

THE MACEDONIAN CHURCHES

Int.

1. Aim: To show how we are to give by the example of the N.T. Churches.
2. An important element of Christian service is that of "giving"...
 - a. Following the NT pattern of taking up a collection, we lay by in store on the first day of the week - 1 Cor. 16:1-2
 - b. With this money we provide for the work of the church - preaching the gospel and helping those in need
3. The apostle Paul, seeking to inspire the Corinthians to abound in the grace of giving, used the example of the churches of Macedonia - 2 Cor. 8:1-7
4. We can do the same today
5. Let's take a closer look at the churches of Macedonia as examples of excellent giving!

Discussion

I. WHO WERE THE CHURCHES OF MACEDONIA? ¹

A. THE CHURCH AT PHILIPPI ...

1. We read of its beginning in Acts 16:11-40
 - a. With the conversion of Lydia and her household
 - (1) Note her hospitality - Acts 16:15 "And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought [us], saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide [there]. And she constrained us."
 - (2) Was this an indication of things to come?