

love-giving, not only because of their growth in grace but because these ministers and missionaries were recipients of this mission offering.

11. WANTS OF SAINTS SUPPLIED - Verse 12

Because of love-giving, poor believers have their material needs supplied.

12. ABUNDANT ALSO BY MANY THANKSGIVINGS UNTO GOD

Verse 12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

The offering of thanksgiving moves God to respond to His people in abounding mercy and grace. Many thanksgivings will bring abounding blessings, of course.

13. MANY WHO HAVE BEEN BLESSED GLORIFY GOD FOR YOUR SUBJECTION TO THE GOSPEL AND YOUR LIBERALITY

Verse 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;

With many glorifying God, God moves in more mysterious ways His wonders to perform.

14. MANY SAINTS WILL PRAY FOR YOU

2 Corinthians 9:14 And by their prayer for you, which lg after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.

Yes, many of those who have been saved by this ministration, and those recipients of such blessings will pray for the church whose members practice love-giving to missions. Much prayers will be raised before the throne of grace for you.

We need these fourteen abounding blessings, for us individually and for our church as a whole. These are not for a select few. God is no respecter of persons. He has reserved these for those who will do as He says in **2 Corinthians 8 & 9**. We are facing hard times and the semblance of famine is before us. The time is now for our loving God to bless us with these 14 abounding blessings. Amen.

LOVE GIVING - THE PRINCIPLE OF SOWING AND REAPING



Fourth Secret: Much greater and abounding blessings are God's responses to Love-Giving. Love-Giving is that portion which Christians should set aside from their 90% share, and is proof of their love for God. **2 Corinthians 8:8** I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love.

2 Corinthians 8:24 Wherefore show ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

Giving, in the true sense of the word, begins here. The tithe which is the Lord's by right of partnership, cannot be called our giving to the Lord. We cannot claim as our giving that which is actually God's own portion. But, love-giving, which is a portion set aside for the Lord by the Christian from his own 90% share in the income, is truly "giving".

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth (decides) in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Since the 90% of the income is his own, the Christian should be the one to purpose or decide in his heart, how much to give to the Lord as his love-offering; and he must give it cheerfully. Love-giving is a cheerful giving. The saying, "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving" is very true here. As far as the tithe is concerned, God has decided that Himself; but regarding the love-offering, the Christian has to decide for himself how much he will set aside for the Lord, because it is from his own.

In Malachi 3:8 "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings."

So God is accusing us that we rob Him, not only of His share but also of our own love-offering. Indeed, God deserves to be loved. And love must be accompanied by love-giving of offering "to prove the sincerity of our love." **2 Cor. 8:8**

Love-giving is a practice we rejoice to do sacrificially for those we love on earth. But, with God, who first loved us with an everlasting love, sad to say, we fall short, yes, we even rebel. Have we not observed Christians with lavish gifts at every visit to their loved ones? And these same people come to God for worship every Sunday with no love-offering to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and yet can sing so loud, "My Jesus I Love Thee, I know That Thou art mine." and "More Love to Thee oh Christ." What

kind of love is this? A man receiving P1,000.00 salary monthly, spends his time and money in night clubs, comes home empty, kisses his wife and children, who just went to sleep hungry. What kind of kiss is this? Obviously, it is a Judas' Kiss. Judas thought he could fool Jesus with his display of affection, but, Jesus who knows the hearts of me said, "Judas betrayest thou me with a kiss?"

**GOD'S FOURTEEN
ABOUNDING
BLESSINGS IN
RESPONSE**

TO LOVE-GIVING
Acts 20:35; Luke 6:38

God's promises
above are true.

