



Ministering to the Saints

One highly significant Abundant Sharing theme is captured in 2 Corinthians 9. We are taught how active the Corinthian believers were in ministering to the saints.

(2 Cor 9:1 KJV) For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you:

Paul began to describe the Corinthian believers' Abundant Sharing actions.

Word Study

(2 Cor 9:1 KJV) For as touching [with respect to] the ministering [service provided] to the saints [holy believers], it is superfluous [excessive] for me to write to you [to describe]:

Literal according to usage of verse 1:

With respect to the service [of abundant sharing] you



are providing to your fellow believers, it is excessive that I describe what you are doing.

These people were exceptionally devoted to the service of Abundant Sharing. They were committed to this service so much so that Paul had no need to describe their commitment. Yet, he does say more about it in verse 2.

(2 Cor 9:2 KJV) For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many.

Word Study

(2 Cor 9:2 KJV) For I know [mentally perceive] the forwardness of your mind [your readiness of mind], for which I boast [vaunt] of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia [Greece] was ready [prepared] a year ago; and your zeal [fervent mind] hath provoked [stimulated] very many [the major portion of *believers in Greece*].

Literal according to usage of verse 2:

For I perceive your readiness of mind, for which I vaunt you to those of Macedonia, that Greece was prepared a year ago; and your fervent mind has stimulated the majority of these believers.

These two verses teach us the importance of the Abundant Sharing service. Their mindset promoted a forward mindset, one so zealous that it stimulated others to believe and act as well. Chris-

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tians are supposed to serve one another out of love and with giving. These actions need to be so evident that, except for rejoicing, no mention is needed. The mindset for this is absolute readiness, something so evident that the observer can't help but brag about it.

These people saved up for a long time and had their gifts ready as far back as a year.

Collecting Abundant Sharing then was much different than now.

Today, we can use the banking system; we don't need to travel and physically collect this financial abundance.

Word will get out to the majority of believers of these great acts of love, thus stimulating the minds and actions of many others to do the same.

Much Love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown