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Autore	Blanton Thomas R., IV
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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- One Introduction -- Two Symbolic Goods as Media of Exchange in Paul's Gift Economy -- Three The Benefactor's Account Book: The Rhetoric of Gift Reciprocation According to Seneca and Paul -- Four Gift or Commodity? On the Classification of Paul's Unremunerated Labor -- Five Classification and Social Relations: The Dark Side of the Gift -- Six The Gift of Status -- Seven Spiritual Gifts and Status Inversion -- Eight Summary and Conclusions -- Appendix: Letters and Events Significantly Shaping Paul's Relations with the Corinthian Assembly: A Relative Chronology -- Abbreviations -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index of Subjects -- Index of Modern Authors -- Index of Biblical and Early Jewish Sources -- Index of Greek and Roman Sources
Sommario/riassunto	Thomas Blanton sheds light on the philosophy surrounding gift giving in Paul's letters and on modern theories of gift exchange through the lens of religion. The exchange of gifts is a fundamental part of society and a foundational element in Greco-Roman religions. Combining theories of gift exchange, both modern and Greco-Roman, Thomas Blanton reveals how religious discourse-in the guise of "spiritual gifts" believed to come from Israel's god-is instrumental in the formation of sociopolitical hierarchies and the assignment of honor and prestige.

Blanton uses an interdisciplinary approach that incorporates religion, classics, sociology, and anthropology to investigate the economy of gift exchange shown in Paul's letters.
