

Deeply Thankful

Revelation 4:9

Revelation 4:8: The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

Revelation 4:9: Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever...

- Glory - acknowledging His splendor, majesty, greatness
- Honor - acknowledging His great value and worth
- Thanks - a deep thankfulness & gratitude

Revelation 4:10: ...the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him...

1. Thankfulness is **GOD'S** WILL for every true believer.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Thankfulness is not **OPTIONAL** - it is God's expressed will for you!

2. Thankfulness is **EVIDENCE** of a Spirit-filled life.

Ephesians 5:18-21: And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in (1) psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, (2) giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, (3) submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Spirit-filled Christians are thankful Christians.

3. Thankfulness is a CENTRAL part of our prayer life.

Philippians 4:6-7: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the **PEACE OF GOD**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Thanksgiving is KEY part of turning anxiety into peace.

4. Jesus **MODELED** thankfulness for us.

John 6:11: And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down.

5. Thanksgiving is the **RIGHT RESPONSE** to our salvation

2 Corinthians 9:15: Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Luke 17:15-16: And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks.

6. Thanksgiving is a **CENTRAL** part of our worship.

Hebrews 13:15: Let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.
(Revelation 4:9)

Thankfulness is not **SEASONAL**; it is to be **CONTINUAL**.

7. Being unthankful is a **SIGN** of spiritual darkness.

Romans 1:21: Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Thankfulness is a **SIGN** of spiritual health!

Unthankfulness is a **SIGN** of a emptiness and foolishness leading to dark heart.

8. Unthankfulness is a **SIGN** of the last days!

2 Timothy 3:1-5: But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power.

2 Corinthians 9:15: Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Lord, I'm Deeply Thankful

Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-10: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation (1789)

Issued October 3, 1789

By the President of the United States of America. A Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint Committee, requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness;

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be.

That we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks - for His kind care and protection of the People of this country previous to their becoming a Nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our national government a blessing to all the People, by constantly being a government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us); and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord.

To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally, to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the City of New-York, the third day of October, in the year of our Lord 1789.

George Washington

Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation (1863)

Issued October 3, 1863 - establishing the recurring national holiday
By the President of the United States of America. A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to invite and provoke the aggressions of foreign States, peace has been preserved with all nations; order has been maintained; the laws have been respected and obeyed; and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict.

While that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union, the needful diversions of wealth and strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased. Notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people.

I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln