

“MAKING GOOD SENSE WITH OUR RINGGITS”

(2 Corinthians 8:1-9)

Expository Sermon of II Corinthians - Sermon 16

Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam

Date: January 7, 2018

Place: Hope Community Baptist Church



INTRODUCTION:



We have invested too much in each other to throw it all away.

INTRODUCTION:



Our own checkbook also tells the story of our life - our values and our lifestyle. Because our checkbook announces what our treasures are.

Jesus spoke extensively about the subject of stewardship.

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



I. CLARIFICATION OF MAJOR SCRIPTURES ON GIVING

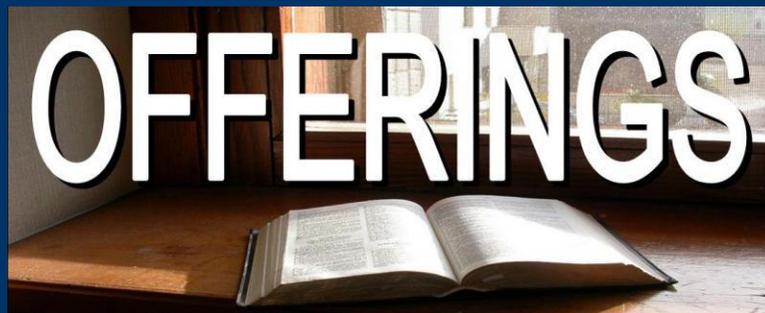
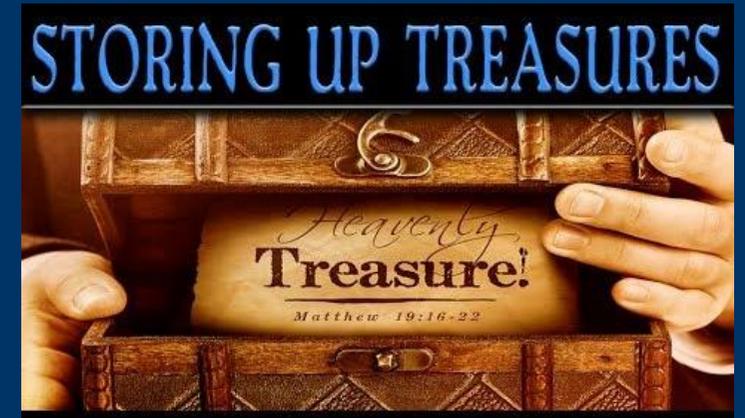
There are four primary passages regarding investing our earthly treasures in ministry.

A) 1 Corinthians 9:11, 13-14

B) 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

C) 2 Corinthians 8:1-3, 9

D) 2 Corinthians 9:9



Stewardship is a key principle in Scripture

I. CLARIFICATION OF MAJOR SCRIPTURES ON GIVING

This passage provides the **JUSTIFICATION** for giving.

A) *1 Corinthians 9:11, 13-14*



1 Cor 9:11 *If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you?*

13 *Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar?* **14** *In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.*

I. CLARIFICATION OF MAJOR SCRIPTURES ON GIVING

This passage provides the **INSTRUCTIONS** for giving.

B) 1 Corinthians 16:1-2



***1 Cor 16:1** Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. **2** On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

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B) 1 Corinthians 16:1-2

***1 Cor 16:1** Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. **2** On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

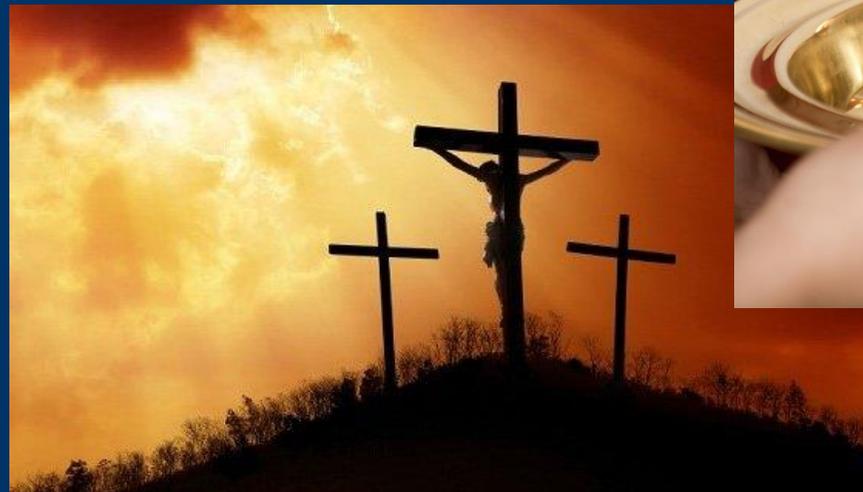
- 1. Systematically** - *"on the first day of every week"*
- 2. Individually** - *"each one of you"*
- 3. Consistently** - *"set aside a sum of money"*
- 4. Proportionately** - *"in keeping with your income"*
- 5. Privately** - *"when I come no collections will have to be made"*

