

The Liberality Grace Produces



Israel's Giving in Time Past

- Israel's giving under the law.
 - 20 % every year
 - 30 % every third year
 - 23 and 1/3 percent every year.
- Israel's kingdom giving instructions.
 - 100% all their possession were to be sold and laid at the Apostles feet.
- Israel's motivation for giving in either case was fear. Fear that God would punish and curse them for not giving.
 - Malachi 3:8-10
 - Acts 5:11

Giving Under Grace

- II Corinthians 9:6-7
- There is no percentage. Our giving is to be planned out and prayerfully considered. Not what you just happen to have in your wallet.
- You should give God as much as you can and still be cheerful about doing it.
- Giving under Grace is motivated not by fear of punishment but by love and gratitude for what Christ has already done.
 - II Corinthians 5:14—the love of Christ ought to be our motivator
 - Ephesians 1:3—we have already been blessed richly in Jesus Christ with all spiritual blessings.

The Liberality Grace Produces

- Grace believers often hid behind grace.
- II Corinthians 8:1-5
 - Verse 1—Paul draws the Corinthians' attention to the Grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia.
 - Verse 2—what grace is Paul speaking of? Their financial offering.
- Liberality
 - A particular act of generosity; a donation; a gratuity
 - Largeness of mind; that comprehensiveness of mind which includes other interests besides its own
 - Bountiful
- II Corinthians 8:1-6—the Macedonian saints have bountifully given out of their poverty.

Grace Liberality is to Give

- The life of the saints, especially that of a grace believer should be that of service, i.e. a life of giving and not of taking.
- Where do you ever expect to do anything for free?
- Where would be if Christ hand functioned like we often do?
 - I Corinthians 2:16—we have all been given the mind of Christ.
 - Philippians 2:1-4—Jesus Christ gave up everything for you and I so that we could be saved and have a relationship with.

Grace Liberality is to Give

- II Corinthians 8:7--Paul informs the Corinthians about the liberality of those in Macedonia to motivate them to life of giving.
- The mind of Paul was that at his own cost he would give so that others can hear the gospel.
 - I Corinthians 9:1-14—Paul chose not to exercise his authority in this matter.
 - I Thessalonians 2:8-9—Paul worked in addition to doing the work of the ministry so that he would not be chargeable to any man.

Grace Liberality is to Give

- II Corinthians 8:6-7—Paul found it necessary to challenge the Corinthians to prove the sincerity of their professed love to God and to others, by calling upon them to do their part financially.
- II Corinthians 9:6-7—not only do we need to purpose and plan out in advance what our level of giving should be we also need to be consistent.
- Philippians 4:15-16—just because you aren't here doesn't mean the bills still don't need to be paid.

Grace Liberality is a Gift From God

- Philemon 21—grace should be willing to do more to go the extra mile as we strive together to build the body of Christ.
- Acts 20:35—“it is more blessed to give than to receive.” We never deserved God’s forgiveness and grace but we received His free gift—what a blessing.
- I Corinthians 15:58—the things we do in this life for the work of the Lord will endure throughout all eternity. Let’s set our affects on things above and let our affects dictate how we use our money.