**CHAPTER 9**

*A further exhortation to almsgiving: the fruits of it.*

**1** For concerning the ministry that is done towards the saints, it is superfluous for me to write unto you.

**2** For I know your forward mind: for which I boast of you to the Macedonians. That Achaia also is ready from the year past, and your emulation hath provoked very many.

**3** Now I have sent the brethren, that the thing which we boast of concerning you, be not made void in this behalf, that (as I have said) you may be ready:

**4** Lest, when the Macedonians shall come with me, and find you unprepared, we (not to say ye) should be ashamed in this matter.

**5** Therefore I thought it necessary to desire the brethren that they would go to you before, and prepare this blessing before promised, to be ready, so as a blessing, not as covetousness.

**6** Now this I say: He who soweth sparingly, shall also reap sparingly: and he who soweth in blessings, shall also reap blessings.

**7** Every one as he hath determined in his heart, not with sadness, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

**8** And God is able to make all grace abound in you; that ye always, having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work,

**9** As it is written: He hath dispersed abroad, he hath given to the poor: his justice remaineth for ever.

**10** And he that ministereth seed to the sower, will both give you bread to eat, and will multiply your seed, and increase the growth of the fruits of your justice:

**11** That being enriched in all things, you may abound unto all simplicity, which worketh through us thanksgiving to God.

**12** Because the administration of this office doth not only supply the want of the saints, but aboundeth also by many thanksgivings in the Lord,

**13** By the proof of this ministry, glorifying God for the obedience of your confession unto the gospel of Christ, and for the simplicity of your communicating unto them, and unto all.

**14** And in their praying for you, being desirous of you, because of the excellent grace of God in you.

**15** Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.