

15 – AN EXAMPLE OF GENEROSITY (2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-9)

I. The Example of the Macedonians (2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

A. God's Grace to the Macedonians (2 Corinthians 8:1)

- Paul wanted to tell the Corinthians about how grace was being shown to the Macedonians.

B. The Condition of the Macedonians (2 Corinthians 8:2)

- The Macedonians were facing extreme difficulties such as affliction and poverty.
- Paul points out that in spite of their condition they had joy.
- The Macedonians also abounded in riches because of their liberality.

C. Paul's Testimony of Their Giving (2 Corinthians 8:3-4)

1. Their Ability and Attitude (2 Corinthians 8:3)

- Paul states that they freely gave beyond their ability and resources.

2. Their Determination (2 Corinthians 8:4)

- The Macedonians urged Paul to take their gift.
- They wanted to be a part of the ministry.

D. The Macedonians' Priorities (2 Corinthians 8:5)

- The Macedonians were giving to God first.

II. Concerning the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 8:6-7)

A. Titus' Task (2 Corinthians 8:6)

- Paul urged Titus to give the Corinthians an opportunity to experience the same grace.

B. The Call to Give (2 Corinthians 8:7)

- The Corinthians are to abound in the grace of giving as they abound in other graces.

III. The Test of the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 8:8-9)

A. A Test Not a Command (2 Corinthians 8:8)

- Paul is not commanding the Corinthians to give.

God's Abundant Grace: Second Corinthians

- Rather Paul is wishing to test the sincerity of their love.

B. The Example of Jesus (2 Corinthians 8:9)

- Jesus gave up His riches so that we might become rich.