

## A Cheerful Giver – Part 4

### Introduction and Review

- Giving to help people in need is a sign of a right relationship with God (v. 9) – “righteousness”
- God supernaturally increases the effectiveness of resources given to help people in need (v. 10) – “multiply” & “increase”
- Generosity from believers produces thanksgiving to God from recipients (v. 11)
- Giving generously should be an act of worship for a believer (v. 12) – “**λειτουργία**” is a service of worship

### I. God is Glorified (v. 13)

#### A. Submission

*The opportunity to give & help people in need is a **test** from the Lord – “approval” (δοκιμή) means a testing process. When a believer submits to the gospel, everything that divides us is removed – race, gender, wealth, poverty, etc.*

#### B. Sharing

*“contribution” or sharing (κοινωνία) is characteristic of the gospel (Phil. 4:15). Recipients glorify God when other believers obey the gospel by sharing with those in need.*

**God is glorified when believers submit & share according to the gospel.**

### II. Believers are Edified (v. 14-15)

#### A. Unity (v. 14)

*Generosity between believers creates true unity & fellowship – “long for” & “pray for” (Col. 3:14). Generosity & unity between believers is a result of God’s extraordinary grace.*

#### B. Thanksgiving (v. 15)

*Both the believer who gives & the one who receives must thank God for His inexpressible gift. Jesus Christ is the inexpressible gift (2Co. 8:9).*

**Generosity between believers creates unity & thanksgiving to God!**