

2 CORINTHIANS

The Benefit of Inadequacy

2 Corinthians 8:1-24

“Act of Grace”



Notre Dame Cathedral

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Saint Peter's Basilica

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How does our giving reflect God's grace?

“Act of Grace”

1. A Generous Example – 8:1-6

“the grace of God ... among the churches of Macedonia...”

2. A Gospel Example – 8:7-15

“you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ”

3. A Guarded Example – 8:16-24

“that no one should blame us about this generous gift”

“Act of Grace”

1. A Generous Example – 8:1-6

“the grace of God ... among the churches of Macedonia...”

“And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

— Mark 12:41

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Not the Amount but the Manner of the Gift

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Not the Richness but the Reflection of the Gift

“The key phrase in Exodus 16:18 is “as much as he needed.” It is an equity of needs met rather than an equality of supply that the narrative illustrates. Even though some gathered more and some less, the needs of all were fairly met. In the wilderness it was God who ensured such equity. Today it is the responsibility of each believer.”

– Baldwin

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Not the Blame but the Benefit of the Gift

“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.”

– 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

“Complete Confidence”

May our money reflect God's grace