I. CLARIFICATION OF MAJOR SCRIPTURES ON GIVING

This passage shows us two ILLUSTRATIONS of giving.

C) 2 Corinthians 8:1-3, 9

- 1) the Macedonians (vv. 1-3); and*
- 2) Jesus Christ (v. 9).*



I. CLARIFICATION OF MAJOR SCRIPTURES ON GIVING

This passage reveals the **APPLICATION** of giving.

D) 2 Corinthians 9:9

2 Cor 9:9 "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His righteousness abides forever."



II. EXPLANATION OF PAUL'S REMARKS ON GIVING

The historical context behind chapters 8 and 9.

great financial need within the mother church at Jerusalem

A) An Illustration of the Macedonians

2 Cor 9:1 *And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity*



II. EXPLANATION OF PAUL'S REMARKS ON GIVING

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A) An Illustration of the Macedonians



2 Cor 9:3 *For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own,*

2 Cor 9:4 *they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.*

2 Cor 9:5 *And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.*

II. EXPLANATION OF PAUL'S REMARKS ON GIVING

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B) A Reminder to the Corinthians



2 Cor 9:6 *So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part.*

2 Cor 9:7 *But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you — see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*

II. EXPLANATION OF PAUL'S REMARKS ON GIVING

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B) A Reminder to the Corinthians



2 Cor 9:8 *I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others.*

2 Cor 9:7 *But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you — see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*

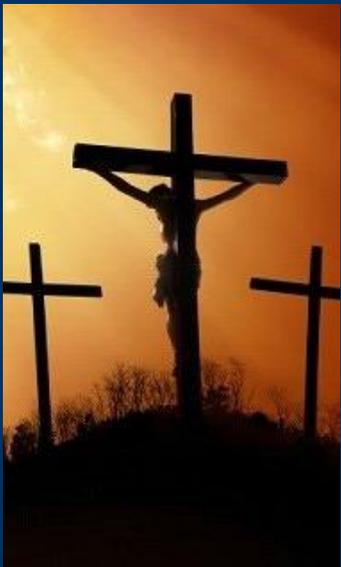
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C) The Example of Christ

2 Cor 9:9 *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 through his poverty might become rich.*

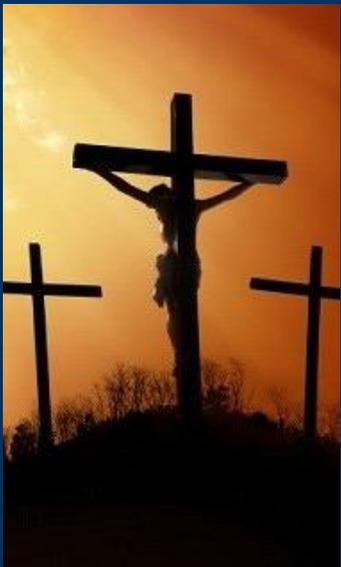


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C) The Example of Christ



Phi 2:6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!

CONCLUSION:



As we come to the end of our study today, a couple of thoughts rise to the surface.

A) Claiming God's grace without receiving God's Son is an impossibility.



B) Walking in grace without giving our treasure is incomplete.



CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. The ways we use our money do reflects our values and our lifestyle. How?*
- 2. What are the contexts of the following Scripture texts?
1 Corinthians 9:11,13-14, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, 2 Corinthians 9:9, &
2 Corinthians 8:1-3,9 .*
- 3. What was the historical context behind chapters 8 and 9? What was the reason for collecting money?*
- 4. How does Christ example teach us about giving?*
- 5. What can we learn from the example of Macedonians and Corinthians giving to the ministry?*



Scripture References:

2 Corinthians 8:1-9