His Indescribable Gift

Tony Mauck · 2 Corinthians 9:15

INTRODUCTION

- Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift.
- It is the summary of Paul's appeal to the Corinthians to participate wholeheartedly in the financial relief effort of saints in Judea.
- Obviously, this has something to do with the grace of God. In fact, the grace of God has been a topic in chapters 8 and 9.

1 What Exactly Is God's Gift or Grace

2 Corinthians 8:9; Philippians 2:8

- For you know, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. That though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, that you, through his poverty, might become rich.
- We can't understand the depths of that poverty, just like we can't understand the heights of those riches.
- This is the message of the gospel in one sentence.
- The exchange of riches for poverty for no personal gain other than the reclamation of his beloved creation.

2 The Effect God's Grace Produces in Believers

2 Corinthians 6:1; 2 Corinthians 8:1; 2 Corinthians 9:7–14

- What he's marveling about when he says, thanks be to God for his indescribable gift, is the effect that God's grace produces in the lives of believers.
- Grace changes us for the better, and it must change us.
- And working together with him, we urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain.
- Grace has to change us. Or it's of no effect in our lives. And grace is the fuel for my participation in his cause.
- Paul is overwhelmed by the positive results of giving and receiving among brethren.
- They've given out of their poverty. They've given more than they were able.

3 What Does Grace Mean in Us

2 Corinthians 9:15

- Everything that was done in chapters eight and nine was because God had given his gift of grace.
- We absolutely need to change our perspective. It is not about what we've done and how much we've sacrificed and how much sweat and work that we've done.
- We are what we are, because of what God has done.

- It is by grace that acts of service are performed that advance his great cause.
- And in whatever way you are capable of serving, you do so by the grace of God.
- And when we fight the battles against temptation and we win, it is by the grace of God that we do it all.

4 No Place for Mr. Big Shot

Psalm 103:14; Isaiah 55:8–9

- There is absolutely no place whatsoever for Mr. Big Shot among the people of God.
- This passage puts us in our place.
- We need to be mindful of how temporary and even worse, how flawed we are.
- We're temporary, we're flawed, and we certainly must recognize that we are dependent on him who has it all together.
- We are equipped to serve as we have done because of the amazing gift. His indescribable gift.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you received the marvelous benefits of his gift? What are you waiting on? What are you living for? What are you hoping for?

MY NOTES