
The Grace of Giving for the Glory of God

Philippians 4:18-23

18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

21 Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you.

22 All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

THE BIG IDEA

What is the main truth The Lord showed you in this passage?

Paul finishes his letter to the Philippians with words of praise to the Lord. He recognizes their gift as a sacrificial offering to God and acceptable by Him. Paul attributes this grace of giving to the Lord’s glorious supply and launches into a doxology of praise to God. He then concludes the letter with Christian greetings to and from the saints in Christ while wishing the best: the presence of God’s infinite grace!

Part 1 – The Worship of Giving

Read Philippians 4:18; Hebrews 13:15-16

- 1) For what reasons do you think the Philippians gift smelled sweet to God?
- 2) According to Hebrews 13 with what sacrifices is God pleased?
- 3) How and why might religious offerings not smell sweet to God?

Part 2—A Glorious Supply

Read Philippians 4:18-19; Malachi 3:8-10

- 1) Why do you think Paul could give such assurance to the Philippians concerning their future needs?
- 2) What do you think motivated Malachi’s readers to “rob God”? How did Malachi address that motivation?
- 3) How does Malachi indicate that faith is a part of giving? Why can we as Christians be confident in our giving?

Part 3—A Doxology

Read Philippians 4:20; Romans 11:36; 1 Corinthians 10:31

- 1) What are some reasons you think God deserves Glory for ever and ever according to this passage?
- 2) According to Romans 11:36 why does glory belong to God forever?
- 3) How can you do all to the glory of God (even eating and drinking)?

Part 4—Greeting the Saints

Read Philippians 4:21-23; 1 Corinthians 1:2-4

- 1) How does this passage display equality among all believers?
- 2) According to 1 Corinthians 1 how does a person reach sainthood?
- 3) How can you display your passion for spiritual fruit is greater than your passion for material gifts?

Don't forget the Big Idea!

