

Bound To Give Thanks

Americans are reminded on the 4th Thursday in November to give thanks.

- Used to be a special day of thanks TO GOD. Now a day of feasts and football.
- Even good intentioned Christians fall short & instead make the day about America/American heritage
 - Don't make an idol out of the day & lose sight of what is important – The God of the Pilgrims

1. Man Owes God Thanks

- a. Even the unbeliever owes Him thanks *Matt 5:45* (for sun & rain) *Acts 17:25* (for life)
- b. O.T. calls for man to give the Lord thanks *Pss 106:1, 107:1, 118:1, 136:1-9* *1 Chr 16:34*

2. God's will

- a. Does it matter? Do you know it? You should – *Eph 1:9, 5:17* it's not a mystery nor different for each
 - i. All to be saved & come to knowledge of the truth (1 Tim 2:4), give thx *1 Thes 5:18*
- b. God has always wanted, expected, deserved thx – not doing so has ramifications
 - i. But man chose not to be thankful & result was the decline of man *Rom 1:21-23*
- c. Is there any situation that thx to God is inappropriate or unnecessary?

3. Bound to Give Thanks

- a. Paul says he is bound to give thx. *2 Thess 2:13-14*
 - i. Bound = *obligation, owed, debt, due, limitation – fixing a boundary*
 - ii. Paul is saying he has a moral obligation to give thanks for the Thessalonians being saved from trib

4. Give thanks for:

- a. His Grace – *1 Cor 1:4*
- b. He redeemed us – *Rom 5:8, Gal 3:13, Tit 2:14*
- c. He qualified us to receive inheritance – *Col 1:12*
- d. He gave us the victory – *1 Cor 15:57, 2 Cor 2:14, 9:15*
- e. He is faithful – *2 Tim 2:13, Gal 2:16*
- f. His glory revealed in us – *Rom 8:18* (our current standing is holiness but then will be our “state”)
 - i. Considering *Isa 42:8* this is extraordinary.
 - ii. Rom 8:18 speaks of the resurrected & glorified body & subsequent complete Christlikeness