

“The Proof of One’s Sincere Love” 2 Cor 8:1-24 10/01/23

Today, we’d like to see the title of “The Proof of One’s Sincere Love” in 2 Cor 8:1-24.

To Online Word’s souls, *through MP3 or YouTube Channel*, on the earth, we’d like to suggest the 3 expositional Questions. (*Maranatha Worship Songs*..... Videos are watchable upon the click on the website). **YouTube Channel is not Available in China, Iran, Germany, etc. where only MP3 is available**

Q1. In verse 5, “And not *only* as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and *then* to us by the will of God,” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q2. In verses 7-8, “ But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also.⁸ I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others,” what do these mean? And how can we apply these to our lives?

Q3. In verse 12, “For if there is first a willing mind, *it is* accepted according to what one has, *and* not according to what he does not have,” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

(Background for context of this text on Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

In the last time, 2 Corinthians 7:15-16, “And his affections are greater for you as he remembers the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling you received him. ¹⁶Therefore I rejoice that I have confidence in you in everything,” Titus’ love is more abundant toward you, as Titus remembers your obedience to the word of God with fear and trembling. Thus, Paul rejoices upon his confidence in your all things. (As the time comes near to complete the whole counsel of God in the Scripture through the grace of God, the “underlining” is abstained as groundwork for a forthcoming commentary book on the Scripture, aimed at declaring His strength to this generation and His power to everyone who is to come, if the Lord permits.)

TEXT: NKJV [KJV]

Inductive Explanation in context & syntax

<p>¹Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia:</p>	<p>1= (The grace of God means the unmerited favor 100% freely given by God; the churches of Macedonia such as Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea today in Greece. In verse 2, “the abundance” offering was from the grace of God, because we are bought by God with Jesus’ blood and so we all are God’s. Your offering came from God, i.e., God’s grace, “this grace” too in verses 6 and 7. And so Paul is handling this grace, gift, offering, or this honorable thing not to be in vain to effectuate the purpose of charity for the believers in Jerusalem through Titus and two other brothers in verses 17, 18, and 22. 2 Cor 6:1;Mat 7:6¹)</p>
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¹ 2 Cor 6:1We then, as workers together *with Him* also plead with *you* not to receive the grace of God in vain; *Mat 7:6* Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

<p>² that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality.</p> <p>³ For I bear witness that according to <i>their</i> ability, yes, and beyond <i>their</i> ability, <i>they were</i> freely willing,</p> <p>⁴ imploring [praying] us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.</p> <p>⁵ And not <i>only</i> as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and <i>then</i> to us by the will of God.</p> <p>⁶ So we urged Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also complete this grace in you as well.</p> <p>⁷ But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also.</p> <p>⁸ I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others.</p>	<p>2=(The churches – souls, not perishable buildings – of Macedonia made abundant sacrificial offerings, in a great trial of affliction, joyfully or from willing mind, like the children of Israel's much more than enough offering to make the sanctuary Ex 36:3-5²)</p> <p>3= (Paul saw their abundant offering there during his 3rd mission trip when this 2nd letter was given to Titus for the delivery to these Corinthian believers; they made offering beyond what they had, but with free willing. Never forced offering/donation/gift/grace/honorable thing is here.)</p> <p>4= (They strongly asked us to receive the offering/gift with urgency for the saints in Jerusalem to become in the fellowship through the gift 1 John 1:3³)</p> <p>5=Q1 (Where it starts, giving begins always with giving myself to the Lord! Lord, I'm Yours. That's awareness of consciousness. Lord, You purchased me. I belong to You. Anything I possess. Lord, You have given it to me as a steward. It all belongs to You. Then, they gave the gift to Paul for the church in Jerusalem as it was God's will)</p> <p>6= (This grace is the offering, coming from God's grace in the light of verse 1. We, Paul and Timothy, strongly recommended Titus to receive your offering in the 1st place as he had begun 2 Cor 1:1⁴)</p> <p>7=Q2 (Now when 2 Corinthians letter was written to the Corinthians during Paul's 3rd mission trip, Corinthians became mature or spiritual Christians from carnal Christians because they were abound in faith, in teaching or preaching, in knowledge of the divine words in the Scripture, in all diligence or faithfulness, and in your love the fruit of the Spirit for us; We would like to see your abound offering this grace 1 Cor 3:1⁵)</p> <p>8=Q2 (Paul did not order you to do the offering but recommend to prove the sincerity of your love in the offering or this grace in the example of other Macedonia churches' diligent offering in verse 2 Mat 6:21⁶)</p>
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² Ex 36:3-5 And they received from Moses all the offering which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of making the sanctuary. So they continued bringing to him freewill offerings every morning. ⁴ Then all the craftsmen who were doing all the work of the sanctuary came, each from the work he was doing, ⁵ and they spoke to Moses, saying, "The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which the LORD commanded us to do."

³ 1 John 1:3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

⁴ 2 Cor 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia:

⁵ 1 Cor 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual *people* but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ

⁶ Mat 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

¹⁰ And in this I give advice: It is to your advantage not only to be doing what you began and were desiring to do a year ago; ¹¹ but now you also must complete the doing of *it*; that as *there was a readiness to desire it, so there also may be a completion out of what you have.*

¹² For if there is first a willing mind, *it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have.*

¹³ For *I do not mean* that others should be eased and you burdened; ¹⁴ but by an equality, *that* now at this time your abundance *may supply* their lack, that their abundance also may *supply* your lack—that there may be equality. ¹⁵ As it is written, “He who *gathered* much had nothing left over, and he who *gathered* little had no lack.”

