

2 Corinthians

CHAPTER 8

- 1** Moreover, brethren, we want you to know of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia;
- 2** How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.
- 3** For to *their* power, I bear record, yes, and beyond *their* power *they were* willing of themselves;
- 4** Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and *take upon us* the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.
- 5** And *this they did*, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.
- 6** Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.
- 7** Therefore, as you abound in *everything*, *in* faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and *in* all diligence, and *in* your love to us, *see* that you abound in this grace also.
- 8** I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love.
- 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 be rich.
- 10** And herein I give *my* advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago.
- 11** Now therefore perform the doing *of it*; that as *there was* a readiness to will, so *there may be* a performance also out of that which you have.
- 12** For if there be first a willing mind, *it is* accepted according to that a man has, *and* not according to that he has not.
- 13** For *I mean* not that other men be eased, and you burdened:
- 14** But by an equality, *that* now at this time your abundance *may be a supply* for their want, that their abundance also may be *a supply* for your want: that there may be equality:
- 15** As it is written, He that *had gathered* much had nothing over; and he that *had gathered* little had no lack.
- 16** But thanks *be* to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you.
- 17** For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you.
- 18** And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise *is* in the gospel throughout all the churches;
- 19** And not *that* only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and *declaration of* your ready mind:
- 20** Avoiding this, that no man should blame us in this abundance which is administered by us:
- 21** Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.
- 22** And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, upon the great confidence which *I have* in you.
- 23** Whether *any do enquire* of Titus, *he is* my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren *be enquired of*, *they are* the messengers of the churches, *and* the glory of Christ.
- 24** Wherefore show you to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.