

# The Fruit Of Liberality

Intro: Poem:

“The quality of mercy is not strain’d  
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven  
Upon the place beneath; it is twice blest;  
It blesses him that gives and him that takes.”

For our study turn to 2 Cor. 9:6-15 “<sup>6</sup> But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. <sup>7</sup> Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work: <sup>9</sup> (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. <sup>10</sup> Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) <sup>11</sup> Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup> For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; <sup>13</sup> Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal distribution unto them, and unto all *men*; <sup>14</sup> And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift.”

## I. GIVING BLESSES HIM THAT GIVES.

### A. With returns in proportion to the gift.

1. 2 Cor. 9:6 “<sup>6</sup> But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”
2. The more generous the gift; the richer the return.

### B. With a fuller measure of God’s love.

1. 2 Cor. 9:7 “<sup>7</sup> Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”
2. God is a cheerful giver.
3. In a cheerful giver God sees his reflection.
4. Mat. 5:7 “<sup>7</sup> Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.”

### C. With more power to give.

1. 2 Cor. 9:8-11 “<sup>8</sup> And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work: <sup>9</sup> (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. <sup>10</sup> Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for *your* food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) <sup>11</sup> Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.”
2. Pro. 11:24-25 “<sup>24</sup> There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and *there is* that withholdeth more than is meet, but *it tendeth* to poverty. <sup>25</sup> The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.”
3. Behind the generous giver is a great Reserve.
4. Old Epitaph: “Here lies a man, men thought him mad; The more he gave the more he had.”

### D. With a fuller life.

1. When we give we make room from something better. (eliminates covetousness)
2. It enlarges the affections of the giver; making him more like the Master; fitting him for heaven.

## II. GIVING BLESSES HIM THAT TAKES.

### A. God's liberality blesses man.

1. Jam. 1:17 <sup>17</sup> "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."
2. Through the gift of Jesus, we enjoy the hope of eternal life.
  - a. John 3:16 <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
  - b. 2 Cor. 8:9 <sup>9</sup> "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

### B. What giving does for others.

1. Provides temporal relief.
  - a. "Supplieth the want of the saints"; 2 Cor. 9:12 <sup>12</sup> "For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;"
  - b. It fills empty stomachs, hushes the cries of the distressed, heals the wounds of the afflicted.
2. Awakens in their hearts the grace of gratitude.
  - a. 2 Cor. 9:11-12, 15 <sup>11</sup> "Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup> For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; <sup>13</sup> Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal distribution unto them, and unto all *men*; <sup>14</sup> And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift."
  - b. It not only revives the body, but the spirit as well.
  - c. We are to be thankful.
    - (1) Col. 3:15 <sup>15</sup> "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."
    - (2) Psa. 116:12 <sup>12</sup> "What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me?"
    - (3) Both toward God and or fellow man.
3. Unites them with the giver.
  - a. 2 Cor. 9:13-14 <sup>13</sup> "Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for *your* liberal distribution unto them, and unto all *men*; <sup>14</sup> And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you."
  - b. Until this time the Jewish brethren doubted the conversion and spirituality of the Corinthians; but the gift of the Corinthians erased that doubt.
  - c. Confidence replaces suspicion; love takes the place of hatred.

Conclusion: 2 Cor. 9:15 <sup>15</sup> "Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift." The gift of His Son to give us life.