

2 CORINTHIANS 9

NLET

PAUL CONTINUES

TO ENCOURAGE THE DISCIPLE IN CORINTH

TO PARTICIPATE IN HELPING

THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN DISCIPLES IN JUDEA

1 For, on the one hand, concerning the Service – *that is*, the Service in regard to the Holy Ones – it is superfluous for me to write to you. 2 For, I know the eagerness *that is* yours which I keep on boasting about to the Macedonians. Because, Achaia had lastingly been prepared a year ago; and, the zeal from¹ you excited the greater *number of them*.

3 Now, I sent the Brothers,

- lest the boasting *that was* ours – *that is*, the *boasting* concerning you might be emptied in connection with the part – *that is*, this *one*,
- in order that, just as I was saying, you might be ones who have been lastingly prepared,
- not that somehow Macedonians might come with me and might find you *to be* ones who have not been lastingly prepared.

We, *for our part*, might be put to shame – lest we might say² ‘YOU, *for your parts also*’ – in connection with the confidence – *that is*, this *confidence* concerning the reason to boast³.

5 So then, I regarded *it* necessary to encourage the Brothers that they should go ahead to you and should prepare beforehand the gift *that* yours – the one having been lastingly announced beforehand, this prepared *thing* to be in this way as a way of blessing and not as a way of gain.

6 So this: the one who keeps on sowing sparingly shall also keep on reaping sparingly; and, the one who keeps on sowing with bounty shall also keep on reaping with bounty.

7 Each sows just as he chooses deliberately for

himself⁴ with the Heart, not from pain *in his mind* or from constraint. For, the God loves a cheerful⁵ giver.

8 Now, the God *is One* able⁶ to make all grace abound toward you, in order that, having all self-sufficiency in all things always, you might abound in regard to all work – *that is*, good work; 9 just as it has been lastingly written: “**He scattered. He gave to the one who works for his living. The Righteousness that is His remains into the Age.**”⁷

10 Now, the One who furnishes seed to the one who sows and bread for food

- shall *abundantly* supply and shall multiply the seed *that is* yours, and
- shall increase the produce *consisting of* the Righteousness *that is* yours,

11 in connection with all things being ones who keep on being made rich to end in all liberality, which by labor is gaining thanksgiving to the God by agency of us.

12 Because, the Service of the public work – *that is*, this *public work* – is not only one which is filling up the things of the Holy Ones that are lacking; but, also it is one which is being more than enough by means of many thanksgivings to the God, 13 by way of the proven characteristic of the Service – *that is* this *one*, being ones who are holding a high opinion of the God, upon the hearkening to the confession *that is* ours in regard to the Excellent Announcement consisting of the Anointed One and singularity of the Participation in regard to them and in regard to all.

14 And, their petition in your behalf, being ones who are yearning after you because of the surpassing grace of the God upon you, 15 *is* a grace from the God in reference to the indescribable Gift that is His.

¹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the preposition ‘from’ here.

² 93% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘we might say’ (a present, subjunctive verb) here instead of ‘we keep on saying’ (a present, active verb).

³ 96.3% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the genitive noun clause translated as ‘concerning the reason to boast’ here.

⁴ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘chooses deliberately for himself’ (a

present, middle verb) here. On the basis of 1% the NU has ‘has lastingly chosen deliberately for himself’ (a perfect, middle verb).

⁵ ‘cheerful’ – The Greek word (ἰλαρόν) is the word from which English derives the word ‘hilarious’.

⁶ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the adjective ‘able’ here instead of the verb ‘is able’.

⁷ A reference to Psalm 112:9