

Consecration

II. Cor. 8:5

Paul is talking to the Corinthians about the Macedonians

- He played them up"*
1. They were poor but they abounded in their liberality.
  2. They were poor but went beyond their power.

"They did this not as we hoped but went beyond that..not only giving of their means very liberally but gave their own selves...."

1. To the Lord
2. Unto us.

We notice some words here...

First..This word stands up at the top...head of the class

"A" grade..A number one. They did something first. They put something at the top..placed something at head of the class


A grade..A number one. They gave...you will not find a word that is broader than

this one. They gave not only of their means but gave the greatest possession they had. They first gave themselves.

Now the value of such an act must be determined by what one gives himself to..to drink, to intemperance, lust, or what not.

These people not only gave their greatest possession but gave that possession to the dearest, highest, and the best personality...JESUS..

A striking thing about this was--that when they first gave themselves to the Lord next they gave themselves to the Apostles to help them do that great work of helping the needy

I heard a radio announcer advertizing who said, "No advertisement is better than the company advertizing." We have the most worthy person in the world or eternity, to proclaim... 

*unselfish-*

They gave themselves first  
to the Lord...Let's give our-  
selves whole heartedly to HIM.

Oh the bitter shame and sor-  
row that a time could ever be  
when I let the Savior's pity  
plead in vain, and proudly  
answer..all of self and none  
of Thee.

Yet He found me, I beheld Him  
bleeding on the accursed tree,  
heard Him pray, forgive them  
Father..and my wistful heart  
said faintly..some of self and  
some of Thee.

Day by day His tender mercy,  
healing, helping, full and  
free, sweet and strong and ah  
so patient, brought me lower  
while I whispered..Less of self  
and more of Thee.

Higher than the highest heaven  
Deeper than the deepest sea

Lord, Thy love at last has  
conquered; Grant me now my  
supplication,---

None of self and all of Thee

( Theodore Monod )