

## OH GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

### I. Psalm 105:1-6

**A. Let's launch right into this wonderful Psalm which exhorts us unto thanksgiving and praise. Psalm 105:1-6 (ESV) 1 Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! 2 Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works! 3 Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! 4 Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually! 5 Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered, 6 O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**

**B. Last Sunday I challenged us to move towards and through the *Holy Days* with a love and faith that has hands and feet. 1 John 3:16-18 (ESV) from a week ago: 16 By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers (and sisters). 17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.**

**C. When we understand that the *laying-down-His-life* love that Jesus demonstrated towards us--how His atoning sacrifice brought peace between us and God, the forgiveness of our sins, everlasting life--then that love cannot help but manifest outwardly from our hearts, into our hands and feet, straight into the lives of others. And what's the principal attitude this love should produce? Thanksgiving!**

**D. So when Thanksgiving is lacking, it makes you wonder whether or not the reality of all that Jesus has accomplished for us has made that epic journey from our heads down into our hearts. Consider the Gospel once again: "*My sin for His righteousness.*" And this undeserved, impossible to earn, "great exchange" lavished upon us in love has a name; it's called *grace*. How can this not cause a wellspring of Thanksgiving?! And the antithesis of a thankful heart? Ingratitude!**

**E. In the current issue of *Tabletalk Magazine*, Gabriel Fluhrer writes in his article titled, *A Life of Thankfulness*, "One of the defining characteristics of a godless life is ingratitude. 'For although they they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened (Rom. 1:21).' As one author put it, ingratitude and pride go hand in hand. Once we reject God, we become arrogant, thankless, creatures... But the disease of ingratitude not only infects those in the culture around us; it is epidemic among God's people as well. We are more often like the nine lepers healed by Jesus who left without saying thanks than we are like the one who returned to fall at our Lord's feet in unspeakable gratefulness (Luke 17:11-19). According to Jesus in this passage, the pathogen of thanklessness is more dangerous than leprosy. Mercifully there is a cure."**

**F. Hell will be the gathering place for all the thankless rejectors of God. Hell's most horrid description is when Jesus says it'll be a place of darkness, plagued with *weeping and gnashing of teeth*. We all know people who're so embittered and ungrateful to God that it's like their weeping and gnashing of teeth has already begun. '*Hey God--You're just not good enough!*' '*Hey God--I deserve far better!*'**

G. A place of eternal conscious punishment and torment, forever separated from the presence of God, should cause us all to shudder. A party atmosphere in hell? The Bible says *no!* Though some seem resigned to going there, we wish it upon no one. One Psalmist declared that our LORD's lovingkindness is better than life! How then do some seem to despise God with fury, disdain and loathing? What unimaginable horror awaits those who thanklessly reject God!

H. But before we return to our initial text in Psalms, let's prepare to see it in light of the New Covenant found in Christ: You were once a spiritual leper, but have been cleansed from your leprosy. *Jesus is why!* You were once lost, but now you're found. *Jesus is why!* You were once blind but have been made to see. *Jesus is why!* You were once enslaved to sin but have been set free. *Jesus is why!* You were once a fatherless spiritual orphan but have been adopted into the Family of God, the Household of Faith, grafted in as a child of Abraham and made a son or daughter of the Most High God. *Jesus is why!* You were once under the wrath of God, bound for everlasting torment in the lake of fire, but instead you've been graced with everlasting life in heaven and will live and worship in the blissful presence of God forevermore! *Jesus is why!* So in light of Christ, I pray thanksgiving will well-up deep inside as you make Psalm 105 your own...

