

Background to 2 Corinthians 8-9

- Acts 11:27-30
- Galatians 2:7-10
- Acts 24:17
- Romans 15:25-28
- 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Let's review Paul's main thoughts so far:

8:1-5 –

8:6-8 –

8:9 –

Read 2 Corinthians 8:10-15

How is verse 10 similar to verse 8?

What is Paul's advice?

What important principle is laid out in verse 12?

equality – Explain the importance of that word in this context.

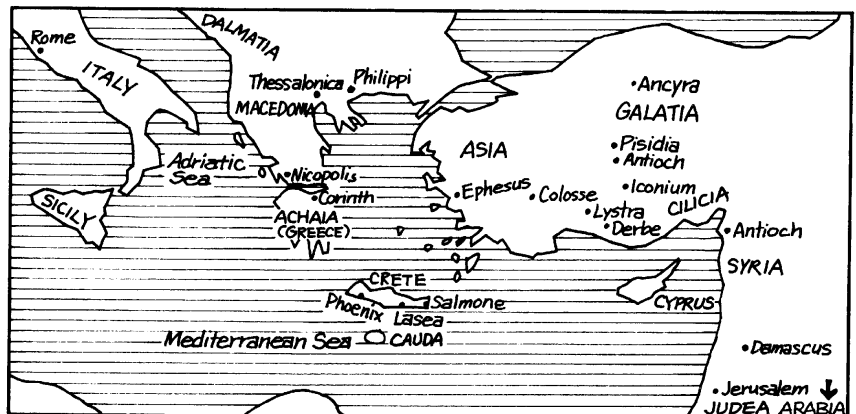
Why does Paul quote Exodus 16:18?

Read 2 Corinthians 8:16-24

Compare 8:6 with 8:16-17. Why was Paul thankful to God?

What does Paul say about *the brother*?

Note the reasons for administering the gift.



What criticisms might Paul be trying to avoid?

What important principle is stated in verse 21?

What does Paul say about *our brother* in verse 22? (See Acts 20:1-6 for more on the *representatives of the churches*.)

What does Paul want the Corinthians to do for these men?

Final Discussion

Why do you think sending representatives to Corinth could have been a delicate matter?

Why is it important both to will and to do? (See 8:6 and 8:10-11.)

State the importance of understanding 8:12 for your own giving.

How do we, and how might we, put 8:20-21 into practice in our congregation?

Why do you think Paul does not just tell the Corinthians exactly what and exactly how much to give for the offering?