



## A Letter of Grace 2 Corinthians

The Grace of God  
(8:1-15)

1

### **The Previous Instruction (1 Corinthians 16:1-4)**

*Now concerning **the collection** for the saints:*

*as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do.*

*On the **first day** of every week,*

*each of you is to put **something** aside and **store** it up,  
as he **may prosper**,*

*so that there will be no collecting **when I come**.*

*And when I arrive,*

*I will send those whom you accredit by letter  
to carry your gift **to Jerusalem**.*

*If it seems advisable that I should go also,  
they will **accompany** me.*

2

### **The Grace of God in Macedonia (vv.1-5)**

*We want you to know, brothers, about **the grace of God** that has been given among the churches of **Macedonia**, for in a **severe test of affliction**, their **abundance of joy** and their **extreme poverty** have **overflowed** in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave **according to their means**, as I can testify, and **beyond their means**, of **their own accord**, **begging us earnestly** for the **favor** of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, **not** as we expected, but they gave **themselves** first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.*

3

### **The Completion of Grace at Corinth (vv.6-8)**

*Accordingly, we urged **Titus** that as he had started, so he should complete among you this **act of grace**. But as you **excel** in everything —in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you —see that you excel in this **act of grace** also. I say this **not** as a command, but to **prove** by the earnestness of others that your love also is **genuine**.*

4

## The Display of Grace in Jesus Christ (v.9)

*For you know the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that though he was rich,  
yet **for your sake** he became poor,  
so that you by his poverty  
might become rich.*

5

## The Benefit of Grace to the Corinthians (vv.10-12)

*And in this matter I give my judgment:  
this **benefits** you,  
who a year ago **started** not only to do this work  
but also to **desire** to do it.  
So now **finish** doing it as well,  
so that your **readiness** in desiring it  
may be matched by your **completing** it  
out of **what you have**.  
For if the **readiness** is there,  
it is acceptable according to what a person **has**,  
not according to what he **does not** have.*

6

## **The Distribution of Grace to All (vv.13-15)**

*For I do not mean that others should be **eased**  
and you **burdened**,  
but that as a matter of **fairness**  
your **abundance** at the present time  
should supply their **need**,  
so that their **abundance** may supply your **need**,  
that there may be fairness.*

*As it is written,*

*“Whoever gathered much had nothing left over,  
and whoever gathered little had no lack.”*

7

## **Application**

- Our generous giving is an act of God's grace in us - His grace comes to people through people.
- Promises of financial provision for those in need should be taken seriously and followed through with when able.
- Increase of income does not necessarily indicate God's intention for an increase of standard of living - it could be His stewardship for our generosity.

8