

THIS GRACE ALSO

Page 1

INTRODUCTION

- A. The Corinthians had been given a challenge and an opportunity to do much good.
 - 1. Had responded liberally.
 - 2. It proved “the sincerity of their love.”
 - B. THIS CHAPTER , not so much an encouragement to do, BUT a commendation for having DONE so well.
 - 1. True of many of the statements about giving in N.T.
 - 2. “And this, not as we had hoped, but first they gave their own selves to the Lord.” v. 5
-

LESSONS IN N.T.

- A. OUR USUAL CONCEPT OF A LESSON ON GIVING.
 - 1. Sunday Morning.
 - 2. Pass the “collection plate”.
 - B. NONE OF THE LESSONS IN THE N.T. refer to this practice in particular.
 - 1. It is included.
 - 2. But only under general heading.
 - C. THE LESSONS OF THE N.T. ON GIVING PERTAIN TO:
 - 1. Giving on an everyday Basis.
 - 2. Our Attitude....with what we have and how we use it.
 - D. AS WE LOOK AT SOME OF THE SCRIPTURES:
 - 1. Apply them to everyday situations.
 - 2. How we feel about them, and how we do them.
 - 3. Not just the collection plate
-

WHY WE SHOULD GIVE

- A. BECAUSE CHRIST WAS A GIFT TO US: (John 3:16)
 - B. BECAUSE ETERNAL LIFE IS A GIFT: “But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23).
 - C. BECAUSE IT BLESSES: “I have showed you all things how that so laboring you ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, it is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35).
 - D. BECAUSE IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE: “But whoso hath the worlds goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him?” (I John 3:13:17; James 1:27).
-

THIS GRACE ALSO

Page 2

HOW SHOULD WE GIVE

- A. WE SHOULD GIVE AS WE ARE **PROSPERED**. “Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.” (I Cor. 16:2).
- B. WE SHOULD GIVE **CHEERFULLY**. “Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a CHEERFUL giver.” (II Cor. 9:7).
- C. WE SHOULD GIVE **WILLINGLY**. (Must develop the right attitude). “For if there first be a willing mind, it is accepted according to what a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. (II Cor. 8:12).
- D. “And he sat down over against the treasury, and beheld how the multitude cast money into the treasure: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a poor widow, and she cast in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, This poor widow cast in more than all they that are casting into the treasury: for they all did cast in of their superfluity; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.” (Mark 12:41-44).
- E. PARABLE OF THE TALENTS. (Matthew 25:14-30).
-

THIS GRACE ALSO

Page 3

Why God Instructs Us to Give

- A. WHY NOT A SPECIFIC AMOUNT.....like 10 %?
 - 1. Removes obligation of mental, preparation and heart feelings.
 - 2. Would be some what like paying a bill.
 - 3. Because in pertains to our attitude and everyday giving....not just the collection plate!
- B. WHAT DO WE GAIN BY GIVING? (Acts 20:35)
 - 1. Some make fun of this,...which shows they have never been on the other end.
 - 2. God so commanded....that we might be blessed and **LEARN:**
- C. TEACHES US LOVE FOR OTHERS:
 - 1. James 1:26,27.
 - 2. Gal. 6:10.
 - 3. We give, be become involved, we learn to love.
 - 4. Touched by their physical needs.
- D. TEACHES US CONCERN FOR THEIR SPIRITUAL NEEDS:
 - 1. Romans 10:12-17.
 - 2. By giving we become involved.
- E. WE LEARN WE ARE STEWARDS:
 - 1. What we have is not ours....but only a trust.
 - 2. We learn that we must give an account of how we use it.
 - 3. "Parable of the Talents."
- F. KEEPS US FROM DEVELOPING A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY IN MATERIAL THINGS:
 - 1. Lay up treasure in heaven.
 - 2. Not on earth.
 - 3. And God will take care of you.
 - 4. Matthew chapter Six.
- G. **WE LEARN TO PLACE OUR TRUST IN GOD....HE WILL TAKE CARE OF US.**

CONCLUSION

- A. PRAY ABOUT IT.
 - 1. Are you giving to God as you should?
 - 2. Where is your treasure?
 - B. **THE GIFT THAT GOD WANTS...(8:5) Will you give yourself?**
-