

CELEBRATE GIVING: BE A CHEERFUL GIVER

November 26, 2023

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. ⁹ As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰ Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, ¹¹ while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. ¹² For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God, ¹³ while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men, ¹⁴ and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (NKJV)

AN OFFERING GIVEN AND PROMISED FOR BELIEVERS IN JERUSALEM FROM BELIEVERS IN CORINTH
THE WHOLE CONTEXT HERE IS ONE OF GREAT JOY

"God loves a cheerful giver."

THIS KIND OF BELIEVER/GIVER HAS JOYOUS EXPECTATIONS 9:6, 10

THE FARMER PLANTS WITH GREAT EXPECTATION

NO GRUDGE NO NECESSITY

IT IS WHAT THE FARMER DOES

I AM SURE THE FARMER WOULD KEEP AN EXPECTANT EYE OUT FOR HIS SEED COMING UP

VERSE 10 GOD SUPPLIES THE SEED

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF WHAT IS PLANTED AND WHAT IS HARVESTED

GOD GIVES THE INCREASE

RESULTING IN THANKSGIVING

APPLICATION—GOD MAKES THE NEED AND THEN MEETS THE NEED

THERE IS ALWAYS A NEED AND A NEED MEETER

MAY THE GIFT RECEIVER BECOME A GIFT GIVER

THIS KIND OF BELIEVER/GIVER HAS A JOYOUS HEART 9:7

THE MOTIVATION FOR GIVING WAS "PURPOSE IN HIS HEART"

GOD HAS BLESSED ME I WANT TO BE USED TO BLESS

²¹ Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. **Exodus 35:21 (NKJV)**

²⁶ And all the women whose heart stirred with wisdom spun yarn of goats' hair. **Exodus 35:26 (NKJV)**

²⁹ The children of Israel brought a freewill offering to the LORD, all the men and women whose hearts were willing to bring material for all kinds of work which the LORD, by the hand of Moses, had commanded to be done. **Exodus 35:29 (NKJV)**

LOOK AT THE OUTCOME OF HAVING PURPOSE IN THEIR HEART

Then Moses called Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, everyone whose heart was stirred, to come and do the work. ³ And they received from Moses all the offering which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of making the sanctuary. So they continued bringing to him freewill offerings every morning. ⁴ Then all the craftsmen who were doing all the work of the sanctuary came, each from the work he was doing, ⁵ and they spoke to Moses, saying, "The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which the LORD commanded us to do." ⁶ So Moses gave a commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman do any more work for the offering of the sanctuary." And the people were restrained from bringing, ⁷ for the material they had was sufficient for all the work to be done--indeed too much. **Exodus 36:2-7 (NKJV)**

THIS KIND OF BELIEVER/GIVER HAS JOYOUS SUFFICIENCY 9:8-15

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV)**

THE "PROOF OF THE MINISTRY" GOD PROVIDES SUFFICIENTLY SO THAT WE MAY PROVIDE
NEED—NEED MEETER
SO THAT ONE DAY THE GIFT-RECEIVER WILL BE THE GIFT-GIVER
BLESSED TO BLESS....SO TO BE BLESSED SO AS TO BLESS....