

THE POWER OF GRATEFULNESS

Psalm 100 New King James Version

1 Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands!

2 Serve the Lord with gladness;

Come before His presence with singing.

3 Know that the Lord, He is God;

It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,

And into His courts with praise.

Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

5 For the Lord is good;

His mercy is everlasting,

And His truth endures to all generations.

THIS IS A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING. WHAT HAPPENS IN THE HEART BEFORE THANKSGIVING IS EXPRESSED? GRATEFULNESS THESE SIMPLE WORDS AND SHORT SENTENCES SHOW THAT LISTING SOME TRUTHS ABOUT GODS CHARACTER IS A PERFECT WAY TO WORSHIP

GRATEFULNESS COMES BEFORE THANKSGIVING, WHY? BECAUSE GRATEFULNESS HAS TO DO WITH BELONGING. BELONGING IS OUR FULL APPRECIATION OF SOMETHING UNDESERVED

THE HARDEST ARITHMATIC TO MASTER IS THAT WHICH ENABLES US TO COUNT ARE BLESSINGS. GRATEFULNESS IS FULL AWARENESS, THANKFULNESS IS THOUGHTFULNESS.

A GRATUITOUS LIFE WILL PROSPER MUCH IN THE THINGS YOU DO NOT SEE (LIKE FEELINGS AND FAITH), WHILE HAVING A MAJOR POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE THINGS THAT YOU CAN SEE

WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT THE GRATEFUL AND UNGRATEFUL HEART?

1 Timothy 4:1-5 NASB

4 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, 2 by means of the

hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, 3 who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. 4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; 5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.

PAUL WROTE THIS TO TIMOTHY WARNING HIM OF FALSE TEACHERS MAKING THEIR WAY INTO THE CHURCH OF EPHESIS, PEOPLE THAT CLAIM TO BE CHRISTIAN BUT HAVE NO GRATEFULNESS TOWARDS GOD...THEY SAID MARRIAGE AND EATING ANIMAL FLESH WAS BAD...WHEN GOD SAID IT WAS GOOD...WHEN YOU TAKE WHAT GOD HAS CALLED GOOD AND CALL IT BAD YOU ARE OPERATING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DEMONIC TEACHING

AN UNGRATEFUL FOLLOWER OF CHRIST IS BEING DEMONICALLY INFLUENCED IN THEIR THINKING..BEING UNGRATEFUL CAN LITERALLY BE THE REASON YOU FALL AWAY FROM CHRIST IN THE FIRST PLACE

“WELL, YOU DONT UNDERSTAND PASTOR CHRIS NOTHING EVER GOES MY WAY...THATS WHY IM UNGRATEFUL”

PAUL MAKES A DIRECT CORELATION BETWEEN DECIEITFUL SPIRITS AND TEACHINGS OF DEMONS WITH UNGRATEFULNESS

MEANING THAT IF YOU ARE AN UNGRATEFUL PERSON, YOU ARE BEING INFLUENCED BY DEMONIC THINKING....EVEN US CHRISTIANS

PAUL TALKS ABOUT THESE FALSE TEACHERS BEING SEARED IN THEIR CONSCIENCE...THAT SEARED CONSCIENCE CAME FROM UNGRATEFULNESS

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN AROUND CHRISTAINS THAT ONLY FOCUS ON WHAT THEY DONT HAVE IN JESUS? HOW ABOUT A CHRISTIAN THAT COMPLAINS ABOUT EVERYTHING? THIS IS DEMONICALLY INFLUENCED THINKING

YOU SEE, THESE FALSE TEACHERS WERE KEEPING CHRISTIANS FROM FULLY ENJOYING WHAT GOD HAD PROVIDED

WHAT IS KEEPING YOU FROM ENJOYING ALL THAT GOD HAS PROVIDED? ARE YOU TRULY GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU HAVE? DO YOU OR CAN YOU GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE AND ALL THAT YOU ARE?

GOD DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES!!!! FOCUS WHAT YOU ENJOY UNDER GOD NOT WHAT YOU CANT HAVE OR CANT DO

LETS TAKE A LOOK AT THE DEMONIC TEACHING OF UNGRATEFULNESS.

EVE IS IN THE GARDEN WITH SATAN, SATAN CAUSES HER TO QUESTION THE GOODNESS OF GOD AND SHIFT HER FOCUS OFF OF WHAT SHE COULD HAVE..TO WHAT SHE COULDN'T HAVE

IT IS THE DEVIL'S JOB TO KILL, STEAL, AND DESTROY...SO IF HE CAN GET OUR MINDS FOCUSSED ON THE STRESSES OF NATURAL LIFE HERE ON EARTH, WE WILL LIVE IN UNGRATEFULNESS AND NEVER REACH THE FULL SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL GOD INTENDED FOR US.

Romans 1:18-21NASB

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made, so that they are without excuse. 21 For even though they knew God, **they did not honor Him as God or give thanks**, but they became futile in their reasonings, and their senseless hearts were darkened.

