

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

NT Survey Lesson 138—2 Corinthians 9

Introduction: Paul continues in this chapter to discuss the collection among the Gentile churches for the needy saints in Jerusalem. He seeks to motivate the Corinthians to complete the gift by reminding them of some important principles of giving.

Lesson aim: To show what principle motivate us to give generously to the Lord's work.

Paul reminds the Corinthians that their zeal stirred up others to participate in the collection for the needy saints in Jerusalem—2 Cor. 9:1-5

1. Did the Corinthians need to be told about the collection for the needy saints? (v. 1) Actually, the Corinthians had stirred up the Christians in what other place to participate?
2. To whom had Paul boasted about the Corinthians' zeal? (v. 2) What did Paul not want to happen? (v. 3) What had Paul purposed to do in order to prevent this from happening? (v. 5)
3. What kind of gift did Paul want the Corinthians to give? (v. 5) This gift would not be affected by what?

Paul sets forth the spiritual principles that would motivate the Corinthians to give generously—2 Cor. 9:6-15

1. With what principle did Paul encourage the Corinthians to be generous? (v. 6) What does this mean?
2. How did Paul encourage each person to give? (v. 7) Why?
3. What truth about God would motivate the giver? (v. 8) What would this grace enable the Corinthians to do?

4. What OT verse does Paul quote to show God's grace and its results? (v. 9) How did Paul apply this principle in v. 10?
5. Was Paul saying that God would make the Corinthians physically rich so that they could give liberally? (v. 11)
6. What would be produced by the gift sent by the Gentile churches to the Jewish Christians? (v. 11)
7. What two things does Paul mention the gift would accomplish? (v. 12)
8. What would this ministry prove about the Gentiles? (v. 13) What would it cause the Jewish Christians to do? (v. 13) For what two things would they glorify God?
9. Verse 13 is a controversial text. Does it teach that the contribution was to be distributed to both saints and sinners? (Be prepared to prove your answer.)
10. The recipients of the gift would do what for their Gentile brothers and sisters? (v. 14)
11. What last word of thanksgiving reminded the Corinthians of the need to be generous? (v. 15)