



## Learning to Give as We Ought

### 2 Corinthians 8:9

(Part 2)

Philippians 2:5-1; Colossians 1:15-19

### How Are We Doing So Far?

- Three sermons on church membership:
  - ★ We are God's chosen ones and with election comes responsibility. (1 Thessalonians 1)
  - ★ We are in covenant with God and with each other. God is a covenant keeping God and He demands that those with whom He is in covenant with keep their covenants with Him and others. (Romans 10:9-10; Exodus 19:1-9; Romans 12:4-21)
  - ★ We are ONE Body. By definition a body does everything TOGETHER. Every part of the body is needed to cause growth of the whole body. (1 Cor 12:12-27; Eph 4:11-16; Acts 2:42-47)
- (2 Corinthians 7:5-16) Biblical repentance versus worldly repentance. The fruit of repentance – seen by others. The pursuit of holiness as individuals and corporately as a Church.
- (2 Corinthians 8:1-8) Giving as we ought to give. Being generous no matter the circumstances.
- How are we doing in being DOERS of God's Word? Are we church members? Are we doing our part to cause growth to the whole body? Are we covenant keepers or covenant breakers? Do we take the preaching of God's Word seriously?

## Learning to Give As We Ought (2 Corinthians 8 & 9)

### • PART 1 – (8:1-8) Learning from the churches of Macedonia:

- ① Christians give because they have received grace. Grace in us can be seen by others. Grace works.
- ② Christians give despite very hard times.
- ③ Christians give with an overflowing abundance of joy.
- ④ Christians give despite their own extreme poverty.
- ⑤ Christians give generously.
- ⑥ Christians give proportionally.
- ⑦ Christians give sacrificially.
- ⑧ Christians give freely.
- ⑨ Christians beg to give.
- ⑩ Christians give as an act of worship and in submission to God's will.

## He Became Poor for Us (2 Corinthians 8:9)

- “FOR” – this **conjunction** links what Paul had just said about the Macedonians with this verse!
- **NOTE:** In the middle of teaching us how we ought to give the Holy Spirit moves Paul to remind us of the doctrine of the INCARNATION (Christ coming in the flesh).
- The Corinthians may not know about the giving of the churches on Macedonia but they KNEW of “the grace of the LORD JESUS CHRIST” – GRACE – Christ giving Himself for sinners who did not deserve any kindness from God!
- The Holy Spirit gives us the REASON we give and give generously and sacrificially!!!!
- The LORD JESUS CHRIST –
  - **LORD:** Master, Ruler, Owner. The name given to Him by the Father. (Philippians 2:9; Acts 2:36; 10:36; Matt 28:18; 2 Cor 5:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)
  - **JESUS:** Yahweh Saves! (Matthew 1:21)
  - **CHRIST:** God's “ANOINTED ONE” – **the** Messiah. King-Prophet-Priest.

## Who Is the Lord Jesus Christ? (Colossians 1:15-19)

- Jesus Christ is YAHWEH – GOD. (Zechariah 12:1, 10; John 8:58)
- (v. 15) He is the image of the invisible God. (Hebrews 1:3; John 14:9; Colossians 1:19; 2:9)
- (v. 15) He is the FIRSTBORN over all creation. (Hebrews 1:6)
  - ★ πρωτότοκος protokos {pro-tot-ok'-os} – in Greek and Jewish culture it primarily refers to rank or position.

