

THANKSGIVING
mine

Tx. 1 Thess. 5:18.

INTRODUCTION:

- A. "We face no greater peril than the danger of ingratitude. It is one of the hazards of abundance."
- B. Deut. 6:10-12. "So it shall be, when the Lord your God brings you into the land of which He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, "houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant--when you have eaten and are full-- then beware, lest you forget the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.
- C. The nation of Israel repeatedly rejected God, and it always came (rejection) in the time of great prosperity, never in moments of poverty.
- D. Today America takes the place of Israel in their ingratitude.
- E. "Prosperity and gratitude seldom occupy the same room."
- F. 100 years ago the average American had 72 "wants" 16 of them were considered "necessities".
- G. Today the average American has 484 "wants" with 92 rated as "necessities".
- H. We have more "necessities" than they had "wants".
- I. The more we have the more we want.
- J. Are we thankful? The average American is a vehement complainer.
- K. Next Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, What is it?
 - 1. Day off.
 - 2. Turkey, eating too much.
 - 3. Football.
 - 4. "An annual U.S. holiday observed on the fourth Thursday of November as a day of giving thanks and feasting; it communicates the pilgrims celebration of the good harvest of 1621."
 - 5. Just about the only uncommercial holiday left.
- L. Who does the Atheist thank of thanksgiving? Goes mindless through it like he does all days.

BODY:

I. WORDS FOR THANK AND THANKSGIVING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. EUCHARISTIC= thanks, thankfulness, thanksgiving.
- B. CHARIS- Grace, acceptable, benefit, bounty, favor, gift, gracious, liberality, pleasure, thank (s), thankful.
- C. Used 136 times in the Bible.

II. THOSE THANKFUL AND NOT THANKFUL IN THE BIBLE.

A. Not Thankful.

- 1. Ne. 9:26 Israel. "Nevertheless they were disobedient And rebelled against You, Cast Your law behind their backs And killed Your prophets, who testified against them To turn them to Yourself; And they worked great provocations.
- 2. Rom. 1:21 Gentiles.
- 3. 10 lepers Lk. 17:11-19.
- 4. Listed with gross sins- 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

B. Those thankful.

- 1. Paul and Silas in Prison- Acts 16:22-25.
- 2. Eve, Noah, Melchizedek, Lot, Abraham, Sarah, Abraham's servant, Isaac, Leah, Rachel, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Miriam, Jethro, Israel, Deborah, Hannah, Samuel, David, Solomon, Queen of Sheba, Hiram, Jehoshaphat's army, Ezra, the Levites, The Jews, the Psalmists, Isaiah, Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar, the Mariners, Jonah, the Shepherds, Simeon, Anna, man with Palsy, the demoniac, the woman bent with an infirmity, one of the Leapers, blind Bartimaeus, the Centurian for his son, lame man that Peter healed, early Christians, Paul.
- 3. Jesus gave us the example to be thankful.
 - a. Matt. 11:25-26.
 - b. Jn. 11:41-42.
 - c. Lord's supper- Mk. 14:22-23.
 - d. Before meals- Matt. 15:36.

III. WE ARE TOLD TO BE THANKFUL.

- A. Psa. 100:4. (NKJV) Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with

praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

B. Psa. 106:1. (NKJV) Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for [He] [is] good! For His mercy endures forever.

C. Psa. 118:1, 29. Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

D. Psa. 136:1-3, 26. Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures] forever. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy [endures] forever. Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy [endures] forever:
Psal 136:26 (NKJV) Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For His mercy [endures] forever.

E. Should accompany our request- Phil. 4:6.

IV. FOR WHAT SHOULD WE BE THANKFUL?

A. Gift of God.

1. 2 Cor. 9:15.

2. Jn. 3:16.

B. Victory over death and the grave- 1 Cor. 15:57.

C. Goodness and mercy of God.

1. Psa. 68:19. (NKJV) Blessed [be] the Lord, [Who] daily loads us [with] [benefits], The God of our salvation!

2. James 1:17-18.

D. Conversion of others- Rom. 6:17-18.

E. Faith and love of others.

1. Rom. 1:8

2. 2 Thess. 1:3.

F. Physical needs- 1 Tim. 4:3-5.

G. Children.

H. Home.

I. Church here.

J. Good husband or wife.

K. Health (yours is better than a lot of others).

L. All things.

1. Eph. 5:20.

2. Fleas "Two sisters in a German concentration camp. One complained about fleas the other said, "Be thankful for the fleas" why "They keep the German soldiers from coming in and bothering us."

3. Boll Weevil, Enterprise Alabama has a monument erected in 1919 with the following inscription. "In profound appreciation of the boll weevil and what it has done as the herald of prosperity, this monument was erected by the citizens of Enterprise, Coffee County, Alabama."

4. Had it not been for the invasion of the Mexican boll weevil into the southland, farming prosperity with many various crops would not have become a reality. The boll weevil, which at first seemed to be a disaster, actually turned what could have become a greater disaster into greater prosperity.

CONCLUSION:

A. FOR WHAT AM I THANKFUL THIS DAY? author unknown.

I heard a poor man softly say,
"The chance to earn my daily bread,
A place each night to lay my head;
A soft kind hand to ease my care,
A child's small voice to rise in prayer;
A special friend, both kind and true,
To help me right the wrongs I do;
To dwell where tyrants fear too tread,
Where freedoms flag floats overhead;
The faith to ask on bended knee,
Oh, God, may all men be rich like me!"

B. Are you thankful to God.

C. Are you showing it.