

# Isaiah 32:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things shall he stand.

## Analysis

**But the liberal deviseth liberal things** (וְנָדִיב נְדִיבוֹת יַעֲצֵ, venadiv nedivot ya'ats)—the נָדִיב (nadiv, noble, generous person) plans נְדִיבוֹת (nedivot, noble things, generous acts). **And by liberal things shall he stand** (וְהוּא עַל־נְדִיבוֹת יָקוּם, vehu al-nedivot yaqum)—by נְדִיבוֹת (nedivot, nobility, generosity) he will קוּם (qum, stand, endure, be established).

The contrast with verses 6-7 is stark: vile person schemes evil, noble person plans good. The repetition emphasizes character consistency—the נָדִיב (nadiv) doesn't just perform occasional generous acts but fundamentally orients life toward נְדִיבוֹת (nedivot, generosity). The promise 'he shall stand' (יָקוּם, yaqum) means endure, be established, succeed. Proverbs 11:25 echoes: 'The liberal soul shall be made fat.' Generosity isn't financial loss but Kingdom investment. Jesus promised: 'Give, and it shall be given unto you' (Luke 6:38). Second Corinthians 9:6-11 develops the principle—generous sowing yields generous reaping.

## Historical Context

Ancient patronage systems expected wealthy individuals to show generosity—funding public works, feeding the poor. The truly noble fulfilled this; the churlish (v. 7) exploited position for gain. Christianity transformed generosity from patronage (expecting honor/reciprocity) to charity (expecting nothing back)—Jesus commanded, 'lend, hoping for nothing again' (Luke 6:35). Early Christians' radical generosity attracted pagans (Acts 2:44-45, 4:32-35).

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does planning generous acts differ from occasional spontaneous giving?
2. What does it mean that generosity causes you to 'stand'—to be established and endure?
3. In what areas is God calling you to move from churl (hoarding) to noble (generous planning)?

## Interlinear Text

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נְדִיב וְ	נְדִיב וְ	יַעַץ	וְהָ	עַל	נְדִיב וְ
<b>But the liberal</b>	<b>But the liberal</b>	<b>deviseth</b>	H1931	H5921	<b>But the liberal</b>
H5081	H5081	H3289			H5081

  

יִקֹּם:
<b>shall he stand</b>
H6965