

Sermon Outline

NON-ANXIOUS PRESENTS | Nick O'Neil

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

1. A lesson from the farm (9:6-7)
 - a. Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Cor. 9:6–7)
 - b. Why wouldn't the farmer sow?
 - i. Fear and risk
 - ii. Insufficient returns
 - c. Why do we find it hard to be cheerful generosity farmers?
2. God's grace for sowing and harvesting (9:8-11)
 - a. Verse 8: And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (NIV)

And God is able to make all *grace* abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work (ESV, CSV; "grace/gift" c.f. 2 Cor. 8:1, 4, 6–7, 9, 16, 19; 9:8, 14–15)

- b. Verse 9: As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."
 - i. Righteous forever?
 1. Legal righteousness (e.g. Romans 3:22)
 2. Character righteousness (e.g. 2 Timothy 3:16)
 - a. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in *righteousness*, (2 Tim. 3:16)
- c. Verse 10: Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion...
 - i. "Seed"
 1. Material and spiritual
 2. The Doctrine of Providence:
 - a. "God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures; ordering them, and all their actions, to his own glory." (Turretin)
 - b. "In all circumstances of life, (the doctrine of providence) gives us good confidence in our faithful God and Father that he will provide whatever we need for body and soul and that he will turn to our good whatever adversity he sends us in this sad world, since he is able to do this as almighty God and desires to do this as a faithful Father."(Bavinck)

3. Application: don't let fear stop generosity because...
 - ii. "Harvest"

3. Giving is God's Gift for Your Good (9:11b-15)
 - a. Righteousness
 - b. Meeting needs
 - c. Thanksgiving and glory to God
 - d. Prayers for the giver

4. Don't miss out!

