

Thankful- Grateful- Blessed!

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We can be *thankful*, *grateful*, and feeling *blessed* every day, or we can be *unthankful*, *ungrateful*, and *depressed*—that is the choice. *First* priority every morning is—thanking God for another day and for His many blessings of many things.

We have been blessed in so many ways—that we should every day and every season Psalm 95:2 “*Come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.*” We should be Ephesians 5:20 “*Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

Starting the day by thanking God is our first thought—being *grateful* for every blessing; being thankful for all good things enjoyed; and being willing to *glorify* His Name for the promise of eternal life—by *faith* in His Son.

Jesus gave His life on the Cross so our sins could be *erased* in our life. We *believe* He did that for us, so we *trust* Him for all things—for healing without treatments; for each day’s needs without social programs; for protection without security systems; from financial loss without insurance; and for justice without attorneys.

Only *God* can *change* our heart; only *Jesus* can *forgive* our sins—and only *we* can decide to *let*

God to do that. When we *believe* in Christ, God gives His Spirit—Who *inspires* us to *trust* Him. We are especially grateful for knowing God’s *Truth* and having the opportunity to publish full-Truth messages on our web page—as well as mailing them to worldwide addresses.

For all the blessings for which we are grateful, no gift is greater than that of God’s *Son*, Who shed His Blood on the cross for the sins of the world. Ephesians 2:4 “*God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us [made us alive] together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)*”.

God came to our world and told us how to live by the Book. He said Matthew 6:19 “*Lay not up for yourselves treasures [wealth] upon earth;*” because God already *knows* what we need 6:32 and He will *supply* that need in a scriptural way, if we will *trust* Him in faith.

He told us to treat *others* as we want *them* to treat *us* Matthew 7:12. He said to *grow* in faith, *increase* our knowledge of Him, and *show* spiritual fruit by meeting things in a scriptural way. Matthew 7:19 “*Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.*”

The sin of *greed* is a serious sin—wanting more and more, but never giving *thanks* to God for blessings received. Greed *never* says *enough* is *enough!* When we *count* our blessings our heart *overflows* with gratitude. All of these blessings God has given are on *loan*—we *enjoy* them—then we *leave* them to those who come after us. We need to be careful not to be *too attached* to things.

1 Corinthians 7:29 The apostle said, “*The time is short*” and 30 “*they that buy, as though they possessed not [just on loan]; 31 And they that use [things off] this world, as [not theirs to keep]: For this world in its present form is passing away.*”

Our primary purpose in life is to *glorify God*—and we *glorify* Him when we *thank* Him for *healing* us; for *protecting* us; for *providing* our

needs; for *teaching* spiritual lessons; and for *giving* us another day to praise His Name. Lamentations 3:22 “*It is of the LORD’S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*”

We have so much for which to be *thankful* and *grateful*—family, friends, faith and *more* than enough food—protection and peace—comfortable homes, health, healing, and His promise of Heaven by *trusting* Him every day for everything—1 Timothy 4:3 “*Which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*”

On Thanksgiving we gather around tables overflowing with delicious foods of all types and flavors—but all too often we never think of many *millions* in the world who have little or nothing to eat—who never sit down at a Thanksgiving table to partake in the bountiful supply of good foods God has made possible for us to enjoy.

Millions give thanks on *Thursday*—and forget the blessings on *Friday*. Like Israel thanked God *one* day and complained the *next*. Psalm 106:1 “*Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever;*” but soon 106:21 “*They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt.*” Thousands of years have passed—and so little has changed!

Let us *not* be part of that, but with the Spirit’s help, *thank* God and *praise* Him *unceasingly*. Let us keep trusting Him in faith every day through every trial—holding Hebrews 10:23 “*Fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised).*”

Let us *meet* things and people as we should—we just make that *choice*—God then *helps* us meet them in *His* way. To really *forgive* someone from the *heart*, means we could invite them for *dinner* in our *home*. 1 Peter 2:23 Jesus “*Did not retaliate when he was insulted. When he suffered, he did not*

threaten to get even. He left his case in the hands of God [the righteous Judge].”

