattan-construction-group/2012/04/30/first-baptist-dallas-unveils-new-horner-parking-garage)





# First Baptist Church Dallas

178,000-square-foot Worship Center  
with 2,780 seats

98,513-square-foot Education Building

- ✓ 60 new classrooms
- ✓ Six nurseries
- ✓ 6,500-square-foot gymnasium

FBC Dallas has come a long way from  
1868 & 11 charter members meeting  
on the first floor of the Masonic Hall

What did Paul do in the Corinth Church?

How did Paul MERIT such respect?



# FBC Gives to New Bethel Baptist Association & SBC



**Southern Baptist Convention**  
Reaching the world for Christ

**imb**  
connecting

**International Mission Board**  
[www.UMB.org](http://www.UMB.org)

**SBC - 46,000 Churches - [www.SBC.net](http://www.SBC.net)**



*NORTH AMERICAN  
MISSION BOARD*

Field personnel appointments 11-8-15	4,707
Career/apprentices	4,098
Overseas baptisms 2013	190,957
Overseas churches 2013	38,989
Overseas church membership 2013	720,951
New churches 2013	13,824
People groups engaged by IMB personnel	949
Unreached People Groups not Engaged	3,201
LMCO goal for Christmas 2015	\$175m
IMB budget for 2016	\$278.8m
World Hunger/General Relief 2014 receipts	\$6.5m

- 2014 - 985 church plants
- 579 (59%) non-Anglo
- 1 SBC congregation for every 6,282 people
- Canada 1 Canadian National Baptist Convention (CNBC) congregation for every 112,115 people
- NAMB wants 15,000 churches added to the SBC during the period 2012-2022.

[www.NAMB.net](http://www.NAMB.net)

1657  
(1606-69)



# FBC Gives to New Bethel Baptist Association & SBC



Southern Baptist Convention  
Reaching the world for Christ

[www.SBC.net](http://www.SBC.net)

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## COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

### The Heart of Southern Baptist Missions and Ministries



#### **73.20% World Missions Ministries**

International Mission Board (50.41%)

North American Mission Board (22.79%)

#### **22.16% Theological Education Ministries**

Seminaries (21.92%)

Library and Archives (.24%)

#### **2.99% Executive Committee and SBC Operating Budget**

#### **1.65% Christian Ethics and Religious Liberty Ministries**

Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission



## 9:1-5 Confidence Expressed – Prepare Gift in Advance

Corinthian church **MUST** be ready!

<sup>5</sup> So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers  
to visit you in *ADVANCE* ...  
for the generous *GIFT YOU HAD PROMISED*.  
Then it will be ready as a generous gift,  
not as one grudgingly given.

There are many **UNSAID** implications

**WHAT** did Paul do in Corinth?

**What GREAT LOVE to merit such a CONFIDENCE**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



**9:1-5 Confidence Expressed** – Prepare Gift in Advance  
To grapple w his GREAT Confidence ... remember  
FOUR Letters written during Paul's 3rd Journey

1. ~~Lost Letter~~ in 1 Cor. 5:9

2. 1 Corinthians

**1 & 2 Ephesus**

3. **Lost Severe Letter** in 2 Cor. 2:4, 7:8-9

4. 2 Corinthians

**3 & 4 Macedonia**

Remember they did NOT pay attention 1 & 2

**LOST SEVERE Letter ... STUNG ... they Repent**

So Paul is NICE in 1 Cor. 1-9 ...

**Chapters 8-9 Paul ASKS, EXPECTS a Generous Gift!**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





## 9:6-11 Benefits Found – Sow Accordingly ...

Notice ... **THREE** reasons to give generously

1. Sow Cheap ... Reap Cheap
2. God's Gives to Generous the **MEANS** to Give
3. Generous Giving Brings Thanks to God

From this passage a Modern Heresy connects

Prosperity Gospel = **Give & Get Rich Scheme**

Crookedness of that heresy is that it appeals

**Mostly to the Poor**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



## 9:6-11 Benefits Found – Sow Accordingly ...

Paul's address ... is to those already HAVE means

**1.** <sup>6</sup> Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly  
will also reap sparingly,

Sow Cheap  
Reap Cheap

and

whoever sows generously  
will also reap generously.

