

1 Corinthians 16:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Analysis

Upon the first day of the week—This is one of the earliest references to Christian Sunday worship, marking the shift from Jewish Sabbath (Saturday) to Sunday in honor of Christ's resurrection. *Mia sabbatōn* (μία σαββάτων, literally "first of the week") became the Christian day of gathering (Acts 20:7, Revelation 1:10 "the Lord's day").

Let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him—Proportionate giving based on income, not legalistic tithing, characterizes New Covenant stewardship. Each believer personally (*par' heautō*, "by himself") sets aside funds regularly, systematically. **That there be no gatherings when I come**—Paul wanted the money ready, not collected under pressure during his visit, ensuring gifts were cheerful, not coerced (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Historical Context

This verse provides evidence that Christians had abandoned the Sabbath for Sunday worship within two decades of Christ's resurrection. The practice of regular, proportionate giving replaced the Old Testament tithe system, reflecting New Covenant liberty and personal responsibility under grace rather than law.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What principles for Christian giving emerge from Paul's instructions—regular, proportionate, planned, private?
2. How does worship on "the first day of the week" connect the resurrection to weekly Christian gathering?
3. Why does Paul emphasize that giving should be planned ahead rather than collected under immediate pressure?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| κατὰ | μίαν | σαββάτων | ἕκαστος | ὑμῶν | παρ' | ἐαυτῷ |
| Upon | the first | day of the week | every one | of you | by | him |
| G2596 | G3391 | G4521 | G1538 | G5216 | G3844 | G1438 |
| τιθέτω | θησαυρίζων | ὃ | τι | ἄν | εὐοδῶται | ἵνα μὴ |
| lay | in store | | | | God hath prospered him | |
| G5087 | G2343 | G3739 | G5100 | G302 | G2137 | G2443 G3361 |
| ὅταν | ἔλθω | τότε | λογίαι | γίνωνται | | |
| when | I come | | gatherings | there be | | |
| G3752 | G2064 | G5119 | G3048 | G1096 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Acts 20:7 (Parallel theme): And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Deuteronomy 8:18 (References God): But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

Luke 16:10 (Parallel theme): He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Revelation 1:10 (Parallel theme): I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

John 20:19 (Parallel theme): Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Luke 24:1 (Parallel theme): Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.