9=(Because you know Jesus being in the form of God, being rich from beginning, made Himself and took the form of a bondservant man, becoming poor, obedient to death on cross and saved you, i.e., made you rich. That's grace the all imperishable blessings given to you. *Phil 2:5-7*)

10=(Paul advised that you had begun your willingness to do the offering since a year ago – that's your advantage or privilege for the next verse 11. *2 Cor 9:2⁸*)

11= (Now you also must complete the offering from what you have the willing mind)

12=Q3 (Now remember, this is the criteria for offering, a willing mind. But God won't accept it, if it doesn't come from a willing mind. Our God is so rich and merciful; e.g., one the church goer never made an offering because of no willing mind; Chuck Smith's not to ask people for money to avoid the offering not coming from a willing mind, or coming from the pressure, showing up, pride, or any other fleshly motives *Exo 19:5; 1 Chron 16:34⁹*)

13-15= (Paul never intended to make life easy for others, here the believers in Jerusalem, and hard for yourselves. In the general sense of the one body of Christ on Earth, we'd share each other between the needy and the abundant believers in equality like the children of Israel's equal share of manna given by God during wilderness life 40 years; the wilderness life is the symbol of Christian earthly life before entering Canaan land the symbol of heavenly country *Exo 16:18, 35; 1 Cor 10:2-4¹⁰*)

⁷ *Phil 2:5-7* Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.

⁸ *2 Cor 9:2* for I know your willingness, about which I boast of you to the Macedonians, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal has stirred up the majority.

⁹ *Exo 19:5* Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine; *1 Chron 16:34* Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is* good! For His mercy *endures* forever.

¹⁰*Exo 16:18, 35* ¹⁸ So when they measured *it* by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. Every man had gathered according to each one's need. ³⁵ And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan; *1 Cor 10:2-4* all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

<p>¹⁶ But thanks <i>be</i> to God who puts the same earnest care for you into the heart of Titus.</p> <p>¹⁷ For he not only accepted the exhortation, but being more diligent, he went to you of his own accord. ¹⁸ And we have sent with him the brother whose praise <i>is</i> in the gospel throughout all the churches, ¹⁹ and not only <i>that</i>, but who was also chosen by the churches to travel with us with this gift, which is administered by us to the glory of the Lord Himself and <i>to show</i> your ready mind, ²⁰ avoiding this: that anyone should blame us in this lavish gift which is administered by us— ²¹ providing honorable things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.</p> <p>²² And we have sent with them our brother whom we have often proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, because of the great confidence which <i>we have</i> in you. ²³ If <i>anyone inquires</i> about Titus, <i>he is</i> my partner and fellow worker concerning you. Or if our brethren <i>are inquired about</i>, <i>they are</i> messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ. ²⁴ Therefore show to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love and of our boasting on your behalf.</p>	<p>16= (Paul thanks to God who gave the sincere heart for Titus to care for you the same as you)</p> <p>17-21= (Titus accepted gladly to revisit you without any discord. And another brother as a preacher of the gospel was with Titus. The brother might have been Luke, Silas, or Apollos who was a co minister of Paul. Titus and the brother were receiving the abundant gift, honorable thing, offering, or grace and were delivering it to the believers in Jerusalem without any suspicion of any improper administration of the offering not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.)</p> <p>22-24=(Paul and Timothy have sent another brother in addition, with Titus and the said brother; The brother also is proved in diligence or faithfulness, much more faithfulness because his great confidence in you; if somebody asks about Titus, Titus is Paul's co-minister and is helping you. If somebody asks about the brothers, the churches of Macedonia have sent them with Titus, to deliver the abundant offering for the glory of Christ. Therefore, show Jesus' love to them and prove it to all the churches. Hereby, our boasting of Christ's working in you may be justified.)</p>
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Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible and commit it to the Lord. So, it's better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout the Bible Study (NKJV) -- *All Scripture Expository Study from verse by verse Inductive Studies* -- of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that "Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God's Word is acceptable (2 Corinthians 10:5)." Further, for the application, a life or spiritual experience might be helpful to

understand how to apply an understood word in the text column, but it is temperately used like Paul, because nobody should think above that actual experience (2 Cor 12:6, Jer 23:28; Ne 8:8).

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<https://www.calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/OnlineSermon2023.htm>

Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!

The Lord's Continuing Work Through His Church Acts 29

Pray for continually "Let go, let God" because CCAH church (His sheep) is His church. "The Commentary of the Bible By Verse" is coming for this & future generations.

E.g. 2020 <https://calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/letGod.pdf>

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

Who can be against God, practically against the Scripture (λόγος LOGOS or the written word, i.e., the Scripture)?

"The Spirit Led Daily Life in the Whole Counsel of God for its Beliefs and their Consequent Practices" by CCAH's Vision

“PRAYER REQUESTS”

Let’s pray for the increase of faith, the word of God, and its consequent practice to become more like Jesus Christ until we meet our Lord in heaven.

Pray for joyful, thankful, and safe the Paul Mission Footstep Tour for Education and Evangelism for which has been prayed and prepared since 2015, during mid October.

<https://calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/PaulFoot.pdf>

Pray for the souls in Muslim countries, especially Iran, Afghanistan (Unmarried women’s high baby death rate in childbirth), Turkey, Syria, Palestine, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Morocco (bereaved family from about 3,000 dead people from the earthquake).

Pray for this book of “CAN I LIE TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD?,” flowed from the CCAH sheep’s inductive expository Bible studies from September 18, 2022 to September 10, 2023, which has been published on October 5, 2023, to spread the word of God globally if the Lord permits.

