GIVING THANKS TO THE LORD — HE IS GOOD!

November 24, 2019
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- 96% Of Americans Celebrate Thanksgiving
- For Many Thanksgiving Includes: Food, Football, Parades, Shopping & Travel
- For Most Americans Thanksgiving Is An Annual (One Time A Year) Happening
- Thanksgiving For A Believer Is Not Seasonal -- It Is Year Around – A Constant Thanksgiving Mode
We are thankful that God, in his love, has chosen us

(2 Thess 2:13-14)

He has made us partners in the cause of the gospel

(2 Cor 1:11; Phil 1:4-5)

Every time we meet with God whether in prayer, praise, worship, meditation, scripture reading, or, in day-to-day living we do so with gratitude.
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- Ingratitude Is An Epidemic Heart Disease & Attitude Of Our Times

- The Question Jesus Asked Of The 10 Lepers -- Would Be Appropriate For Today: Where Are The Other 9?
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- **READ:** *PSALM 107*

- *We Can Be Thankful Due To The Fact That*

- *ON OUR JOURNEY GOD WILL GUIDE US*
Psalm 107:1-3 (NIV) (1) Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (2) Let the redeemed of the LORD say this-- those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, (3) those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

- God Has Redeemed Us From Our Foe
- He Has Gathered Us And Taken Us In
- Let The Redeemed Of The Lord Say So!!!
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- **THANK GOD HE IS WITH US ON OUR JOURNEY**
- **READ**: Psalms 107:4-9

- Thanksgiving Is First & Foremost Thanks Unto God

- We Ought To Be Thankful To God -- The Giver Of All Good Gifts
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- **A Great Blessing: In His Guidance God Has A Plan For You Life And He Wants To Reveal It To You**

- *(Psa 32:8 NIV)* I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you

- **God's Guidance Can Be Understood**

- *(James 1:5 NIV)* If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

- *(James 4:2 NIV)* You do not have, because you do not ask God.
Do You Want God's Direction For Your Journey? You've Got To Ask For It

(Mark 11:24 NIV) Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours

If We Ask For God's Guidance -- He Will Guide Us
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- READ: Psalms 107:6-9

- He Satisfies The Thirsty & Hungry

- There Is A God-Shaped Hole That Only God Can Fill. When We Call Out To God In Our Distress, He Will Satisfy Our Hunger & Thirst -- Filling Our Lives With Good Things
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- The #2 Thing We Can Thank God For Is That
- **GOD WILL DELIVER US FROM CHAINS AND DARKNESS**
- **READ: Psalms 107:10-16**
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- When We Find Ourselves In Chains And Darkness--It’s Not Over
  - He Breaks Down Gates
  - He Cuts Thru Bars Of Iron
  - He Saves From Distress – When We Call Out To Him

- The Key To God’s Freeing Power = Cry Out To Him!
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- Christ Is The True Freedom Maker
- That Is His Mission: 
  I Have Come To
  - Release The Oppressed
  - Proclaim Freedom For Captives
  - Preach & Proclaim The Truth
  - Bind Up Broken Hearted
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**What A Testimony We Have:**

- **God Saves Us**
- **He Brings Us Out**
- **He Breaks The Chains That Bind Us**
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- **Reason #3 To Give God Thanks:**
  - **WHEN WE ARE SICK — GOD IS OUR HEALER**
  - **READ:** Psalms 107:17-22

- **The Situation Without God Is Desperate**

- **In Scripture Sin And Sickness Are Intertwined**

- **We Have To Overcome Sin If We Want To Be Whole**
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- 3 Truths About Sin:

- Sin Will Always Bring Death --- Sin Has Tragic Consequences

- Sin Will Always Be Exposed

- Sin Can Be Cleansed - (1 John 1:9 NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
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- He Sends His Word & Heals Our Disease
- There Are Thousands Of Promises In His Word To Bring Us To God’s Healing In Our Lives

- We Must Make A Choice To:
  - Stand On The Word
  - Pray In Faith, Expecting Results
  - The Healing Power Of God Is Incredible And Awesome
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- The #4 Reason For Thanks:
- **IN THE STORMS OF LIFE – GOD CALMS THE STORM**
- **READ: Psalms 107:23-32**
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- They Call Out To God And He Brings Them Out Of Their Distress
- He Performs Wonderful Deeds In The Deep
- He Brings Them Out Of Distress
- He Stills The Storm And Hushes The Waves
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- In Scripture There Are Two Kinds Of Storms…
  1. Storms Of Correction ; When God Disciplines Us
  2. Storms Of Perfection ; God Wants To Mature Us

- God Will Lead Us Into Those Storms Of Perfection ; When He Wants To Grow Us Up Or When He Wants To Keep Us From Something That Could Be Bad For Us
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- **In The Time Of Our Greatest Need -- He Will Be There**
  
  *(Isa 43:2)* When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

- **In Our Lives When The Wind Is Contrary And When Life Is A Struggle -- Jesus Will Be There To Help**

- **The Psalmist Is Filled With Thanks That Even In The Stormiest Of Times -- The Lord Guides Them To The Desired Haven**
The Remainder Of This Psalm V. 33-41 Deals With Sowing And Reaping -- How God Acts When His People Are Disobedient And When They Are Obedient

He Treats People According To What They Deserve:

For The Disobedient: God Withdraws His Hand Of Blessing

For The Obedient: God Blesses! He Turns Desert Into Pools Of Water, Turns Parched Ground Into Flowing Springs, A Harvest For The Hungry, A City To Settle In, A Blessing & An Increase
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THE FINAL STATEMENT: (CONCLUSION)
The Psalmist Sums It Up In V. 42 & 43

(Psa. 107:42) The **upright see and rejoice**, but all the **wicked shut their mouths**.

(43) Whoever is wise, **let him heed** these things and **consider the great love of the LORD**.
GIVING THANKS TO THE LORD —
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- The Upright See & Rejoice... Why?
  Because of God’s Righteous Actions:

- He Guides Us On Our Journey
- He Breaks Us Out Of Prison & Frees Us
- He Brings His Word And Heals Us
- He Calms The Storms Of Our Lives
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- As We Wholly Trust Him--
- He Will Deliver Us, Save Us, Bring Us Out!

- Give Thanks To The Lord (v. 1,8, 15, 21, 31)

- His Love Endures / Is Unfailing (v. 1, 8, 15, 21, 31)

- Thank Him For His Wonderful Deeds (v. 8,15,21,31)