

THANKFULNESS.

11-24-2024 AM

INTRO.:

- A. **Read text: Psa. 147:7-9.**
- B. **This Thursday is Thanksgiving Day.**
 - 1. Families will gather together.
 - 2. A lot of food will be eaten.
- C. **However, giving thanks should be a factor in the day.**
 - 1. Someone said, thankfulness is appreciation for what we have received.
 - 2. Another said that gratitude is the acknowledgement of goodness in one's life.

I. BIBLICAL THANKFULNESS.

- A. **The Bible commands thanksgiving. (1 Chronicles 16:34** "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.") **Psalm 100:4** "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name."
 - 1. **Psalm 136:1-3**: we find these words opening each verse.
 - 1) "O give thanks unto the Lord..." (**v. 1**).
 - 2) "O give thanks unto the God of gods..." (**v. 2**).
 - 3) "O give thanks unto the Lord of lords..." (**v. 3**).
 - 2. **Colossians 3:17** "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, to all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."
 - 3. **1 Thessalonians 5:18** "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."
- B. **Many Bible characters gave thanks to God.**
 - 1. Daniel gave thanks (**Dan. 6:10** "... he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.")
 - 2. Jesus gave thanks (**Matt. 26:27** "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it.")
 - 3. Paul gave thanks (**Phil. 1:3** "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.").

II. THANKFULNESS IS PART OF A CHRISTIAN'S CHARACTER.

- A. **A thankful person is a person of understanding.**
 - 1. God is the giver of all good things, (**James 1:17** "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.")
- B. **A thankful person is humble.**
 - 1. Knowing others have blessed his/her life in some way.
 - 2. The giver of blessings gains more than the one receiving the blessing. (**Acts 20:35** "...and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.")
- C. **A thankful person is content with that which he has.**
 - 1. **Phil. 4:11** "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."
 - 2. **Heb. 13:5** "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."
 - 3. **1 Tim. 6:8** "And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content."

III. THANKFULNESS MAKES LIFE BETTER.

- A. The thankful person says: “Look what I have and Father, I am thankful.”**
1. Paul while under house arrest in Rome (**Phil. 1:13-14**) “But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which have happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places.”
 2. **2 Cor. 4:8-9** “We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;”
- B. Thankfulness will move us to give glory to God.**
1. It will not be, “look what I have done.” It will be “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (**Phil. 4:13**).
 2. **Psalms 100:4** “Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.”
 3. **1 Chronicles 29:13** “Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.”

IV. CONCLUSION:

- A. Be grateful. Give thanks. Practice thanksgiving.**
- B. Always be extremely appreciative for all you have.**
- C. And never forget **2 Corinthians 9:15** “Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.”**