



## **SERMON TAKE HOME- 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 Giving-A biblical perspective**

Please read the entire chapter and meditate on the text

Please take note that “not giving” is not even considered as a third option. Giving is a privilege we all have

### **The Wrong Way to Give**

V6 *The point is this whoever sows sparingly, will reap sparingly (To give sparingly is to give stingily.)*

We need to get to the heart behind sparing/stingy giving.

V7 Gives us an understanding of what the heart is behind sparing giving: *”Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly and under compulsion.*

- Reluctantly giving-A reluctant giver struggles letting go, and when they do give it is done with sorrow and pain.
- Compulsive giving-A compulsive giver gives out of necessity imposed either by circumstance or by the law.

A good personal test to see if there are reluctant and compulsive thoughts in your mind regarding giving: Do you find yourself asking the question “Well how much do we have to give?”

If you find yourself asking this (or questions like this), it may be that you have a wrong view of giving and a wrong view of God.

### **The Right Way to Give**

V6 *Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*

What is the heart driving bountiful giving? V7 *For God loves a cheerful giver*

God loves a willing and joyful heart in giving.

Now the big question we need to answer is “What is it about giving that excites and brings joy to the believer”, thus making them a cheerful giver?

The answer is found in the next point “The true blessing of giving”

### **The True Blessing of Giving**

Most people would tell you that the blessing of giving is that God gives back. Although this is a biblical truth, the joy is not found in merely receiving back from God, but the true blessing of giving is found in what our text teaches about what happens in the believer’s giving.

V8 Teaches us that it is God’s grace being poured out on us in all things. In giving we must recognize that the money we have is God’s grace. We are giving back what He gave. It is not ours but His. What do we have that we did not receive? (1 Cor 4:7)

V9-Paul is quoting Ps 112:9 speaking about the bountiful giver in v6

V10-It is God who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food-Again reiterating, it is God who has graced us with all we have and He will meet our needs.

Then the text states *“He (God) ....will supply and multiply your seed* for what? So you can build bigger barns or keep it to yourself? No, *for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.* (As v9 stated, he distributed...his righteousness)

V11-The end of verse 11 gives us a clear picture of the true joy and blessing of giving. *“which through us will produce thanksgiving to God’.* The true believer gives not to be recognized or made much of, but rather so his God is recognized and made much of, and this is what brings the greatest joy to the regenerated believers heart (His God being praised).

V12 States again that the giving of the believer leads to *“overflowing in many thanksgivings to God”*

V13 states that it is God who will be glorified, as the recipients of the giving recognize and acknowledge that it was God who gave the giver the seed (money).

To summarize-The genuine believer finds their greatest joy in God getting glory and thanksgiving. When we give God is recognized as the one who enabled the giving by supplying us the seed (money). It is God who has willed in us to do His good pleasure. It is God who has exemplified in us giving by giving His own Son Jesus. It is God who brings the increase to the giver so he can give more, and thus bring God more glory and praise, and bring the giver more Joy! I pray God opens up all our eyes to the joy of giving, as He glorified! It is more blessed to give than to receive.

