2Cor 9:8-14

8 And God is <u>able</u> to <u>make</u> all <u>grace</u> <u>abound</u> to you, that <u>always</u> having all <u>sufficiency</u> in everything, you may have an <u>abundance</u> for every good deed;

God is able-He always comes thru on our behalf to supply whatever is needed. Able-dunatos – w/ all power & all possibilities – more than enough, in excess to do for us His will by our asking. His kindness, blessings & gifts – abound in our asking-at all times, uninterrupted so we satisfied & content-spiritual & material. Perissos—abound-abundance-exceed the ordinary or necessary-overflowing-having leftovers. feed 5,000 picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish Mk 6:43 Started w/ 5 loaves & 2 fish

9 as it is written, "HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDES FOREVER."

Paul quotes Ps 112:9 describing character of righteous--those walking w/ the Lord-grace giving proof of Gods work in them. WW "grace giving builds Christian character". Scatters abroad-gives to the poor--in turn God prospers. 'forever righteousness'-We reap as we sow & experience the miracle of God's multiplication. Farmer plants according to what he expects to reap. MH "God did it before, will do for you"—Barnes "Money bestowed in charity, may to the carnal mind seem thrown away, but when given from proper principles, it is seed sown, from which a valuable increase may be expected.

10 Now He who <u>supplies</u> seed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;

Paul quotes *Isaiah 55:10-11* metaphor of seed & bread & harvest. Can't separate sacred & secular-in church & in world-WW 'Giving of money is just as spiritual as singing a hymn or handing out gospel tracts. Money is used to glory of God & multiplies ministry & work of Lord & needs of the people'.

11 you will be <u>enriched</u> in <u>everything</u> for all <u>liberality</u>, which through us is <u>producing thanksgiving</u> to God.

Can't bless others w/o being blessed yourself & it lingers. *Illlus brakes* Sowing enriches others & us. But true benefit is glory it brings God.

12 For the <u>ministry</u> of this service is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God.

Ministry Diakonia 'priestly service' elevating the offering to highest level-similar to OT priestly sacrifice. A spiritual service to Lord. We don't bring animal sacrifices as in OT but material gifts we bring as spiritual sacrifice'. Poor saints in Jerusalem church which is bringing thanks to God.

Many excuses not to give...not my people...I don't know them...they got into the mess let them get out of it...I won't have enough for myself. *WW* 'grace never looks for a reason, it only looks for an opportunity'

Diakonia also means servant waiting on tables-practical help for the needs of others resulting in overflow of praise to God. All we do in word and deed should ultimately be to the glorify of God...even smallest—Matt 10:42 "And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you he shall not lose his reward."

13 <u>Because</u> of the <u>proof</u> given by this ministry they will <u>glorify</u> God for your <u>obedience</u> to your <u>confession</u> of the gospel of Christ, and for the <u>liberality</u> of your contribution to them and to all.

Thankful for the money but also for practicing what preach. Follow thru is all important—keep your word....I missed na kane pono. *Matt 5:37 NKJ But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.*

1Peter 2:12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

God is glorified and others are benefited because of you—God's instrument making it happen-Obedient hupotasso--submission--agreement made

together, saying the same thing - free of deceit, mental honesty — your \$ contribution is a sharing together-fellowship *koinonia Ja 2:15,16 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?*

14 while they also, by <u>prayer</u> on your behalf, <u>yearn</u> for you because of the <u>surpassing</u> grace of God in you.

Paul's mission-unity & love between a fragile relationship between Jewish and Gentile churches. Judaizers creating a breech. KLHT-Harvest Hawaii

Deep personal sense of want--long for w/ affection, strain after, greatly desire. Affect of their kind giving created a burden to pray for them.

15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Thanks – God's Grace is impossible to estimate—it is unspeakable, unable to comprehend fully, words fail—free gift w/o earning it, based in pleasure of the giver. God loves to see our joy, love fellowship w/ one another. He ease drops.

Mal 3:16 Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened attentively and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and esteem His name.