



**“Enriched in Every Way”**  
**2 Corinthians 7:2–8:15**

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# What will we learn?

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- ❖ We should be careful to guard our reputation.
- ❖ The principle of sowing and reaping applies to financial decisions.
- ❖ A generous life is empowered by God, it enriches both the giver and the receiver, and it glorifies God.

## Tools for epistles:

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- ❖ Read it in one setting.
- ❖ Remember that it's someone else's mail.
- ❖ Look for the occasion.



## Major themes:

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- ❖ Centrality of Jesus
- ❖ Apostolic ministry
- ❖ Hope of glory



## 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

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- ❖ Suffering brings comfort from God.
- ❖ Suffering produces “patient endurance.”
- ❖ Suffering and comfort equip us for ministry.

## 2 Corinthians 1:12 - 2:14

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- ❖ Salvation starts with God, and it includes every person of the Trinity.
- ❖ God's people should be faithful.
- ❖ Disciples of Jesus should lead like Jesus.

## 2 Corinthians 2:12 - 4:6

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- ❖ God is sovereign over all.
  - ❖ Including our salvation.
  - ❖ Including our suffering.
  - ❖ Including our ministry.
- ❖ God is the source and supply of our lives.

## 2 Corinthians 4:7-5:10

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- ❖ The gospel message is all important, the messengers not so much.
- ❖ Everything in this life is fleeting, but the blessings of heaven are eternal.
- ❖ The Kingdom of God is already / not yet here.



## 2 Corinthians 5:11 – 7:1

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- ❖ At the cross, Jesus claimed us completely.
- ❖ Jesus has commissioned us as his ambassadors.
- ❖ We persevere through challenges and serve his way.

## 2 Corinthians 7:2 – 8:15

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- ❖ God comforts the downcast.
- ❖ Godly sorrow differs from worldly sorrow.
- ❖ Our response to correction can either prove or disprove our faith.
- ❖ Christ's followers are called to be generous.

## 2 Corinthians 8: 16-17

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Thanks be to God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative.



# Valuable team members:

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- ❖ The same concern
- ❖ Much enthusiasm
- ❖ His own initiative

## 2 Corinthians 8:18-19

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And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help.



## 2 Corinthians 8:20-21

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We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.



## 2 Corinthians 8:22

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In addition, we are sending with them our brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you.

## 2 Corinthians 8:23

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As for Titus, he is my partner and co-worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ.



# Valuable team members:

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- ❖ The same concern
- ❖ Much enthusiasm
- ❖ His own initiative
- ❖ Zealous
- ❖ Partner
- ❖ Co-worker
- ❖ Representatives of the church
- ❖ An honor to Christ

## 2 Corinthians 8:24

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Therefore show these men the proof  
of your love and the reason for our pride  
in you, so that the churches can see it.

## 2 Corinthians 9:1-2

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There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the Lord's people. For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action.

## 2 Corinthians 9:3-4

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But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you in this matter should not prove hollow, but that you may be ready, as I said you would be. For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we — not to say anything about you — would be ashamed of having been so confident.

## 2 Corinthians 9:5

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So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.



## 2 Corinthians 9:6

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Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

