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# 1 CORINTHIANS 16:1,2

"Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. **On the first day of every week, each of you** is to **put something aside** and **store it up, as he may prosper**, so that there will be no collecting when I come."

# HOW MUCH IS "ENOUGH"?

Is there an appropriate "amount" for giving under the new covenant, or is the act and spirit of "giving" all that matters?

How do I know if I am giving "enough"?

Is there such a thing as "too much"?

**How much did God's people give under the old covenant, and does that have any bearing on me, today?**

## 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-15

"We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among *the churches of Macedonia*, for in a **severe test of affliction**, their **abundance of joy** and their **extreme poverty** have overflowed in a **wealth of generosity** on their part.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-15

"For they gave **according to their means**, as I can testify, and **beyond their means**, **of their own accord**, **begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part** in the relief of the saints..."

## 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6,7

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. *Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*"

# THE "CHEERFUL GIVER"

## WHAT IS A "CHEERFUL GIVER"?

ἰλαρός (*hilaros*)

"pert. to being full of cheer, glad, happy"<sup>1</sup>

English "*hilarious*" comes from this word.<sup>2</sup>

"cheerful, joyous, **prompt to do anything**"<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Danker, Frederick W. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd Ed. (BDAG). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. p. 473. Print.

<sup>2</sup> Robertson, A.T. *Word Pictures in the New Testament*. Vol. 4. Nashville: Broadman. p. 248. Print.

<sup>3</sup> Thayer, Joseph H. *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2009. p. 301. Print. Emp. added.

# **1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21**

**"Blessed are you, O Jehovah, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Jehovah, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Jehovah, and you are exalted as head above all.**



# 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

"Both **riches and honor come from you**, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

# 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

**"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were.**

# 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

"Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. O Jehovah our God, **all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own.**

## THE "CHEERFUL GIVER"

# 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

"I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. **In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things,** and **now I have seen your people,** who are present here, **offering freely and joyously to you.**

# 1 CHRONICLES 29:10-21

"O Jehovah, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, **keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people**, and direct their hearts toward you..."

## 2 CORINTHIANS 8:5

"...and this, not as we had expected, but **first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.**