

The Year Of Thanksgiving - Blessed To Be A Blessing

I want to show you the blessing that comes through giving. I want to help us unlock key biblical principles that will take us out of a poverty mind set to that of knowing and experiencing the more than enough God we serve.

2 Cor 9: 6-13 (TLB) The Living Bible 1 if you give little, you will get little. A farmer who plants just a few seeds will get only a small crop, but if he plants much, he will reap much. - This is key principle in God's economy, which is contrary to what society will say that if you give little you will have much. The bible tells us that giving much will cause much increase not decrease. The more thanksgiving you give the more it will be increased back to you.

Luke 6:38 puts it this way - give and it will be given back to you pressed down, shaken together and running over will be put back into your lap. So let's be lavish with our thanks giving unto God whilst blessing others because much will be put back into you.

Cheerful givers are the ones God prizes /loves. Cheerful describes a spirit of enjoyment in giving without restraints. When your thanksgiving to God is spontaneous, joyful, overflowing and hilarious - God values that/ loves that and what comes out of that is simply amazing: - *V8 God is able to make it up to you by giving you everything you need and more so that there will not only be enough for your own needs but plenty left over to give joyfully to others.* How amazing is that!

All things beneficial for our lives come from God's hands. God is able! Super strong, super mighty Let our Thanksgiving be spontaneous, joyful and overwhelmingly hilarious because God loves that and because he loves that God is super able, powerful and mighty to give you more than you need and to bless others. (Blessed to bless)

Your cheerful hilarious giving blesses others and puts a smile on their face - when you give out of a heart of thanksgiving with the right motive and you have an attitude of generosity it will be contagious and those saints who receive your gift of Thanksgiving will in turn give thanks to God for that.

The Bible tells us of two things that will happen - those in need are helped, and they overflow with thanks to God. *13 Those you help will be glad not only because of your generous gifts to themselves and to others, but they will praise God for this proof that your deeds are as good as your doctrine.*

Church! We are blessed to be a blessing. It is that simple! Your thanksgiving is an act of righteousness (right standing with God) your act of thanksgiving proves God! Proves he is real. In Thanksgiving there is self-satisfaction, contentment and fulfilment.

So what are the aspects of thanksgiving or of giving thanks?

Firstly, God the Father is the object of thanksgiving, God the Son is the person through whom thanksgiving flows, and God the Holy Spirit is the source of thanksgiving. In Rom 1:18 Paul gives thanks: *"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world."*

Look at [Col 3:16-17](#)

Secondly, Thanksgiving replaces sin in our lives. Look at Paul commanding believers to stop sinning and in its place put thanksgiving in *Eph 5:4 TLB Dirty stories, foul talk, and coarse jokes—these are not for you. Instead, remind each other of God’s goodness, and be thankful...* or let there be thanksgiving. We can either act with sinful hearts and be thankless or act with thankful hearts and be pleasing to God.

Thirdly, we should be thankful for God's creation as *1 Tim 4:4-5 says, (NRSV) For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving 5 for it is sanctified (made holy) by God’s word and by prayer.*

When we are thankful to God for all the good things he has done we will appreciate and be thankful for everything we have that he has created for us.

Fourthly, giving thanks for the work of salvation through Jesus Christ. We can never run out of giving thanks to God for Jesus Christ who gave his life a ransom for us by paying for our sins with his blood.

Paul says in *1 Cor 1: 4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus.* We can never get tired of giving thanks to God for Jesus. *When we were enemies with God, God still showed his love by sending Christ to die for us. (Rom5:8) Jesus has called us out of darkness into His marvellous light (1Pet2: 9) and given us the right to be called sons of God (John1: 12)*

Finally we give thanksgiving to God in all situations and circumstances – *1 Thes 5:16-18 Always be joyful. 17 Always keep on praying. 18 No matter what happens always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

Isn't this a beautiful way to live our lives always giving thanks to God for who He is and for all that He has done. Imagine that kind of life - stress free!

Rom 3:23 says, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory for God.” Sin means that we have missed the mark (the perfect standard) that God has set for us. The penalty for sin is death.

Rom 6:23 says, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” This verse says that death is the wage for our sin. It is what we earn. We deserve to die and live separated from God forever.

The message doesn't end there! Christ died for us. *Rom 5:8 says, “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ [Jesus] died for us.”* Jesus died in our place. Three days later, Jesus rose from death, proving that sin had been conquered.

The great news is that You can be saved through faith in Christ. *Eph 2:8-9 says, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”* You can depend on Jesus to forgive you and give eternal life, rather than eternal death.