

# 2 Corinthians 4:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

## Analysis

**For all things are for your sakes** (ta gar panta di' hymas, τὰ γὰρ πάντα δι' ὑμᾶς)—Paul's sufferings, ministry, and even his life are for the Corinthians' benefit. Di' hymas (δι' ὑμᾶς, 'on account of you, for your sake') shows others-centered purpose. This is vicarious existence: living for others' good rather than self-preservation.

**That the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God** (hina hē charis pleonasasa dia tōn pleionōn tēn eucharistian perisseusē eis tēn doxan tou theou, ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσασα διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς τὴν δόξαν τοῦ Θεοῦ)—pleonazō (πλεονάζω, 'to increase, abound, multiply') and perisseuō (περισσεύω, 'to overflow, abound') create cascading abundance. More grace produces more thanksgiving from more people, resulting in more glory to God. Paul's suffering sets off a chain reaction of grace, gratitude, and glory.

## Historical Context

This verse captures Paul's missional theology: individual suffering has cosmic, God-glorifying purpose. In a patronage culture where benefactors expected gratitude and honor for themselves, Paul redirects all thanksgiving to God. He's not the source of grace but its conduit. The Corinthians' gratitude should flow through Paul to God, not terminate on Paul.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. Do you view your life and service as genuinely 'for others' sakes,' or is that pious language masking self-interest?
2. How does the grace-thanksgiving-glory chain reaction work in your community—where does it get interrupted or diverted?
3. In what ways might your suffering, faithfully endured, multiply grace and thanksgiving in ways you can't yet see?

## Interlinear Text

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τὰ γὰρ πάντα διὰ ὑμᾶς ἵνα ἡ χάρις πλεονάσασα  
G3588 For all things are for your that G3588 grace the abundant  
G1063 G3956 G1223 G5209 G2443 G5485 G4121

διὰ τῶν πλειόνων τὴν εὐχαριστίαν περισσεύσῃ εἰς  
are for G3588 of many G3588 the thanksgiving G2169 might to  
G1223 G4119 G2169 G4052 G1519

τὴν δόξαν τοῦ θεοῦ  
G3588 the glory G3588 of God  
G1391 G2316

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 8:28** (References God): And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

**2 Corinthians 1:11** (Parallel theme): Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

**2 Corinthians 8:19** (Grace): And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind:

**Psalms 50:14** (References God): Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

**Psalms 50:23** (References God): Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

**Galatians 1:24** (Glory): And they glorified God in me.

**1 Peter 4:11** (Glory): If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

**1 Peter 2:9** (Parallel theme): But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

**2 Timothy 2:10** (Glory): Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.