- ★ In Jewish culture, the *prototokos* was the one who had the right to the inheritance – though he may not be the first child born - i.e. Esau.
- ★ Jesus is the ONE with the right to the inheritance of all creation. (Hebrews 1:2; Revelation 5:1-7, 13)
- ★ Israel is called God's *firstborn* – Exodus 4:22; Jeremiah 31:9.
- ★ In Psalm 89:27, God refers to the Messiah as His *firstborn* and says, "... the highest of the kings of the earth."
- ★ In Revelation 1:5, Christ is the *firstborn* of the dead. Christ was not the first to be resurrected but the ONE who has the preeminence of those who were resurrected.
- ★ In Romans 8:29, Christ is called the *firstborn* in relation to the church.
- (v. 16) He is the CREATOR. (John 1:3; Hebrews 1:2; 2:10)
  - All things in the heavens and on the earth. (Psalm 24:1; 50:12; Acts 17:24; Exo 19:5; Deut 10:14; 1 Chron 29:11; Job 41:11)
  - All things visible and invisible.
  - All thrones, principalities, and dominions. (Col 2:10, 15; Romans 8:38; Ephesians 1:21; 3:10; 6:12; 1 Peter 3:22)
  - All things were created through and for Him. (Proverbs 16:4; Romans 11:36; Revelation 4:11)
- (v. 17) He was before all things. – See John 8:58; Micah 5:2.
- (v. 17) In Him all things consist. – Acts 17:28; Hebrews 1:3; Rev 4:11
- (v. 18) He is the HEAD of the Body, the Church. (Eph 1:22-23; 4:15-16; 5:23)
- (v. 18) He is THE BEGINNING or SOURCE. (Rev 22:13; Isa. 41:4; 44:6; 48:12)
- (v. 18) He is the FIRSTBORN from the dead. (Rev 1:5; John 11:25)
- (v. 18) In all things He has the preeminence.
- (v. 19) In Him all the fullness the Godhead dwells. (Colossians 2:3, 9)

## He Became Poor for Us! (2 Corinthians 8:9; **Philippians 2:5-11**)

- ★ "Being (existed) in the form (μορφῇ morphē {mor-fay}) of God . . ." He came **DOWN** -----
- ❶ (2:6b) Though He was God He did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. He already was God but in His incarnation never used His deity for personal gain! He "gave up" His power, possessions, and power for the sake of others – US!
- ❷ (2:7a) He made Himself of no reputation or emptied Himself! Though He had the **fullness** of the Godhead in Him He emptied Himself for the sake of others – US!
- ❸ (2:7b) He took the form of a slave. He became a slave for the sake of others – US! (Matthew 20:28; Luke 22:27)

- ④ (2:7c) He became a man for the sake of others – US! (Heb 2:14-15, 17; 4:15; John 1:1, 14; 1 Tim 3:16) **MEDITATE ON THIS!**
- ⑤ (2:8a) He appeared in the appearance (σχῆμα {skhay'-mah}) – Though He was/is GOD He took the appearance of a man and suffered for it for the sake of others – US! (John 10:33)
- ⑥ (2:8b) He humbled Himself! Though He was King of kings, LORD of lords, and God of gods, he allowed Himself to be arrested by man, tried by man, and crucified by man for the sake of others – US!
- ⑦ (2:8c) He humbled Himself even to the point of death for the sake of others – US! (Galatians 2:20; John 10:31; 15:13; Ephesians 5:2; Titus 2:14)
- ⑧ (2:8d) He humbled Himself even to the point of death – even death on a cross. He became a curse for the sake of others – US! (Galatians 3:13; Deuteronomy 21:23)

### **He Became Poor for Us! (2 Corinthians 8:9)**

- “though He was rich” – GOD, Creator and Owner of everything in the heavens and the earth! (Psalm 24:1; 50:10; Exodus 19:5; 1 Chron 29:11; Job 41:11; 1 Cor 10:26)
- “yet **for our sake** became poor” – He **emptied** Himself! (Philip 2:7)
- “**that** we might become rich”
  - ① “partakers of the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:3-4)
  - ② “heirs of God and coheir with Christ” (Romans 8:17)
  - ③ “every spiritual blessing” (Ephesians 1:3)
  - ④ “unsearchable riches of Christ” (Ephesians 3:8)
  - ⑤ “a mansion” (John 14:1-3)
  - ⑥ “a city built by God” (Hebrews 11:16)
  - ⑦ “shall not be hurt by the second death”; “eternal life” (Rev 2:11; Romans 6:23; John 10:27-28; Titus 3:7)
  - ⑧ “sit on the throne of God” (Revelation 3:21)
  - ⑨ “an inheritance ... reserved in heaven for you” (1 Peter 1:3-4)

**But as it is written: "EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NOR HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN THE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."**

(1 Corinthians 2:9)