

THANKSGIVING By Jarrod Davidoff November 21, 2021

This Thanksgiving let us give thanks to the Lord for our salvation, our family, our church, our friends, our calling and our company and jobs.

We thank the Lord for our houses, bank accounts, cars and for our great nation.

We thank the Lord for so richly blessing America and other nations.

NOW...

The devil is very cunning.

He has turned Easter into a bunny and egg tradition,
He's turned Christmas into a Santa Clause celebration.

He's turned Thanksgiving into a turkey celebration.

It's ok to give thanks for the turkey, but make sure you give thanks for your life and your salvation. AMEN.

1. LET US BE THANKFUL TO THE LORD

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always (**WHEN? When things are going my way, when everyone likes me, everyone helps me, when there's money in the bank and opportunity all around? We are standing in faith that's always the case but if the devil knocks you down, when people betray you and deceive you, you still need to rejoice... That's because you've got something to rejoice about...I'm gonna rejoice that my name is written in the Lambs book of life...I'm gonna rejoice that I'm a new creation in Christ Jesus**), 17 pray without ceasing (**remember Paul said I pray in the spirit more than you all**) , in everything (for in the house, clothes on your back, roof over your head, every blessing, your job, family, work, church, team) give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus

for you. (**WHATS THE WILL OF GOD FOR ME? That I rejoice always and pray without ceasing and give thanks**)

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious (**FEEL STRESSED, PRESSURE**) about anything, (**HERE IS THE SOLUTION HOW?**) but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Psalms 30:12 That my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

2. LET US BE THANKFUL TO THE LORD IN EVERY SEASON

Most people would only be thankful to the Lord when everything is going their way, BUT the key is to be thankful to the Lord in EVERY Season.

Habbakuk 3:17 Though the fig tree may not blossom,
Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail,
And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold,
And there be no herd in the stalls—

18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Habbakuk 3:17 Though the fig tree may not blossom, The tree (**REMEMBER JESUS CURSED THE FIG TREE AS IT BORE NO FRUIT. MAYBE YOUR LIFE IS NOT BEARING FRUIT. NOTHINGS GOING WELL. NOTHING HAS TURNED OUT THE WAY YOU PLANNED IT TO...There are areas in your life where you have stood in faith, tried your best, yet they are currently DEAD**).

Business deal

Family relationships

Dreams and visions that you have had inside you

Financial investments

Nor fruit be on the vines; (**FRUIT IS SUBSISTENCE. A VINE IS A LIFE GIVER. YOU MAY NOT HAVE FOOD IN THE HOUSE, NOR A JOB THAT CAN EVEN EARN YOU & YOUR FAMILY A LIVING**).

Though the labor of the olive may fail, (**YOU WORKING HARD, YOU TRYING YOUR BEST, YET NOTHING IS WORKING OUT**)

And the fields yield no food; (**NO JOBS ARE COMING YOUR WAY, NO OPPORTUNITY IS OPENING UP**)

Though the flock may be cut off from the fold (**A sheepfold was a 4-6ft layered stone protected area that kept sheep safe from wolves and thieves**). There was a door where the Shepard would sleep with his rod to protect the sheep.

You may have left the sheepfold OR you are doing your own thing and not a part of the sheepfold. This is dangerous because you will be a target for the enemy that is out to get you.

I believe the sheepfold to be the local church.

The pastor is the shepherd who is there to keep the sheep safe. The shepherd has a calling from God for this role. It's not one of control, yet one of divine guidance.

Another meaning could be that your SHEEP (**Your resources**) have been cut off or stolen. You may have made a bad decision, a bad business investment'

And there be no herd in the stalls—'No savings, no resources, no wealth
EVERYTHING IS GONE''

18 Yet (in spite of my current circumstances (which through faith are about to change)) I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

During this time of THANKSGIVING let us do these 3 things

There may be no money in the bank, no food in the cupboard, rent is coming due

YET despite these conditions I WILL PRAISE THE LORD.

My FAITH & MY PRAISE go deeper and further than the THINGS I possess.

It's easy to PRAISE AND THANK the Lord when all's going great
money in the bank

- house and car paid
- secure job
- kids doing great

I DO IN FACT HAVE SOMETHING TO PRAISE AND THANK THE LORD ABOUT..

Habbakuk tells us what to do? I will joy in the God of my salvation.

I know Him

-My name is written in the Lambs book of life

-He has given me everything that pertains to life and godliness

- I have access to GOD and an inheritance to all of God's promises, for all of God's promises are yes and amen..

Materialism must never be the basis for our relationship with God..

No matter how bad or bleak your situation may be

YET means getting ready to dance

I WILL you have to make that statement of faith. What will do what? I will rejoice.

