

Thankful Part 2

Leviticus 22:29

“When you sacrifice a thank offering to the Lord, sacrifice it in such a way that it will be accepted, on your behalf.

Psalm 100:3-5

3

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

4

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.**

5

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Thanksgiving: *toda* - confession, praise, a choir of worshippers, an extension of the hand.
English Dictionary; Grateful.

Praise: *tēhillah* - a song containing praise.

Thankfulness doesn't always come naturally. It is something I have to be intentional about.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:27 “No, I beat to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

- Thankfulness is a Godly Discipline and it's not one that is natural to the flesh...
- I have found the flesh will always find reason to be unthankful... or ungrateful...
- Thankfulness is ultimately pointed at the author and giver...
- A Thankful person looks above the circumstances
- They look past what they don't have and demonstrate a grateful attitude to God for what they do have...

- Gratefulness is the seed...
- Gratefulness given back to God for what he has given is a deposit for what he has next...
- God loves a cheerful giver... 2 Corinthians 9:7
- If you want God to accept your gift, give him the first fruits - If you want him to like you be a cheerful giver...

Thankfulness is Intentional

1. Jesus was Thankfulness when there wasn't Enough

John 6

5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" **6** He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

7 Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

8 Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up,

9 "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there).

11 Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

12 When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." **13** So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

- Jesus sowed the seed of being genuinely thankful for what he had when what he had wasn't enough...
- It's amazing how not enough in the hands of God miraculously becomes enough...
- A Thankful attitude toward God invites him into the equation...
- The Miracle didn't occur until after Jesus gave thanks...

Thankfulness is Intentional

2. Jesus was Thankfulness in the midst of Difficulty

Matthew 26

26 While they were eating, **Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks**, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. **28** This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29** I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

30 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

- Jesus was about to be betrayed by one of his disciples
- He was about to be denied by another.
- Nine others were going to scatter and abandon him

- He knew this and before he broke bread with them he gave thanks...

- Jesus was Intentional with his Thankfulness...

1 Thessalonians 5:18

give **thanks** in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

Thankfulness to God is of the Spirit

3. Thankfulness is the language of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 14

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. **15** So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. **16** Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how

can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say “Amen” to **your thanksgiving**, since they do not know what you are saying? **17 You are giving thanks** well enough, but no one else is edified.

- Thankfulness to God in essence is the Utterance of the Holy Spirit...

Acts 2

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. **6** When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.

7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?”

8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

11 – we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”

12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”

- The utterance of Thanksgiving by the Holy Spirit is opposite of the spirit that is at work in the Reprobate...

Romans 1

18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,

21 For although they knew God, **they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him**, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.