

9/21/19

2 Corinthians 8-13

NT#37 God Loveth a Cheerful Giver

GT

2 Corinthians 8-9

Some have concluded these two chapters constitute a separate letter than ch. 1-7, perhaps even one of the letters mentioned elsewhere (the "warning" letter mentioned in 1 Cor. 5:9 or the "tearful" letter mentioned in 2 Cor. 2).

raising money for less privileged

part of Jesus gospel for abundance (Luke 12: 22-34) → take no thought for the morrow, ends with "where your treasure is..."

The universe is a safe place where we're welcomed by a generous host. The birds and flowers are evidence of God's overflowing love. Adam and Eve lived in this abundance in Eden. When we are generous with each other, we reverse one aspect of the fall by creating abundance, and thus we participate with God in his creation & work (bringing man back from fallen state to Eden, similar to how Paul would tie Christ & the temple together in Hebrews 8) Psalm 104 - The earth is full of thy riches Psalm 23 the Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. Matt 10:8 freely ye have received; freely give.

8:12 if there first be a willing mind

9:7-8 god loveth a cheerful giver & is able to make grace abound toward you

Ch 10 - measure - standards (i.e. it's easy to meet a standard when you can set it yourself & change it)

to: his person appears weak, his words unconvincing

Ch 11:6 perhaps I am not a powerful speaker - the spirit is what matters

11:30 if I must boast, I will boast about the things that show how weak I am

11:21-33 I will boast of all the things I suffered for Christ

- this has the appearance of being powerless

-(Ch 2) this is how you know I am a bond-servant to Christ

Those who do not suffer will boast of themselves, according to a standard they created

Ch 12: 11-21 & Ch 13

Continues the contrast of Paul's presentation vs. the "super apostles" (12:11)

13:4 even though it was in weakness he was put to death on the cross, it is by God's power that he lives. (treasure in clay pots/earthen vessels - 4:7)

12:1-16 2 visions

whether in the body or out of the body, I can't say

"thorn in the flesh" 12:7

3 times petitioned, to keep me from pride, because of the things
my grace is sufficient

as I saw,
= Satan's messenger

Ether 12:27

Ether 12:4 2 Ne 9:42

my strength is made more perfect in weakness
for when I am weak, then am I strong

the fall = taking your own counsel on what is good & evil

(mainstream Chr. & Jewish interpretation)

weakness = being willing to accept God's judgment