

Grace Giving

Introduction: Paul now shifts gears and deals with the topic of giving. The offering part of the church service is just as much a form of worship as the singing and preaching are.

## I. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Churches (2 Cor. 8:1-8)

- A. Local churches can be great examples to \_\_\_\_\_ local churches in the area of financial giving.
- B. Times of difficulty should not cause us to give \_\_\_\_\_ to God's work.
- C. To give less to God's work may mean more financial \_\_\_\_\_ (Hag. 1:3-6).
- D. Giving \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord may be the way out of your financial problems (Mal. 3:10; Lu. 6:38).
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ is a great way to show that you have received the grace of God.
- F. These churches were giving \_\_\_\_\_ even in hard times.
- G. When you first give \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, you cannot help but give of your money to His work.
- H. "For where your \_\_\_\_\_ is, there will your \_\_\_\_\_ be also" (Mt. 6:21).
- I. Giving is just as \_\_\_\_\_ as other spiritual gifts and ministries in the church.
- J. You cannot truly \_\_\_\_\_ without giving.

## II. \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (2 Cor. 8:9)

- A. The most generous Person ever was the Lord \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Christ willingly became \_\_\_\_\_ so that we could become spiritually rich.
- C. Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of comparison when it comes to giving.

## III. \_\_\_\_\_ to Cheerful Giving (2 Cor. 8:10-9:15)

- A. The church at Corinth made \_\_\_\_\_ to be involved in helping the needy churches of Jerusalem, but had not yet followed through (Ro. 15:25-28; 1 Cor. 16:1-3).
- B. We ought to \_\_\_\_\_ through with the plans we make.
- C. God holds us accountable for what we \_\_\_\_\_, not what we don't have.
- D. God blesses some with more so they can help others with less—this is not a legalistic code of socialism, but rather a free-will opportunity for \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. Paul was sure that the funds were handled with \_\_\_\_\_.
- F. We ought to be \_\_\_\_\_ to give to God's work—come ready to give!
- G. Give more—be blessed more; give less—be blessed less.
- H. Nothing will \_\_\_\_\_ you more to a ministry than by giving to it.

Conclusion: "Someone has said there are three books that are essential for a worship service: the first book is the Bible, the second is the hymn book, and the third is the pocketbook" (McGee).