WE SEE HERE THE SEARED MIND AND HEART OF UNGRATEFULNESS

WE MUST BE SO CAREFUL AS FOLOWERS OF JESUS TO BE GRATEFUL AND STAY GRATEFUL....THERE IS MIGHTY POWER IN ONE WHO HAS GRASPED THE GRAVITY OF SALVATION. A GRATEFUL HEART LEADS TO A HEALTHY THOUGHT LIFE, A HEALTHY THOUGHT LIFE BECOMES HEALTHY ACTIONS

WITHOUT GRATEFULNESS WE TURN INTO THE WORLD AROUND US
IT IS DEMONIC

Romans 1:24-25 NASB

24 Therefore God gave them up to vile impurity in the lusts of their hearts, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. 25 For they **exchanged the truth of God for falsehood**, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

HAVE YOU TRADED GOD'S TRUTH ONLY TO WORSHIP AT THE ALTER OF FEAR? HOW ABOUT ANGER AND HATE? HOW ABOUT THINKING A HUMAN OR A GOVERNMENT CAN SAVE YOU? WE ARE NOT IN THE RIGHT PLACE WHEN WE FOCUS ON THAT JUNK MORE THAN THE GOODNESS OF GOD THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. THAT SHOULD BE OUR MAIN FOCUS EVERYDAY...ESPECIALLY IN ADVERSITY. A GRATEFUL HEART TOWARD THE MAJESTY OF THE GREAT I AM!!!!

CHRISTIANS SHOULD BE THE MOST GRATEFUL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD DON'T JUST ENJOY THE CREATION, BE GRATEFUL TO AND FOR THE CREATOR
EVERYTHING THAT IS GOOD CAN BE TRACED BACK TO GOD

GRADITUDE IS A WAY OF LIFE
WE SHOULDN'T NEED A HOLIDAY TO HAVE A THANKSGIVING SESSION WITH GOD

Ephesians 5:18-20 NASB

18 And do not get drunk with wine, in which there is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; 20 **always giving thanks for all things** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father;

DIRECTIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIFE IN JESUS

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NASB

16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 **in everything give thanks;** for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE WHEN IT COMES TO DEALING WITH ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE (IE) MARRIAGE, JOB, FRIENDS, ENEMIES

WE BELONG TO GOD SO WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE THANKS

LETS LOOK AT ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE POWER OF GRATEFULNESS

Luke 17:11-19 NASB

11 While He was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as He entered a village, ten men with leprosy who stood at a distance met Him; 13 and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14 When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they were going, they were cleansed. 15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had

been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, 16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 But Jesus responded and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? 18 Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?” 19 And He said to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has made you well.”

JESUS SAID GO, SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIESTS
ALL 10 HAD THE FAITH TO GO, ALL TEN WERE HEALED
ONLY ONE STOPPED TO THANK THE HEALER, THE OTHER NINE JUST
ENJOYED THE BLESSING

IT MEANT ENOUGH TO JESUS TO ACKNOWLEDGE BOTH THE ONE WHO
WASNT EVEN JEWISH, AND THE NINE, THE CHOSEN ONES

ALL WERE HEALED, YES, BUT THE SAMARITAN FOUND SALVATION
AND THE TRUE RICHES OF CHRIST. THAT IS A MAJOR DIFFERENCE

THE OTHER NINE ACTUALLY SINNED BECAUSE THEY WORSHIPPED THE
BLESSING AND NOT THE BLESSER

MANY HAVE TAKEN THE BLESSING FROM GOD AND NOT BEEN THANKFUL
THIS MAY BE WHY THEY ARE STUCK SPIRITUALLY
GOD WILL NOT ADD TO THE UNGRATEFUL

REMEMBER, BEING UNGRATEFUL IS THE TEACHING OF DEMONS AND GOD
WILL NOT BLESS THE DEMONIC

IF ALL THINGS FROM GOD ARE GOOD HOW COME ALL THINGS AREN'T
GOOD? THATS SIMPLE...MAN AND THE DEVIL....ONCE WE GET OUR HANDS
ON SOMETHING THE POTENTIAL TO MAKE IT BAD COMES INTO PLAY

SOME THINK GOD IS HOLDING OUT ON THEM, IF GOD IS HOLDING OUT ITS
NOT GOOD.....BUT IT FEELS GOOD, TASTES GOOD, LOOKS GOOD

THE WISDOM OF MAN SAYS “IF IT FEELS GOOD THEN IT MUST BE GOOD”

NO

GOODNESS FROM GOD IS BENEFICIAL INTERNALLY AND SPIRITUALLY NOT JUST PHYSICALLY

James 1:17 NASB

17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

FIRST THING I WANT YOU TO SEE IS GOODNESS IS A GIFT FROM A FATHER
TO HIS CHILDREN

NOT ALL GOOD THINGS “FEEL” GOOD

REBUKE, CORRECTION, TRIALS, AND EVEN TRAGEDY ARE SOME WAYS
GOD WILL SHOW TRUE GOODNESS AND BLESSING. IT IS IN HIS
PERCEPTION (WHICH IS PERFECT) IN THE BIG PICTURE AND THE SMALL
THAT BESTOWS THE BLESSING ON OUR LIVES

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF WE COULD BE GRATEFUL THROUGH ALL OF IT
THE GOOD AND THE BAD...GIVING THANKS AND PRAISE IN ALL THINGS

THIS KIND OF ATTITUDE WILL TAKE YOU TO NEW LEVELS IN JESUS

YOU WILL WALK IN THE SPIRIT LIKE NEVER BEFORE

YOU WILL KNOW JESUS DEEPER THAN YOU EVER HAVE WHEN YOU GIVE
THANKS IN ALL THINGS

FATHER OF LIGHTS..THE ONE WHO CREATED LIGHT, THE STARS, PLANETS,
SUN.....WITH WHOM THERE IS NO VARIATION OR SHIFTING SHADOW

WHEN THE EARTH ROTATES AROUND THE SUN WE HAVE DAY AND NIGHT
NIGHT IS A SHADOW...THE SUN DOESNT MOVE OR STOP SHINING...IN GOD
THERE IS NO DARKNESS OR SHADOWS

IF YOU FEEL DARKNESS IN YOUR LIFE OR YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE A
LOOMING SHADOW OVER YOU, ITS BECAUSE YOUVE ROTATED AWAY
FROM GOD...YOU HAVE SHIFTED

WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS KEEP OUR BACKS TO THE SHADOWS AND SET
OUR FACES UPON CHRIST....GIVING THANKS TO HIM GETS US THERE

IN FACT, WHEN WE SET OURSELVES FOCUSED ON THE FATHER AND HIS
AMAZING LIGHT, DARKNESS HAS TO FLEE

WHEN WE FOCUS ON CIRCUMSTANCES, WE ROTATE TOWARDS THE
DARKNESS

LET ME TELL YOU A STORY

THERE WAS A MAN NAMED HENRY THAT WAS ROBBED AT GUNPOINT. THE ROBBER TOOK HIS WATCH AND HIS WALLET.

AS SOON AS THE THIEF TURNED TO LEAVE, HENRY SHOUTED “WAIT!! I JUST WANT TO GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD”

“LORD.....I WANT TO THANK YOU....FIRST, BECAUSE I HAVE NEVER BEEN ROBBED BEFORE...THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS.... SECOND, HE TOOK MY MONEY AND MY WATCH BUT HE DIDNT TAKE MY LIFE AND IM MORE IMPOTANT THAN THE THINGS I POSSESS....THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY....THIRDLY, EVEN THOUGH HE TOOK ALL I HAD, I DIDNT HAVE MUCH SO THE JOKE IS ON HIM...THANK YOU FOR YOUR SOVEREIGNTY

YOU SEE, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR...ALWAYS EVEN IN THE WORST SITUATIONS, IF YOU BEGIN TO PRAISE GOD AND GIVE THANKS..GOD WILL HONOR THAT THANKSGIVING

LETS LOOK AT THE GREATEST EXAMPLE OF GRATEFULNESS

John 6:5-11 NASB

5 So Jesus, after raising His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him, said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread so that these people may eat?” 6 But He was saying this only to test him, for He Himself knew what He intended to do. 7 Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not enough for them, for each to receive just a little!” 8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, 9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many people?” 10 Jesus said, “Have the people recline to eat.” Now there was plenty of grass in the place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, **and after giving thanks** He distributed them to those who were reclining; likewise also of the fish, **as much as they wanted.**

THIS IS SUCH A MASSIVE TEACHING BY JESUS
THE DISCIPLES PERCEPTION OF THE SITUATION WAS LACKING, THEY WERE FOCUSSED ON THE LIMITATIONS OF THEIR WORLDLY SUPPLIES

JESUS DIDN’T SAY “GOSH FATHER WHY DID YOU LET THIS HAPPEN, WE ARE ALL GOING TO STARVE IF YOU DON’T DO SOMETHING!!”

HE DIDN’T SAY, “I AM JESUS, ABRACADABRA”

HE DIDN'T MAKE MORE MONEY APPEAR BECAUSE HE DOESN'T RELY ON
THE WORLD'S SYSTEM
THE ONLY THING I SEE JESUS DO IS GIVE THANKS

HE GAVE THANKS FOR THE FISH AND THE BREAD THAT THEY HAD
ALREADY.... THAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING SANCTIFIED (SET APART)
THE FISH AND THE BREAD, JESUS KNEW THE FATHER HAD SUPPLIED THAT
ORIGINALLY AND THAT HE WOULD BLESS THE SON

HE GAVE THANKS BECAUSE HE KNOWS THE FATHER LOVES HIM

HE GAVE THANKS BECAUSE GOD THE FATHER WAS AND IS FAITHFUL

JESUS GAVE THANKS BECAUSE HE KNEW THE POWER OF A GRATEFUL
HEART

TAKE YOUR SITUATIONS AND SANCTIFY THEM TO GOD
THROW UP A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING THROUGH THE GOOD AND THE
BAD AND WATCH GOD TURN YOUR ORDINARY INTO EXTRAORDINARY

CLOSE
ALTER