

## The Season of Giving

II Corinthians 8:1-9

December 2, 2007

All Christian giving of time, talent, and treasure, flows from lives that say, "I'm Yours, Lord." When it comes to giving, look to Jesus; "though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich."

1. A. II Corinthians chapters 8 and 9 are the longest section in the New Testament on giving. How does it close?

II Corinthians 9:15

B. What does our giving have to do with "His indescribable gift!"?

II Corinthians 8:9

C. What is the Christian life?

I John 4:19, Ephesians 5:1-2

2. A. What is the objective reality of II Corinthians 8:9?

B. What do these things mean: "was rich", "became poor", "that you through His poverty might become rich."?

John 1:12, Philipians 2:8, II Corinthians 5:21, I John 4:10

3. A. II Corinthians, chapters 8 & 9, begins with the Macedonian example, ends with scriptural instruction, and includes some practical application.

First, look at the Macedonian example, II Corinthians 8:1-5. Read this text carefully and thoughtfully and find these principles: Giving is born of grace. Real givers give out of poverty. Christian giving is joyous, generous, sacrificial, willing, and eager. True giving is giving worshipfully.

Note how the following scriptures support these principles.  
Acts 20:35, Romans 12:1, II Corinthians 5:14-15

- B. Next, look at the scriptural instruction and principles.  
Proverbs 3:9-10, Matthew 6:19-21, 28-29, 33, Luke 6:38,  
II Corinthians 9:6-11

- C. Finally, look at some practical application.  
II Corinthians 8:6-11, 9:3-4, I Corinthians 16:1-2

4. A. In summary, look to God the Father and God the Son as THE example of giving.  
Matthew 6:1-6, Mark 10:45, Luke 4:16-21, John 3:16, Romans 5:8,  
II Corinthians 9:15, 8:9