

Gracious Giving

2 Corinthians 8:1-6

Introduction:

- v. 1. “Now”...a new idea
What Titus would be coming for... “\$”
...to remind them of what they had committed to one year previous (v10) but were in danger of being remiss.

Paul will motivate them by the mentioning of Macedonia’s churches

“the *grace of God* given...” what *inspired* their inspired giving

- v. 2. “affliction...poverty” and yet “Great and deep”
* It was *not* their wealth or convenience in giving.
these are widows and their mites

Because of their “*haplotes*”—“singleness”
this wrought their giving
Something *inspired* them...delighted them

- v. 3. Something making them go above and beyond
There *was no pressure*...only a cause

- v. 4. Paul, *on the contrary*, was “prayed” or “besought” to receive their giving in the “relief” of the saints
Why? What they had in common→*Jesus*
* the love of Christ moved them

- v. 5. What was “unexpected”? their giving? No, they *said* they were going to give. It was their “begging”...their “devotion” or...their “giving of themselves”—above and beyond
* this wasn’t just a pledge card
and Paul was astounded!

- v. 6. ...“complete in You”... They had to finish their commitment.
...“this grace”... and act of love
“complete”? (8:10-11; 9:2)

Conclusion: