

# What are you thankful for in life?

## *Psalm 95:1-3* INTRODUCTION

This week we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. We gather around often with family and friends and share time together, eat too much, take a nap and some of us try to squeeze a football game within these leisurely activities. Today I want to ask us all the question of “What are you thankful for in life?” Before I do let’s begin with a quote that is the cornerstone of Thanksgiving by the Father of our Country.

**(Opening quote from the Thanksgiving Proclamation signed by George Washington, President of the United States of America, October 3, 1789)<sup>1</sup>**

*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.*

Oh my how things have changed since then. We often talk about going back in time, but what would our Founding Fathers think if they could come to the present and see where our country is today since this quote was first made in regards to Thanksgiving.

Now let us turn to Scripture and see what perspective each believer should have of thanksgiving before the Lord.

### *Psalm 95:1-3*

Come, let us shout joyfully to the LORD,  
shout triumphantly to the rock  
of our salvation!

Let us enter His presence with thanksgiving;  
let us shout triumphantly to Him in song.

For the LORD is a great God,  
a great King above all gods.

How much of the time is our time spent griping, gossiping or groaning? This Psalm specifically points out that our hearts should be filled with Thanksgiving as we live before the Lord for all that He has done.

## **What are you thankful for in life?**

1. Thankful for our salvation and such a great grace that has been given to us in Jesus.
2. Thankful for Christian friends and family.
3. Thankful for the challenges of life (even Christian friends and family J )
4. Thankful for the local church in which to have a community and place to belong.
5. Thankful to serve the Lord in any capacity.
6. Thankful for God's Provision or Sovereignty over life and the questions life raises.
7. Thankful for Truth to be a grounding point of guidance and accountability.
8. Thankful for Scripture to reveal Truth.
9. Thankful for the freedom to worship, pray, and share.
10. Thankful for painful events in the lessons we learn to grow within.
11. Thankful for the holy love of God.
12. Thankful for God's assurance.
13. Thankful for God allowing me to live in His creation and on His planet with His life.
14. Thankful for Second Chances and God's loving forgiveness.
15. Thankful for the Cross & Resurrection that gives hope beyond the Great Enemy of Death.

## **CONCLUSION:**

### **Abraham Lincoln, at Thanksgiving time during the Civil War, 1863**

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

### **John Fitzgerald Kennedy**

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

### **Theodore Roosevelt, 1901**

Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds.

### **Jesus**

“For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[\*The Holy Bible: Holman Christian standard version\*](#). (2009). (Jn 3:16–17). Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers.