

Lesson 9

2 Corinthians 9:1-15

- **Questions**

1. What did Paul continue to write about in Chapter 9 (9:1)?
2. What was it about the Corinthians that Paul used to stir up the Macedonians (9:2)?
3. Why did Paul send the brethren (Titus and the two brethren mentioned in 8:16-24) to Corinth and what was he trying to avoid (9:3-4)?
4. What did Paul want the Corinthian contribution to be and not to be (9:5)?
5. What principle of giving did Paul express in 9:6?
6. What additional principles of giving did Paul express in 9:7?
7. What "all" has God given to the generous giver (9:8)?
8. What does the righteous person do (9:9)?
9. What does God promise he will supply the generous giver (9:10-11)?

10. What four things would the Corinthian contribution accomplish (9:11-14)?

11. What did Paul thank God for (9:15)?

• **Digging Deeper**

1. What “ministering” is being talked about here (9:1; see 8:4, 19-20; 9:12-13)?

2. Which English translation better matches the original Greek word in 9:5: covetousness (KJV) and greediness (NASV), or exaction (ESV) and extortion (ASV)?

3. How should giving to the contribution be different from giving to civil government by paying taxes (9:5-7)?

4. What OT scripture did Paul reference in 9:9 and how did he apply it here?

5. What does “unto them and unto all” mean in 9:13? Does this verse authorize local churches to give benevolence to saints and non-saints alike?

6. What is the “unspeakable gift” in the context of Chapters 8-9 (9:15; see 9:7)?

7. What did Paul write in Romans 15:25-28 that lets us know the outcome of the Corinthian contribution? (Paul wrote Romans after he wrote 2 Corinthians and while he was staying three months in Greece as Luke records in Acts 20:2-3.)

8. What are the various principles of giving stated by Paul in Chapter 9? (Add these principles in with your list from Chapter 8.)

• **Applications for Today**

1. When you plan in advance to give, you tend to be more generous; when you give at the last minute, you tend to hold back and be more covetous (9:5-7). What problem concerning giving did James deal with among some wealthy brethren (Jas. 5:1-4)?
2. When you sow a little, you reap a little; when you sow a lot, you reap a lot (9:6). What does Proverbs 11:25 teach about generous giving? What promise did Jesus make concerning generous giving (Lk. 6:38)?
3. God loves a cheerful giver (9:7). What kind of heart does a cheerful giver have (Ex. 25:2; 35:5; 1 Chron. 29:17)?
4. Needy saints are helped and God is glorified when we give generously (9:12-15). Who should brethren be concerned about in addition to the members of their own local church (1Pet. 5:9)?