

The Spirit of Thankfulness

Luke 10: 21

As we go around our daily business; what do we hear but cursing, swearing, blasphemy, and the noise of the electronic gadgets. But once in a while, we will hear something strange over the din, as someone says thank you. It used to be commonplace to use it; especially with young people. Alas, but now. It used to be commonplace for people to thank God; but now. Romans 1: 21 - Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

That's a brief but accurate description of the world to-day. Did you see that? One of the main steps down for mankind, is when they stop thanking God for all He has done. And how often do you hear Christians thanking God for anything? When was the last time that you gave thanks?

So if the giving of thanks is that important; then God Himself must set the example. Luke 10: 21 - In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.

Yes, even Our Lord Jesus Christ thanked His Heavenly Father.

And why did He do it? Luke 10: 17 to 24 - Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven." In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. "All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him ." Then He turned to His

disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see; "for I tell you that many prophets and kings have desired to see what you see, and have not seen it , and to hear what you hear, and have not heard it.

And thankfully, Our Lord Jesus has brought us into the Full Gospel. Rejoicing in spirit, and the thanking of God. Are there any examples in the Bible of how we give thanks?

2 Thessalonians 2: 13 to 15 - But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

Leviticus 22: 29 - And when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, offer it at your own will.

2 Samuel 22: 50 - Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name.

1 Chronicles 16: 8 - Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

1 Chronicles 16: 34 & 35 - O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever. And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, and glory in thy praise.

2 Chronicles 31: 2 - And Hezekiah appointed the courses of the priests and the Levites after their courses, every man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and for peace offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and to praise in the gates of the tents of the LORD.

Nehemiah 12: 27 - And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps.

King David was a good example in the giving of thanks.

Psalms 18: 49 - Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name.

Psalms 26: 7 - That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

Psalms 30: 4 - Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Psalms 30: 12 - To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Psalms 69: 30 - I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psalms 95: 2 - Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

Psalms 97: 12 - Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Psalms 100: 4 - Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Psalms 105: 1 - O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.

Psalms 106: 1 - Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Psalms 106: 47 - Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praise.

Psalms 107: 1 - O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Jeremiah 30: 18 & 19 - Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof. And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry: and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

Jonah 2: 9 - But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.

John 6: 11 - And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

Romans 16: 4 - Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

1 Corinthians 11: 24 - And when he had given thanks, he brake it , and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

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.

1 Thessalonians 5: 18 - In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Now we have looked at many examples of thanksgiving in the Bible. But I would like to emphasize the most important fact to be thankful for. Our Lord Jesus Christ should be our main focus.

If He had not come down to this earth; if He had not shed His Blood on Calvary's cross; if He had not risen from the grave; if He had not ascended to heaven; where would we be?

Colossians 2: 6 & 7 - As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

And by using the spirit of thanksgiving, welling up from our hearts to our mouths; let us continually thank and praise Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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