

# 2 Corinthians – Chapter 9

**Author:** Paul  
**Date:** 55 A.D.  
**Purpose:** for the Corinthians to rebuild trust in Paul as God's Apostle  
**Theme:** Strength in weakness



## Preparing the offering

*Read 9:1-5*

- † What ministry and which saints is the topic of verse 1?
- † Paul switches the tables in verse 2, how so?
  - See 2 Corinthians 8:1-5
- † Is “being ready” with the offering a predetermined amount? (vs 3)
  - See 1 Corinthians 16:2
- † Why would it be embarrassing for Paul and the Corinthians if no one was ready with this offering?
- † The ESV translation uses the word “exaction” for a last-minute collection. What’s different about a gift prepared in advance? (vs 5)
- † Do we miss out on a blessing when we fail to give? See Philippians 4:17

## Cheerful giving

*Read 9:6-9*

- † Is verse 6 referring to the Hindu or Buddhist belief of karma?
- † Sowing and reaping is a common biblical principle. What does it take to sow generously? (vs 6)
- † Have you ever been to a church or Christian event that made you feel pressured to give? What does the Bible say? (vs 7)
- † Is it possible to give “cheerfully” when it comes to our offerings? (vs 7)
- † Verses 8 and 11 are very similar, and remind us of which Chief Parts of the Catechism? (a little Confirmation reminder 😊)
- † What Scripture is referenced in verse 9?
  - See Psalm 112:7-9

## Thanks be to God!

*Read 9:10-15*

- † What is righteousness, and how can God increase it through giving? (vs 10)
- † What is the fruit of generosity? (vs 11)
- † Human need is transient, but faith in God is eternal. How does our giving toward transient needs influence the eternal? (vs 12)
- † What does Jesus say about our work impacting the lives of others? (vs 13)
  - See Matthew 5:16
- † Even if giving is a private affair, gifts bring glory to God. What does it encourage the receiver to do? (vss 12-14)