

Grace Giving

(2 Cor. 8:1-15)

Introduction:

A. The Literary Context

B. The Historical Context - 3 communities: the Jerusalem church, the Macedonian church, and the Corinthian church

C. How would the Corinthian church feel about this appeal? What is Paul's objective?

D. Paul views the offering as grace giving. What does "grace giving" look like?

1. Generosity in spite of circumstances (vv.2,3a)

a. Gave out of poverty (see Mark 12:41-44)

b. This is what makes it grace giving (joy+ poverty=generosity)

2. Eagerness to give (vv. 3b,4)

3. A part of total consecration (v.5)

4. Grows as you grow (v.7)

- **growth in both the gifts of the Spirit and the graces of the Spirit**

5. Matches Promise with Performance (vv. 8:10-12)

6. Seeks to share in meeting needs (vv. 13-15)