



### #3 Sacrificial Grace

2 Corinthians 8:1 And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. <sup>2</sup>Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. <sup>3</sup>For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, <sup>4</sup>they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. <sup>5</sup>And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will. <sup>6</sup>So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. <sup>7</sup>But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. <sup>8</sup>I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others.

#### OBSERVATIONS...

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**2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.**

1. HE WAS RICH "*though He was rich...*"
2. HE BECAME POOR "*yet for your sakes he became poor*"

Philippians 2:5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

3. TO MAKE US RICH "*that you ... might become rich*"

#### Applications for us...

1. Embrace the Gospel of Jesus which releases you from enslavement to idolatrous consumerism, freeing you to now be fully satisfied in Him and *enabled to live simply and contentedly* within His gracious provision.
2. Let your hearts be moved by knowing of the Sacrificial Grace of Jesus, prompting a worshipful response of radical generosity, freely and joyfully giving away your resources to bless others.
3. See opportunities to be generous as tests of your love for Christ and, ever mindful of His grace to you, strive to not just be mediocre but excellent in this grace of giving.
4. Let stories of radical generosity in other churches inflame your heart with passion to demonstrate your own love for Christ through giving to His work.
5. Don't shrink back from making financial pledges, but rather seize those opportunities and let your zeal at the outset be matched by strong commitment to complete what you were prompted to do by His grace.

Matthew 10:8 ... Freely you have received, freely give.

Hello My Name is \_\_\_\_\_ **RICH!** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Bible Reading Plan</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Luke 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: Luke 18	<input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: Luke 19
<input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: Luke 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: Luke 21	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: Luke 22
<input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: Luke 23		<input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Luke 24