I. Psalm 105:1-6 (ESV) one more time...

1) **V1: 1** *Oh give thanks (Hb. Yadah) to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! (Those deeds include what Jesus has done for you!)*

2) **V2: 2** *Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works! (When you grasp what Jesus has done, your mouth will flow with upward praise and outward testimony!)*

3) **V3-4: 3** *Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! 4* *Seek the LORD and His strength; (With His strength, you can do all things! But without it, you can do nothing of worth!) seek His presence continually! (Psalm 73:28 (NASB) echoes: "But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.") (Seek! Seek! Seek! Seek the Lord! Seek His strength! Seek His presence!)*

4) **V5-6: 5** *Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered, 6* *O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones! (Remember and give Thanks! Not just for what He's done throughout the history of mankind, or the history of Israel, or the history of the Church, but for all He's done for you! "Count your blessings; name them one by one!" "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!")*

J. **A.W Tozer** said: "Gratitude is an offering precious in the sight of God, and it is one that the poorest of us can make and be not poorer but richer for having made it."

K. **Thaxter Dickey** dittos: "Thanksgiving is really the only thing we have to give to God. When you think of it, all the material things we have are things we have been given and that includes even our talents and so much of who we are because of the circumstances of our birth.

But our thanksgiving is ours. It is uniquely ours. It is something we choose to do. It is an offering of praise to God.”

**L. Hebrews 13:15 (NLV) is the *therefore* of our message: 15** *Let us give thanks all the time to God through Jesus Christ. Our gift to Him is to give thanks. Our lips should always give thanks to His name.*

\* Close with Prayer...

## Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff

### Psalm 105:1-6 (ESV)

**1** Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples! **2** Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works! **3** Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! **4** Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually! **5** Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered, **6** O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones!

### Psalm 73:28 (NASB)

**28** But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.

### Hebrews 13:15 (NLV)

**15** Let us give thanks all the time to God through Jesus Christ. Our gift to Him is to give thanks. Our lips should always give thanks to His name.

### Quote by Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer

"One of the defining characteristics of a godless life is ingratitude. *"For although they they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened"* (Romans 1:21). As one author put it, ingratitude and pride go hand in hand. Once we reject God, we become arrogant, thankless creatures... But the disease of ingratitude not only infects those in the culture around us; it is epidemic among God's people as well. We are more often like the nine lepers healed by Jesus who left without saying thanks than we are like the one who returned to fall at our Lord's feet in unspeakable gratefulness (Luke 17:11-19). According to Jesus in this passage, the pathogen of thanklessness is more dangerous than leprosy. Mercifully there is a cure."

- Gabriel N.E. Fluhrer, *Tabletalk Magazine* article titled, *"A Life of Thankfulness"* December, 2019, p. 41.

### Quote by A.W. Tozer

"Gratitude is an offering precious in the sight of God, and it is one that the poorest of us can make and be not poorer but richer for having made it."

### Quote by Thaxter Dickey

“Thanksgiving is really the only thing we have to give to God. When you think of it, all the material things we have are things we have been given and that includes even our talents and so much of who we are because of the circumstances of our birth. But our thanksgiving is ours. It is uniquely ours. It is something we choose to do. It is an offering of praise to God.”

## **Give Thanks**

The NKJV Study Bible

**give thanks** (Heb. *yadah*) (Ps. 105:1; Ps 122:4; Ps 136:1) Strong's #3034: Surprisingly in in Hebrew, there is no verb that means "to thank" in the way the English word *thank* is used as a common expression of gratitude between people. The meaning of the Hebrew word is "to make public acknowledgment," and its association with the Hebrew noun *yad*, meaning "hand," suggests hands outstretched towards God. The word is used regularly in the Bible to depict public commendation of God's person and attributes, and the public testimony to what He has done for His people; this is the core meaning of *praise*. Old Testament believers such as Leah (Gen. 29:35), David (2 Chr. 7:6), the psalmists (7:17; 42:5; 118:21), and the prophets (Is. 25:1; Jer. 33:11) all gave thanks, praising the Lord for His mercy towards them.

- Theological note on Psalm 105, *The NKJV Study Bible*, Thomas Nelson, p. 922.

