

God Gives Most

9:1 FOR ^ait is superfluous for me to write to you about this ^bministry to the ¹saints; 2 for I know your readiness, of which I ^aboast about you to the ^bMacedonians, *namely*, that ^cAchaia has been prepared since ^dlast year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them. 3 But I have sent the brethren, that our ^aboasting about you may not be made empty in this case, that, ^bas I was saying, you may be prepared; 4 lest if any ^aMacedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we (not to speak of you) should be put to shame by this confidence. 5 So I thought it necessary to urge the ^abrethren that they would go on ahead to you and arrange beforehand your previously promised ¹^bbountiful gift, that the same might be ready as a ¹^cbountiful gift, and not ²^daffected by covetousness.

6 Now this *I say*, ^ahe who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows ¹bountifully shall also reap ¹bountifully. 7 Let each one *do* just as he has purposed in his heart; not ^agrudgingly or under compulsion; for ^bGod loves a cheerful giver. 8 And ^aGod is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; 9 as it is written,

“^aHE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR,
HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDES FOREVER.”

10 Now He who supplies ^aseed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and ^bincrease the harvest of your righteousness; 11 you will be ^aenriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing ^bthanksgiving to God. 12 For the ministry of this service is not only fully supplying ^athe needs of the ¹saints, but is also overflowing ^bthrough many thanksgivings to God. 13 Because of the proof given by this ^aministry they will ^bglorify God for *your* obedience to your ^cconfession of the ^dgospel of Christ, and for the liberality of your ¹contribution to them and to all, 14 while they also, by prayer on your behalf, yearn for you because of the surpassing grace of God in you. 15 ^aThanks be to God for His indescribable ^bgift!

^a 1 Thess. 4:9

^b 2 Cor. 8:4

¹ Or, *holy ones*

^a 2 Cor. 7:4

^b Rom. 15:26

^c Acts 18:12

^d 2 Cor. 8:10

^a 2 Cor. 7:4

^b 1 Cor. 16:2

^a Rom. 15:26

^a 2 Cor. 9:3

¹ Lit., *blessing*

^b Gen. 33:11; Judg. 1:15; 2 Cor. 9:6

¹ Lit., *blessing*

^c Phil. 4:17

² Lit., *as covetousness*

^d 2 Cor. 12:17f.

^a Prov. 11:24f.; 22:9; Gal. 6:7, 9

¹ Lit., *with blessings*

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^a Deut. 15:10; 1 Chr. 29:17; Rom. 12:8; 2 Cor. 8:12

^b Ex. 25:2

^a Eph. 3:20

^a Ps. 112:9

^a Is. 55:10

^b Hos. 10:12

^a 1 Cor. 1:5

^b 2 Cor. 1:11

^a 2 Cor. 8:14

¹ Or, *holy ones*

^b 2 Cor. 1:11

^a Rom. 15:31; 2 Cor. 8:4

^b Matt. 9:8

^c 1 Tim. 6:12f.; Heb. 3:1; 4:14; 10:23

^d 2 Cor. 2:12

¹ Or, *sharing with them*

^a 2 Cor. 2:14

^b Rom. 5:15f.

ⁱ *The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.