

FOUR TRUTHS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE
II COR. 9:1-5

Introduction:

- A. Circumstances change from day to day, age to age.
 - 1. The Corinthians had their problems.
 - 2. Some of them were unusual, at least to us.

- B. Truths that govern our actions never change.
 - 1. We may learn these from many sources.
 - 2. Principles of truth may come from strange sources.

I. GOOD PEOPLE DON'T NEED CONTINUAL SCOLDINGS. V1

- A. "For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you."
 - 1. touching = peri = around, concerning, about.
 - 2. superfluous = perissos = more than enough.

- B. Only the dis-interested and half-hearted need constant reminders.
 - 1. Paul had written enough.
 - 2. The rich man in hell, his brothers had enough information and warning.

II. ZEAL IS CONTAGIOUS. V2

- A. "For I know the forwardness of your mind."
 - 1. forwardness = prothumia - eagerness, good-will,
 - 2. They displayed an eagerness to do God's will.

- B. "and your zeal hath provoked very many."
 - 1. zeal = zelos -
 - 2. provoked = erethikso - rouse to fight, to excite, irritate.

III. BOASTING IS NOT BRAGGING, IF YOU DO IT. V3,4

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- A. Paul wanted the money collected at an early date.
 - 1. bounty = eulogia - eulogy - good speaking, sometimes translated, blessing.
 - 2. noticed = announced before.

- B. Paul did not want them to give at the last moment, lest they appear covetous.
 - 1. "a matter of bounty, (blessing)."
 - 2. "Not as of covetousness."

- C. Covetousness robs us of the joy of giving even if we do give.