# Sowing and reaping:

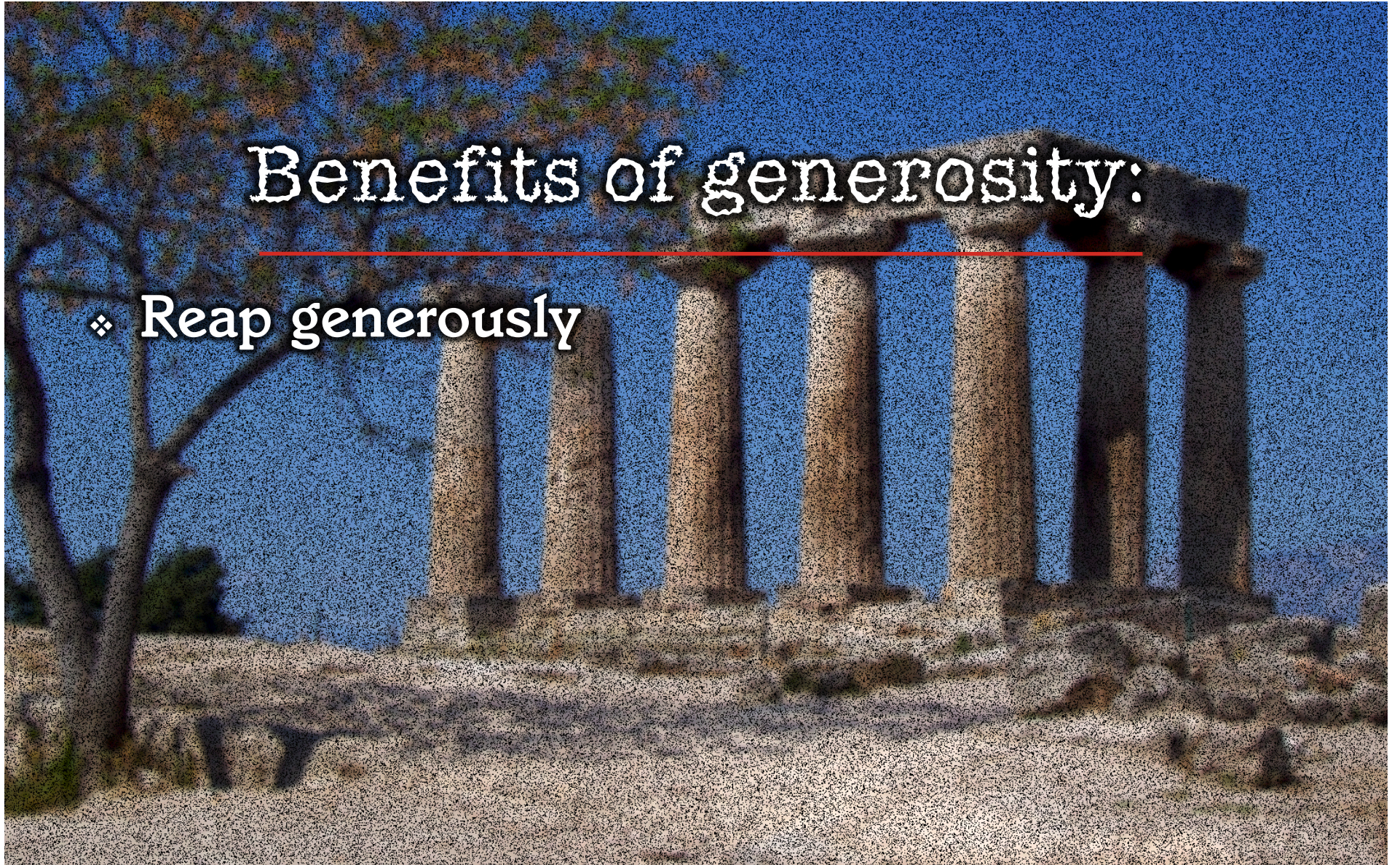
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- ❖ Aristotle
- ❖ Cicero
- ❖ Old Testament (Job, Proverbs, Hosea)
- ❖ New Testament (2 Corinthians, Galatians)
- ❖ Nature
- ❖ Experience

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously





## 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

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Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings





# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need



# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work

## 2 Corinthians 9:9-10

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As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever” (Psalm 112:9). Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness (Isaiah 55:10).



# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase

## 2 Corinthians 9:11-12

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You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.



# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase
- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
- ❖ Enriched in every way

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase
- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
- ❖ Enriched in every way
- ❖ Thanksgiving to God

## 2 Corinthians 9:13

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Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.



## 2 Corinthians 9:14-15

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And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase
- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
- ❖ Enriched in every way
- ❖ Thanksgiving to God
- ❖ Others will praise God

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
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- ❖ Thanksgiving to God
- ❖ Others will praise God
- ❖ Receivers will pray for you

## Acts 20:35

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[Paul to Ephesian elders]: “In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”



Scott J. Hafemann:

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“The contemporary significance of these major themes is straightforward. Fueled by a biblical understanding of God and of our own role within redemptive history,





Scott J. Hafemann:

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“giving to other believers should be characterized by an integrity that is beyond reproach, a willing generosity that reflects the grace of God, a proclamation of the gospel, and joy.”

# What have we learned?

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- ❖ We should be careful to guard our reputation.
- ❖ The principle of sowing and reaping applies to financial decisions.
- ❖ A generous life is empowered by God, it enriches both the giver and the receiver, and it glorifies God.





# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper

# Benefits of generosity:

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- ❖ Reap generously
- ❖ Abundant blessings
- ❖ Having all you need
- ❖ Abound in every good work
- ❖ Supply and increase
- ❖ Enlarge the harvest
- ❖ Enriched in every way
- ❖ Thanksgiving to God
- ❖ Others will praise God
- ❖ Receivers will pray for you

# Old Covenant vs. New Covenant

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## The LAW:

- ❖ Death
- ❖ Condemnation
- ❖ Transitory

## The SPIRIT:

- ❖ Life
- ❖ Righteousness
- ❖ Eternal