

GLC
11/28/21

Thanksgiving

Text: Psalm 100:4-5, 105:1.

Introduction: There are perspectives concerning the celebration and national holiday of Thanksgiving. Some say it was an expression of the Pilgrims for a successful harvest after previous difficulties. Others said it was gratitude for efforts of the Natives in provision for famine stricken Pilgrims. It was not until 1863, during the Civil War, that Thanksgiving became a national holiday. Some explanations said President Abraham Lincoln supported the idea of an idealistic Thanksgiving in hopes of bringing the country together.

- Biblically, the origin and cause to be thankful is God and His goodness. Life is a strange mixture of blessing and burden, beauty and brokenness.
- Thanksgiving consist of 12 letters. Biblically 12 is considered a perfect number, it symbolizes **God's power and authority. It serves as a perfect governmental foundation.** It can also symbolize completeness or the nation of Israel as a whole. Jacob had 12 sons.
- A lifestyle of thanksgiving is living in the power of God and exercising authority over everything attempting to hinder a continuous expression of gratitude to God. Cp I Thess. 5:18.

“And in the midst of everything be always giving thanks, for this is God’s perfect plan for you in Christ Jesus” (The Passion Translation—I Thess. 5:18)

1. It’s not circumstance controlled—Phil. 1:3, 4:6; I Thess.5:18, “in the midst of everything.”
2. It’s a companion of prayer—Phil.4:6 “with prayer.”
3. It’s a compound contributor—Phil. 4:7 “and the peace of God...” Present of thanksgiving is a cause agent in the whole.
 - Thanksgiving=targeted thinking.

JDF