

Gratitude or Gratuity (Continued from page 1)

Jesus experienced both sides of the thankful: “And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, who stood afar off: and they lifted up their voices, saying, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go and show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, with a loud voice glorifying God; and he fell upon his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were not the ten cleansed? but where are the nine? Were there none found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger?” (Lk. 17:12-18). Both sides: one Samaritan that turned back and gave “him thanks”; the other nine, not so much.

Due gratitude should be a no-brainer. The scriptures identify the many things for which mankind should be grateful: “The God that made the world and all things therein, he, being Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is he served by men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he himself giveth to all life, and breath, and all things...” (Acts 17:24-25); life and breath is significant. “And yet he left not himself without witness, in that he did good and gave you from heaven rains and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts with food and gladness” (Acts 14:17); rains, fruitful seasons, food and gladness is significant. What was it God told Israel? “And ye shall serve Jehovah your God, and he will bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee” (Exod. 23:25). The omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence, omnibenevolence is manifested in all that God provided through the gift of his Son.

All-in-all, it would do mankind well to recognize their indebtedness to our God, Creator, and Savior, lest we be in danger, as was Israel, who might “vaunt themselves against me (God, ret), saying, Mine own hand hath saved me” (Judg. 7:2).

How do you view your blessings in life, with a heart of gratitude, or a heart of gratuity? Ross

The Psalmist Says

*Whoso offereth the sacrifice of thanksgiving glorifieth me;
And to him that ordereth his way aright Will I show the
salvation of God.
Psa. 50:23*

Our Wonderful Savior

I. Introduction:

- A. Isa. 9:1-7 – 700 years before Jesus
- B. Matt. 4:12-16 – Isaiah speaking of Jesus

II. Work:

- A. Jn. 6:38 – Came to do the Father’s will
 - 1. Lk. 19:10 – Seek the lost
 - 2. 1 Tim. 1:12-16 – Save sinners
 - 3. 1 Tim. 2:5-7 – Give Himself a ransom
- B. In so doing:
 - 1. 1 Jn. 3:7-8 – Destroyed the work of the devil
 - 2. Heb. 2:14-15 – Broke the devil’s power
 - 3. 2 Tim. 1:8-11 – Abolished death
- C. Isa. 49:6 – Jesus gave light to the Gentiles
- D. Acts 26:16-18 – Affirmed by Paul

III. Offering:

- A. Jn. 10:16-18 – Jesus freely offered Himself
- B. Matt. 26:26-28 – His blood was poured out
- C. Acts 2:22-24 – According to God’s plan
- D. Jn. 12:27-28 – Came to fulfill God’s plan
- E. Heb. 9:22; 10:9-18 – Jesus offered Himself as a sin offering
- F. Heb. 9:11-14 – Through His offering man’s conscience is cleansed from dead works

IV. Conclusion:

- A. 2 Pet. 3:8-9 – The Lord does not wish that any should perish.
- B. Acts 17:30-31 – But has appointed a day of judgment.
- C. 2 Pet. 3:10-13, 14 – With this warning should we not be prepared for that day?