HERE IS THE KEY TO YOUR BREAKTHROUGH

How many need a breakthrough in some are in your life

I WILL

Psalm 91:14 (God speaking)

“Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;

I will set him on high, because he has known My name.

15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;

I will be with him in trouble;

I will deliver him and honor him.

16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation.”

This is not easy

You’ve got to say satan I will rejoice.

You are not going to rob me. I have a relationship. It’s a strange relationship.

Being that I’m a child of God, I ought to have these things but right now I may be going through this valley, this challenge.

Some people only want to rejoice when they have something. But you have to rejoice when you don’t because IT'S not going to be long that you are in that situation.

As you make Jesus the Lord of your life , He will bless you and raise you up.

Your test will become a testimony

Your mess will become a message

Your misery will become a milestone

Your lack will be your launch pad

Your pain will become your platform

I don't care where I am, I don't care what I do or don't have, I will rejoice

Though I walk through the shadow

MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Dad got sick

Not a lot of money in the house so I had to make it by working

Buying and selling

All those challenges have helped mold me into what I am today.

PILGRIMS

When the Pilgrims arrived in America they never had turkey in mind. They were grateful to the Lord that they made it safely over and they were now free to worship the Lord.

I rejoice today and this THANKSGIVING that I have Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior.

We serve a Jesus you can communicate with and He will speak to you and bless you because He loves you. Jesus will give you self esteem, a purpose for your life, reason to get up in the morning.

We are children of the most High God.

We were bought with a price, the precious blood of Jesus

So let's give Him thanks.

3. BE THANKFUL IN TIMES OF OVERFLOW

God loves His children and blesses His children.

During these times of blessings let us always know that it is the Lord who is the source of all these blessings.

We need to be consciously thankful to the Lord and recognize Him who blesses us. He gave you:

1. The mind you have
2. The favor
3. Contacts
4. Ideas
5. Wisdom
6. Team
7. Friends
8. Work ethic
9. Abilities

Business people

Deuteronomy 8:18 "But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Proverbs 10:22 The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

Revelation 7:11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

I'm going to give God a day of praise

I'm going to give Him a day of thanksgiving

He is worthy

Revelation 5:8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. **9** And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, **12** saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

“Blessing and honor and glory and power *Be* to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!”

14 Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

4. GRATITUDE IS A DECISION

Gratitude is not a decision based on circumstances.

I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Psalm 100:4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving, And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him; bless His name.

Psalm 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart exults, And with my song I shall thank Him.

That’s what I’m going to do this THANKSGIVING

God is so great

God is so deserving

God has been so great to you

YOU MUST NOT WAIT TO FEEL GOOD TO PRAISE HIM,
You praise Him with your depression, your situation

Just go ahead and start saying THANK YOU JESUS, PRAISE YOU JESUS, BLESS YOUR NAME, ...

Make a joyful noise all you people, shout to God with a voice of triumph

Say it with your lips

Make a joyful noise to your God

That isn't hard to do

If I had a God who got sick and died, I would be able to make no noise

If I had a God that we had to box up and take from one temple to the next, I could not make no noise

He made the sun and moon

He decked out the universe with stars

He has His angels watching over me

Psalm 91:11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.

12 In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone

His Holy Spirit is over me

I have wonderful children

And just the sound of their voice brings me joy

I may not have no fruit on the tree
Flock in the field
Money in the bank

BUT I KNOW GOD

And He answers my prayers.

And in my deepest depression He speaks to my spirit and revives my soul.

On this THANKSGIVING I give thanks to my God..

The God of my salvation.

DO you need anything else to thank Him for other than that I'm saved.

My name's written down.

I already have my seat in the kingdom.

Nobody can take it.

You remain loyal to God no matter what comes your way.

Pastor I'm going to be loyal, I will rejoice.

When satan comes up against such determination, He flees.

5. BE THANKFUL FOR THOSE HE HAS PUT IN YOUR LIFE

No person is an Island. The Lord has made us to be in relationship with each other.

Some of us are:

ENCOURAGERS - They always lift your spirit and make you believe you can do it.

HELPERS - They are always helping and lifting a heavy load. They give their time, talents and resources.

SUPPORTERS - STWF and Eternity Church.

TEACHERS - They add value to our lives by what they teach us and the lessons.. they share.

PRAYERS WARRIORS - You need someone to agree with you in prayer

PARENTS - They changed our diapers, took us to school, paid for everything, many times at great sacrifice, did the best they could.

SPOUSES - God sends us a helpmate.. to do life with, have purpose together

FRIENDS - Are great blessings. They love you and lift you up, support each other, speak life

THIS THANKSGIVING let us show appreciation for all these amazing people the Lord has put in our lives.