Our blessings are beyond counting, but Satan still tries to discourage. The Israelites witnessed the *miracle of manna* every morning, then asked for something *else* the next. God provided their needs again and again, but they Psalm 106:24 “*Despised the pleasant land, they believed not his word: 25 But murmured in their tents and hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.*”

Satan is out to slay our *soul* by destroying our *faith*—he suggests *obedience* is *works*—but *faith* and *obedience* cannot be separated—and are *never* separated in Scripture. Grace is *not* a license to sin Jude 1:4, but God’s grace is Titus 2:12 “*Training us to renounce ungodliness and all the pleasures of this world, and to live sober, upright, and pious lives at the present time.*”

Salvation by *faith* is trusting God in *faith*—for *correcting* injustices; for needed *attitude* changes; for *financial* needs; for *healing*—physical and spiritual; and for trusting God to give us a forgiving heart toward anyone for any wrong against us. The *choice* to trust God to supply the need; to heal the affliction; to change the attitude; to correct the wrong, or to give a forgiving heart, is *our decision*, and it is *our responsibility* to ask Him for that merciful heart of compassion.

Ten lepers were healed—so Jesus told them Luke 17:14 “*Go, show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were cleansed.*” Acting in faith gave evidence they believed. After *being* healed, *one* came back to thank the Lord. Jesus asked Luke 17:17-19, “*Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?*” Then He said to the *grateful* one: “*Your faith has made you well.*”

This coming Thursday can just be another holiday of *fun, food, and friends*—or we can say—*Thank You, Lord, for Your Blessings on me.* We can follow the example of the *nine* who walked away or emulate the right example of the

healed *one* who came back to say: *Thanks, Lord, for healing me.*

Forgiveness, peace, and Heaven are gifts God gives to anyone *trusting* in faith on the Atonement Blood of His Son—for health and healing; for protection, provisions, and peace—and for everything else. Romans 8:32 “*He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*”

Blessed beyond *measure* and thanking God without *ceasing*—being grateful every day for His revealing of unscriptural attitudes in our heart, and then for helping us to *change* them to scriptural ones. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 “*In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*”

First priority is thanking God for the Bible—2 Timothy 3:16 “*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*”—which is only by *faith* in Jesus.

Healed by faith in the *Name* of Jesus, the man jumped up and praised God. Acts 3:16 “*It is Jesus’ name—faith in that name being the condition—which has strengthened this man whom you behold and know; and the faith which He has given has made this man sound and strong again.*”

God *cannot* change Malachi 3:6; James 1:17 so He is obligated to give health; healing; protection; forgiveness; and salvation to anyone *today*—if they will believe in *faith* and trust Him through *life*.

The Blood of Jesus atones for *all* the sins of *all* people in *all* the world—but only a *few* are *willing* to believe and be saved. John 3:18 “*He who is believing in him is not judged, but he who is not believing hath been judged already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*”

Being righteous by faith, means our *verbal faith* is connected to our *acting faith*—in God for health and healing; food and forgiveness—it is a

believing faith in Ephesians 1:19 “*The exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.*”

Believers trust God for protection from theft, harm, injury, or loss without depending on devices, alarms, weapons, or policies Psalm 91. Believers trust God in faith to supply the money without going into debt; without letting anyone know of our need; and without a savings account in a bank.

We are to *claim* our funds from our *bank* in Heaven. *Giving* to the poor and *claiming* our reward is the scriptural plan. Luke 12:33 “*Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted.*”

If someone *steals* our money, *slanders* our name, or *insults* our family—we follow the instructions Romans 12:19 “*Do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.*”

Rather than resenting, we follow Jesus’ advice Matthew 5:44-45 “*Love your enemies, bless those cursing you, do good to those hating you, and pray for those accusing you falsely, and persecuting you, that ye may be sons of your Father.*”

Meeting insults, offenses, false accusations, and lies in a *scriptural* way is according to *Bible* instructions—it is how we *trust* God in *faith* for the *salvation* of our *soul*.

Thanking God never ceases, because His offer of forgiveness never ceases! God gave His Son to *die* on the cross to bring about the *conversion* of our heart; to *pardon* our sins; and to *offer* the promise of never-ending life with Him in Heaven! We are *Thankful-Grateful-and Blessed* far beyond counting!



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