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BIB 201: New Testament Literature: OC

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Week 10 DQ1: Giving or Receiving Gifts

There are noticeable discrepancies between Paul's citation and the original Psalm passage. The general meanings and language of the two sections are the key points of distinction. The most apparent difference is that the focus has moved from God receiving gifts to God providing gifts. The comments' explanation was found in John 7:39 and 14:12 "in the Psalm, 'You have received gifts among men, i.e., to be distributed among men.'" As a victorious conqueror distributes the treasures of his foes as donations among his people, so Christ, following his defeat of the forces of evil, said, "The delivery of the Holy Spirit's gifts was reliant on Christ's ascension." The variances provide insight into the first-century Jewish interpretation of Scripture. It discloses the adjustments made by Paul and other New Testament writers, demonstrating that there was some room for creative interpretation and application of Scripture.