

A THANKFUL ATTITUDE

INTRODUCTION

- A. Scripture – 2 CO 9:11; PH 4:6; CO 2:7; 4:2; 1 TI 4:3, 4; RE 7:12.
- B. Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, our annual national holiday that is rooted in American history.
- C. Every day should be a day of thanksgiving for the Christian.
 - 1. Thankful for faithful brethren. CO 1:2, 3.
 - 2. Thankful for Christ. 2 CO 9:15.
- D. Prayer is a means of expressing thanks to God. CO 1:3; 4:2; PH 4:6.

DISCUSSION: FOR WHAT SHOULD I BE THANKFUL?

- I. For the peace of God. CO 3:15.
 - A. We were once alienated from God. EP 4:18.
 - B. In obeying the Gospel of Christ (conversion) we made peace with God. RO 5:1; CO 1:20.
 - C. Peace is made possible by the death of Christ. EP 2:11-17.
 - D. If we have made peace with God we can enjoy the peace of God. PH 4:6, 7.
 - 1. Anxiety is not to control our life. CO 3:15.
 - 2. This demands an attitude of gratitude. PH 4:6, 7.
 - E. How does peace come?
 - 1. Not through drugs, alcohol, etc.
 - 2. Peace comes from God through Christ.
 - F. Song: Peace, Perfect Peace.
- II. For the privilege of being a member of the Lord's church. Acts 2:47; CO 3:15.
 - A. Christ is the head. EP 1:22, 23.
 - B. All members are important. 1 CO 12:13-27.
 - C. My life can be a positive, productive life. EP 3:20, 21.
 - 1. Glorify God with my life.
 - 2. Influence others to glorify God. MT 5:16.
 - D. Have salvation and hope of heaven. EP 5:23.
 - 1. Christ saves the body through His death. EP 5:23, 25-27.
 - 2. Saved people (the church) is inseparably connected to the cross. Acts 20:28; EP 2:16.
- III. For our calling. Co 3:15.
 - A. A vocation. EP 4:1-2.
 - 1. It is an honor to serve the Lord.
 - 2. Therefore "walk worthy."
 - B. A "high calling." PH 3:14.
 - 1. A "prize". 2 TI 4:7, 8.
 - 2. An attainable "prize." PH 3:14.
 - C. Called by the Gospel. 2 TH 2:13, 14.
- IV. For our being ready for heaven. CO 1:12-14.
 - A. Delivered from darkness (sin). CO 1:13.
 - B. Forgiven. CO 1:14; 1 PE 1:18, 19; EP 1:7; CO 1:21, 22
 - C. Jesus is the way. JN 14:6.
 - D. Set the mind. CO 3:1-3. Be like Jesus. CO 3:4; 1 JN 3:1-34; PH 3:20, 21.

CONCLUSION

- A. We are to give thanks to God through Christ. CO 3:17.
- B. When we come together to worship we give thanks in our singing (HE 13:15), in our praying (CO 3:15, 16), and in our giving (2 CO 9:6, 7)
- C. May God help us to develop an attitude of thanksgiving.
- D. If you are not a Christian why not obey now? Hear – RO 10:17. Believe – JN 8:24. Repent – Acts 2:38. Confess – Acts 8:37. Be Baptized – MK 16:16. Lord added to His church – Acts 2:47. Be Faithful – RE 2:10. Heaven will be your home!