<sup>7</sup> Each of you should give what you have decided

in your HEART to give,

not reluctantly or under compulsion,

for God loves a cheerful giver.



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





Confidence to Encouragement to Promise to  
2nd Reason to be Generous is God's Blessing

God Gives  
MEANS  
to Give

**2.** <sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly,  
so that in all things at all times,  
having all that you need,  
you will abound in every good work.

<sup>9</sup> As it is written [in Psalm 122:9]:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever.”

**Warning, Warning, Warning ... DO NOT OVER-Spiritualize**

**These verses APPLY to Physical NEEDS**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



2nd Reason to be Generous is God's Blessing  
*yet that HARDLY captures the verse's beauty*

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly,  
so that in all things at all times,  
having all that you need,  
you will abound in every good work.

Warning ... DO NOT OVER-Spiritualize

This applies to the Physical NEEDS of **GIVER**

Physical Needs of the **GENEROUS**

“Having all that you need” in KJV is translated  
having all sufficiency in all things





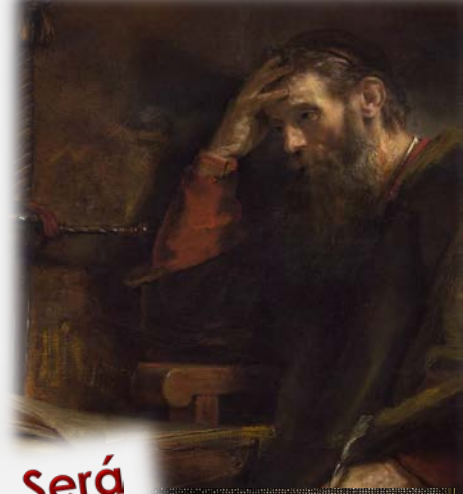
In using the word translated **“all sufficiency”**  
Paul taps a common term of Stoic philosophers  
One Stoic saying, “Virtue is sufficient for happiness”

- ✓ Stoics avoided excesses of all kinds ...
- ✓ Popular with **Educated Elite** ...
- ✓ Deterministic – **whatever will be, will be**
- ✓ They were known for their **“Stoic Calm”**

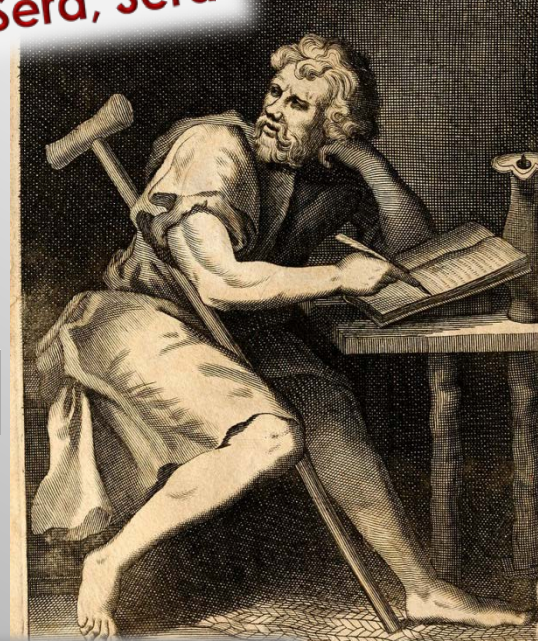
Stoic Philosopher Epictetus (A.D. 50-135) kicked out of Rome w philosophers by Domitian c. 93

Went to Greece ... founded a school ... said:

**“sick and yet happy, in peril and yet happy,  
dying and yet happy, in exile and happy,  
in disgrace and happy”**



**Que Será, Será**



Epictetus (A.D. 50-135)  
by Sonnem, 1715

ἐπιχρῆσται ἀνέμους,  
ὅς αὐτὰ τοῖς.  
MB fecit

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly,  
so that in all things at all times,  
having all that you need,  
you will abound in every good work.

“Stoic Calm”—philosophy of select elite in Corinth  
that avoided excesses puts a perspective on  
the KJV translation:

having all sufficiency in all things

Greek scholar Alfred Plummer (1841-1926) said,

This does not mean ... refusal of blessings of civilization....  
[*it means*] less a man requires for himself, the greater  
means he will have for relieving the wants of others.



