

Be Thankful Always

Concord Community Church

Dated 01/10/2023

Bible Readings: Psalm 92:1-8 Psalm 103:1-6 Romans 1:21

Rom1:21-22 *Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

INTRODUCTION: Once we know God, we must acknowledge His Supreme authority over all creation and must remain thankful in our words, thoughts, and deeds/actions. WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT???

A thankful person acknowledges what someone else has done for him/her or them. They realize the contribution of others. In doing so, a thankful person expresses an attitude of being humble, respectful, submissive, modest, poor in spirit (Matt 5:3) {for theirs is the kingdom of heaven}, as well as meek (Matt 5:5) {for they shall inherit the earth}.

Humility is a must in the Kingdom of God. One of the strongest ploy (cunning plan/scheme/move/tactic) of the enemy is to try to get us to believe that we can make it on our own.

Thankfulness constantly reminds us that God is our SOURCE. We are not self-made men and women; the Lord gave us life, health talent and opportunities.

I am sure you are familiar with saying "Partial obedience is no obedience". This is what is happening in the modern Christians/believers. They are travelling and living in both camps. Worldly celebrations are combined with a short prayer meeting with a ratio of 1:4 hours of time investment. About 25 years ago, a new dish came up called "Beryani Palau". That was 50:50 mix of two dishes.

This trend of combining occasions with thanksgiving in born again Christians is highly dangerous as per strict meaning of Romans 1:21 in relation to God. The result is mentioned in V22.

In relation to God, a truly genuine thankful person knows that “Promotion or exaltation comes neither from the East Nor from the West nor from the South. But God is the Judge: He pus down one, And exalt another”(Ps 75:6-7).

The Bible Talks about Thankfulness & Thanksgiving 138 times, in both the Testaments. Apostle Paul uses the concept of thanksgiving about 40 times in his epistles and 7 times in Colossians alone (Chapter 1:2,3,12; 2:7; 3:15,17 and 4:2). The concept of thankfulness in the New Testament comes from the use of two Greek words. The first is CHARIZOMAI, which comes from Charis meaning “grace”. The second is HOMOLOGEO, meaning “to confess, to acknowledge”.

Hebrews 13:15 Says “Therefore by Him (Jesus) let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name”. Sacrifice of praise/the fruit of our lips, today would include thanking God-the Father, God-the Son, and God- the Holy Spirit—our Triune God.

Our very lives should be “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God” as Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 12:1. This is the only sacrifice God now requires of His people. However, there are many other things that the You/me and all the believers should be thankful for: Let us look at some of them quickly.

..... Use the other
Sheet.....

30. Some Things We Should Be Thankful For

Text: [1 Thessalonians 5:18](#)

I. PARDON FROM SIN ([Ps. 103:3](#))

- A. Brings new life ([II Cor. 5:17](#)). We must be "in Christ"!
- B. Brings new love ([Matt. 22:37](#)). We love God with all our hearts. This love is not forced upon us. We have a desire to love Him.
- C. Brings new longings ([Ps. 42:1-2](#)). There is a hunger for God.
- D. Brings new liberty ([John 8:36](#)). We have been made free from sin, habits, and the things of the world.
- E. Brings new looking ([Heb. 12:1-2](#)). We look to Christ — not man!

II. GIVE 'THANKS FOR PEACE

- A. God's peace ([Isa. 26:3](#)).
- B. Promised peace ([John 16:33](#)). Notice: "Be of good cheer."
- C. Peace through His blood ([Col. 1:20](#)), not through a man, nor a church, but through His blood.
- D. Peace through Christ ([Rom. 5:1](#)). Without Christ there is no peace.
- E. A peaceful mind ([Phil. 4:7](#)). There is no need to worry or fret.

- F. But there is no peace for the wicked ([Isa. 57:21](#)).
- III. **GOD PLACED PASTORS IN THE CHURCH ([Eph. 4:11](#))**
 - A. To perfect the saints — help Christians grow in the Lord.
 - B. To do the work of the ministry — win new people. A pastor should not have to waste his time in "babying" Christians!
 - C. To edify the body of Christ and to "build up" the church.
 - D. To serve as they are "called of God" ([1 Chron. 16:22](#)).
- IV. **PROSPERITY MEANS ([Ps. 103:5](#))**
 - A. Having daily needs met ([Phil. 4:19](#)).
 - B. Having health ([III John 1:2](#)). Have you thanked God for good health?
 - C. Having happiness ([Ps. 16:11](#)). The joy O: the Lord is yours. Thank Him!
 - D. Having a job, car, home, and clothes.
 - E. Having friends ([Prov. 17:17](#)). "In every thing give thanks." Even for problems, troubles, and sickness.

If we are thankful unto God, we will not complain. Complaining people do not please God! Be thankful every day!

*Now as this is special thanksgiving service incorporated in our regular main service with Holy Communion, I would like to pray for **Shailene's** and her parents along with anointing the family for honouring God in this manner.*
Before I do that, I would prefer to **mention 10 Ways to raise Godly Children.**

1. Introduce your child to a daily Bible reading program (Acts 17:11)
2. Establish in your child an effective prayer life (Matthew 6:5-15)
3. Teach your child how to be sure of their Salvation (Rom 10:13, John 1:12)
4. Encourage your child to dedicate their life to do God's will (Rom 12:1-2)
5. Guide your children to make right friends avoid wrong ones (Ps1:1; Prov1:10)
6. Teach/make your children to become loyal church members (Heb 10:24-25)
7. Guide your children to develop & practice their Spiritual gifts (2-Tim 2:15)
8. Show/teach/guide your children how to conquer moral impurity (Ps 119:11)
9. Guide each child to get under the protection of God's authority (Eph 6:1-4)
10. Show each child how to see their Spiritual purpose in life (Esther 4:14)