## **Video Clips & Important Articles**

"Give Thanks" - Bill & Gloria Gaither Gathering  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgyXJ6WORck>

Giving Thanks is More Than A Holiday - Family Today - Shadow Mountain Publishing  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7j07SsBhTk>

Why Should I Give Thanks to God? - Greg Laurie  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWZ9hHGvrfM>

## **Bonus Stuff**

### **Psalm 111:1-10 (ESV)**

**1** Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. **2** Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. **3** Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever. **4** He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful. **5** He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever. **6** He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations. **7** The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; **8** they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. **9** He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded

his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name! **10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

### **Psalm 118:28-29 (ESV)**

**28** You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.  
**29** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

### **Psalm 69:30-36 (NLT)**

**30** Then I will praise God's name with singing, and I will honor Him with thanksgiving.  
**31** For this will please the LORD more than sacrificing cattle, more than presenting a bull with its horns and hooves. **32** The humble will see their God at work and be glad. Let all who seek God's help be encouraged. **33** For the LORD hears the cries of the needy; He does not despise His imprisoned people. **34** Praise Him, O heaven and earth, the seas and all that move in them. **35** For God will save Jerusalem and rebuild the towns of Judah. His people will live there and settle in their own land. **36** The descendants of those who obey Him will inherit the land, and those who love Him will live there in safety.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)**

**16** Rejoice always, **17** pray without ceasing, **18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

### **Ephesians 5:19-20 (NCV)**

**19** Speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your hearts to the Lord. **20** Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV)**

**15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. **16** Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. **17** And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

### **Luke 17:11-19 (ESV)**

**11** On the way to Jerusalem He was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. **12** And as He entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance **13** and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." **14** When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. **15** Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; **16** and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. **17** Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? **18** Was no one found to return and give praise to God

except this foreigner?" 19 And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

**Quote by John Wycliffe (1324 - 1384)**

"We all are originally sinners as Adam and in Adam, his leprosy cleaving faster to us than Naaman's did to Gehazi, so that even the infant, before it has seen the light of the world, has this blemish inherent in its unborn members."

- To read more about John Wycliffe, go to: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Wycliffe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wycliffe)

**Quote by Martin Luther**

"Either sin is with you, lying on your shoulders, or it is lying on Christ, the Lamb of God. Now if it is lying on your back, you are lost; but if it is resting on Christ, you are free, and you will be saved. Now choose what you want."

**Quote by Chuck Colson**

"Edwards [Jonathan Edwards] calls the deeper, primary form of thankfulness 'gracious gratitude.' It gives thanks not for goods received, but for who God is: for His character -- His goodness, love, power, excellencies -- regardless of favors received. And it's real evidence of the Holy Spirit working in a person's life."

**Quote by Kay Arthur**

"God is in control, and therefore in EVERYTHING I can give thanks--not because of the situation but because of the One who directs and rules over it."

**Quote by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth**

"Be thankful. God has commanded it—for our good and for His glory. God's command to be thankful is not the threatening demand of a tyrant. Rather, it is the invitation of a lifetime—the opportunity to draw near to Him at any moment of the day."

**Quote by John MacArthur**

"A thankful heart is one of the primary identifying characteristics of a believer. It stands in stark contrast to pride, selfishness, and worry. And it helps fortify the believer's trust in the Lord and reliance of His provision, even in the toughest times. No matter how choppy the seas become, a believer's heart is buoyed by constant praise and gratefulness to the Lord."

**Quote by C.S. Lewis**

"We ought to give thanks for all fortune: if it is good, because it is good, if bad, because it works in us patience, humility and the contempt of this world and the hope of our eternal country."

**Quote by Billy Graham**

"A spirit of thankfulness is one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord. Thank God in the midst of trials and every persecution."

**Quote by Charles Spurgeon**

"There should be a parallel between our supplications and our thanksgivings. We ought not to leap in prayer, and limp in praise."

**Quote by Francis Schaeffer**

"The beginning of men's rebellion against God was, and is, that lack of a thankful heart."