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





**“God’s Blessing” as the 2nd Reason to Give**

**Now leads into the 3rd Reason to give Generously**

**<sup>10</sup> Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)

**3. <sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in THANKSGIVING TO GOD.**

**Giving  
Gets God  
THANKS**

**As if that was not enough, Paul rephrases**



**9:12-15 Adoration Gained – Generosity a Witness**

As if Paul added, “*in other words*” ...

Or if Paul prefaced, “Here’s TRUTH of THANKS.”

**<sup>12</sup> This service that you perform**

**is not only supplying the needs of  
the Lord’s people but is also**

**overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.**

**Giving with a Good, Jolly Heart  
Yields Thanksgiving from Needy**

**Yet, HIGHEST Thanksgiving Comes when**

**Needy Thank GOD**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





**THREE reasons to give generously *ARE***

- 1. Sow Cheap ... Reap Cheap**
- 2. God's Gives to Generous the MEANS to Give**
- 3. Generous Giving Brings Thanks to God**

**Far away from the Heresy that Scams the Poor**

**Far away from Prosperity Gospel's**

**Give & Get Rich Schemes**



**Paul is appealing to Corinthian Christians WITH MEANS**

**Those Content Christians with Sizable Disposable Incomes**

**Paul Connects Giving to Gospel**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)



**9:12-15 Adoration Gained – Generosity a Witness**

**God Blesses Generous who Share with the Poor  
Yet ... Paul connects a Jolly Gift with**

**<sup>13</sup> Because of the service by which you have  
proved yourselves, others will praise God  
for the obedience that ACCOMPANIES  
your CONFESSION of the gospel of Christ,  
and for your generosity in sharing  
with them and with everyone else.**

**No Guilt Trip ... Not from the Apostle Paul**

**Confession of Christ = Generosity**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





**When Content Corinthian Christians give ...**

**<sup>14</sup> And in their prayers [prayers of recipients] for you  
their hearts will go out to you,  
because of the surpassing grace  
God has given you.**

**<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

**Not the Corinthian's Gifts**

**But the Gift of Christ—Indescribable Gospel**

**“In Christ” Makes Hearts Generous**

**Being Saved – a New Creation**

**You Give from the Heart**



Paul, c. 1657  
Jan Rijn (1606-69)



But first we PROTEST this closing sentence!

<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

INDESCRIBABLE does not ... cannot mean “FULLY”

For of ALL things from Genesis to today ...

We MUST speak of Christ—The Gift—ALL persons

With that PROTEST past ... we know the TRUTH

We can put a value on a house ... on a sack of gold

But the VALUE of Christ ... and God’s LOVE that gave Him

That LOVE is Unsearchable, Eternal

**Indescribable**



Apostle Paul, c. 1657  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-69)





**Yet, this verse has much more bounty for us.**

**<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!**

**Charles H. Spurgeon magnificently connected  
this to the Corinthian Christian generosity**

**The gospel is founded upon giving ...**

**Buying and selling are unknown in spiritual things,  
unless we buy without money and without price.**

**Payment is for the law;  
under the gospel everything is a gift.**

**God gives us Jesus, gives us eternal life,  
Gives us grace and glory, gives us everything, in fact**



Charles H. Spurgeon  
(1834-92)



Then we ... said Spurgeon ...

then moved by love to him WE GIVE  
ourselves back to him and to his people.

As it is the glory of the sun that he gives light  
and heat to our world, so is it God's glory

He gives mercy & peace to the sons of men ...

as the sun is the author of reflected heat ... all the  
more valued because his beams can be reflected,

so is God glorified by that part of his goodness

which we are able to impart to others.



Charles H. Spurgeon  
(1834-92)





**God is glorified in the thanksgiving which is  
excited by the gifts of his people to the poor ...**

**He gives to us, and we thank him;  
we give to others, and they thank God for the  
kindness which he has inspired in us.**

**Thus a round of thanksgiving to God is created  
by the spirit of giving, which first of all displayed  
in the unspeakable Gift of God.**

**We are as cups filled at the spring, and  
from us the thirsty drink and Praise the Fountain.**



**Charles H. Spurgeon  
(1834-92)**