Below are God's
fourteen abounding
blessings - spiritual
and material - which
He promised He
will give in return
for our love-giving

**1. BOUNTIFUL
REAPING**

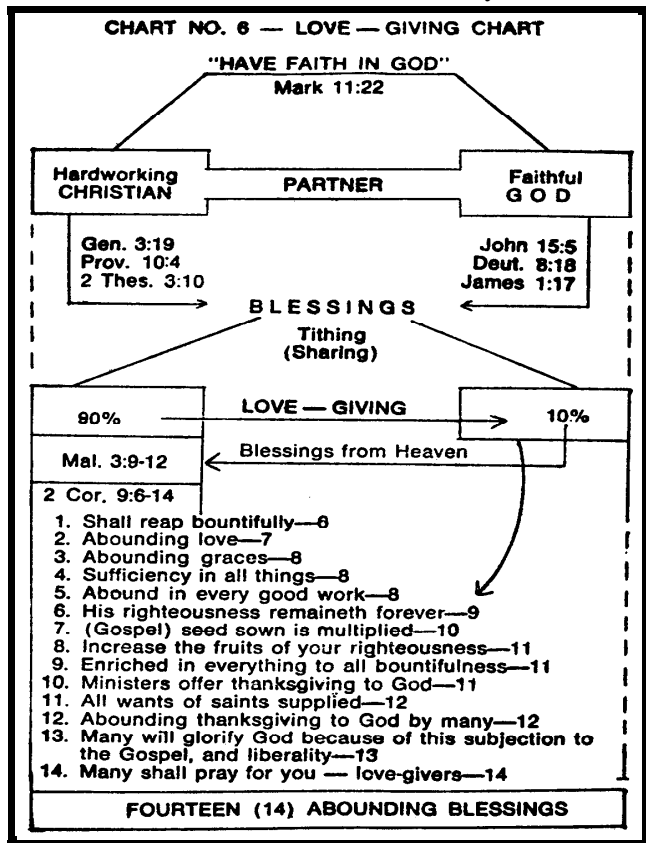
2 Corinthians 9:6

This is the principle
involved in love-giving
- Sowing and Reaping.

The blessings, therefore, that the Christian will reap through his love-offering will be in proportion to the amount he gives. If his love-offering is small, he is sowing sparingly, and will naturally reap sparingly; but if his love-offering is big, he is sowing bountifully, and he will also reap bountifully. It is obvious that God desires for His children to reap bountifully. The term used by Paul for this "sowing sparingly" is giving "to their power", and for sowing bountifully is giving "beyond their power".

2 Corinthians 8:3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves;

And let it be said here again that the giving, whether sparingly or bountifully, is determined, not by what was actually offered, but by how much was kept in one's safe at home or bank. And the Lord, the all-knowing God, can accurately determine whether the love-giving is sparingly or bountifully



done, and can reward the giver accordingly as He promised.

2. LOVE ABOUNDING 2 Corinthians 9:7

Love-giving is cheerful giving. The opposite is giving grudgingly or of necessity. When we love God and prove it, His natural response is more love.

3. GRACE ABOUNDING - Verse 8

This is not just one grace; this is all grace. This is one sure way to grow in grace.

2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."

4. HAVING ALL-SUFFICIENCY IN ALL THINGS ALWAYS

2 Cor. 9:8

5. ABOUNDING IN GOOD WORKS - Verse 8

Hence, at the Judgment Seat of Christ, it will mean abounding rewards, as we will be judged according to our works. For good works, the believers will be rewarded, so abounding in good works means the Christian will be amply rewarded.

6. HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS REMAINETH FOREVER - Verse 9

Psalms 112:9 "He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour."

7. GOSPEL SEEDS SOWN MULTIPLIED - 2 Corinthians 9:10

Hence abounding harvest of souls. The multiplying of seeds sown is due to the increase of missionaries being sent to the field because of the increase of love-giving which goes to the Mission Fund.

8. INCREASE THE FRUITS OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS-2 Cor. 9:10

Love-giving does not merely make his righteousness abide forever, but its fruits increase abundantly.

9. ENRICHED IN EVERYTHING TO ALL BOUNTIFULNESS-Verse 11

Enriched spiritually; enriched materially; enriched physically, mentally; and abounding in everything.

10. MUCH THANKSGIVING TO GOD BY MINISTERS - Verse 11

Paul a minister and a missionary, speaking for all ministers and all missionaries, offered thanksgiving to God as a result of the Christians'