

Sun. Morning

# A CONVICTION FOR COURAGEOUS STEWARDSHIP

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | JANUARY 14, 2024

**Text:** 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

<sup>make known to you</sup>  
"Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit 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, yea, 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 ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye 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 ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." (2 Corinthians 8:1-9)

## INTRODUCTION

### COURAGEOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING

- Paul writing to church in Corinth
  - \* very wealthy church
- church at Macedonia
  - \* very poor people
- Paul collecting offering money for starving Christians in Jerusalem

- every thing is gift from God
- Mt 6:33 seek first the kingdom of God

Quote: "Courage is always based on conviction."

## 2 BASIC STEWARDSHIP CONVICTIONS

### 1. God is Owner (of all things)

"For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. 11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine. 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof." (Psalm 50:10-12)

Rom 14:12  
Christian  
will give  
account  
to God

### 2. We are Stewards (caretaker)

"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2)

## 1. A BESTOWED Grace (from God) (v. 1)

### A. His Grace saved Us

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:" (Romans 3:24)

"For by grace are you saved..." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."  
(2 Corinthians 9:15)

### B. His Grace sustains Us (supports)

#### PHYSICALLY (health)

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:" (2 Corinthians 9:8)

#### FINANCIALLY (money)

"What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits towards me?" (Psalm 116:12)

"I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. 18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people." (Psalm 116:17-18)

#### EMOTIONALLY (my feelings)

### C. His Grace motivates Us

- begged Paul to take offering money

## 2. A COMPLETE Surrender (v. 5)

### A. A personal Surrender

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1)*

### B. A planned Surrender

BY THE WILL OF GOD

*"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)*

TO PROVE THE SINCERITY OF OUR LOVE

**Quote:** "You can give without loving, but can't love without giving." —Amy Carmichael

*"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."  
(Luke 12:34)*

tithe = 10%

*"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." (Malachi 3:8)*

*"Honour the LORD with thy substance, And with the firstfruits of all thine increase." (Proverbs 3:9)*

*"But 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 Inasmuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also." (2 Corinthians 8:5-6)*

*"Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." (1 Corinthians 16:2)*



### 3. A PROPER Motivation (v. 9-11) - to give

A. The grace of God

"See that you grow in this grace also." (2 Corinthians 8:7)

B. The sacrifice of Christ - on the cross

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:" (Philippians 2:5-6)

C. The instruction of the Word - commands

Quote: "Our beliefs determine our behavior."

#### 3 BIBLICAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Participate Systematically (consistent)

"Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."  
(1 Corinthians 16:1-2)

2. Plan Prayerfully

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." (Isaiah 55:8)

3. Give Cheerfully

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

generous  
~~stingy~~

### 3 BIBLICAL PROMISES

1. Sow Sparingly, Reap Sparingly - little

*"There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; And there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." (Proverbs 11:24)*

2. Sow Bountifully, Reap Bountifully - much

*"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." (Luke 6:38)*

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." (Isaiah 55:8)*

3. God Will Provide for Your Needs

*"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)*

### CONCLUSION

- sow means plant
- reap means harvest

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Galatians 6:7)