

# 1 Corinthians 46 – 16:1-4

## Collection for the Poor Saints

### 1. 15:58 – Our Labour Not In Vain

- a. This could very well be the “call to action” for the book: doctrine affects behavior
- b. They should now know (“know ye not”) that good works is not vain – Phil 2:16
- c. We serve the Lord with our lives, redeeming the time – Eph 5:16, 2 Cor 5:14-15
- d. Ministry is reasonable, and our work is not vain if we faint not - Gal 6:9, Eph 2:10

### 2. 16:1-4 – Collection Orders

- a. The order to the Galatians – Gal 2:10; Gal 6:6,10 repeated in 1 Cor 16:2
- b. God instituted tithes for Israel, they were brought to Jerusalem Deut 14:22, 12:5-6
- c. This is not a tithe collection which was only required of Israel.
- d. “First day” – this is not establishing a new Sabbath – Col 2:16, Gal 4:9-11
- e. “Every one of you” – no one is excepted from Acts 20:35, Phil 4:17, 2 Cor 9:6
- f. The reason? So that Paul would not be collecting the money – 1 Cor 9:15, 18
- g. This collection went to the poor saints at Jerusalem – 1 Cor 16:3

### 3. Grace Giving – 2 Cor 9:7

- a. Giving is after your necessities are paid – 1 Thess 4:12, 2 Thess 3:8-11, 1 Tim 5:8
- b. Giving graciously is an heart issue, “as he purposeth in his heart” – 2 Cor 8:7-9
- c. “not grudgingly” – It is an attitude – 2 Cor 8:12
- d. How is it cheerful? When you see the returns you gladly give: Phil 4:17-18
- e. “Not of necessity” contrast to tithing under the law which was required
  - i. They were under a curse if they failed to tithe – Mal 3:9-10, but Gal 3:13
- f. Our liberality is a testimony to God’s grace – Titus 2:10, 2 Cor 8:1-2; 9:13-14

### 4. The Poor Saints at Jerusalem

- a. ‘Consider the ant’ changes to ‘consider the raven’ - Pro 6:6-11,21:25 vs. Luk 12:24
- b. Jesus instructs remnant Israel to “sell all” – Luk 12:33, 18:18-22, Mat 19:21
- c. With the kingdom at hand, God would provide – Micah 7:14-15, Exo 16, Mat 6:11
- d. The remnant saints forsook all in obedience – Mat 19:27, Acts 2:44-45, 4:34-35
- e. James warns the kingdom remnant against buying and selling – Jam 4:13-15
- f. If the kingdom had come, they would not be poor – Acts 8:1, 11:26-30
- g. Through their fall salvation comes to gentiles – Rom 11:11-12, 15:25-27
- h. Peter tells Paul to remember the poor (saints in Jerusalem) – Gal 2:9-10
- i. Paul brings alms and offerings and they glorify God – Acts 21:19-20, 24:16-17