

# Christian Study

Lesson 246

## Be Light

*Focusing on Church beyond Sunday*

### How Can I Know and Understand What the Bible Means?

#### Happy Thanksgiving 2013

Today in the United States of America, we celebrate "Thanksgiving Day." It is a day where most people stay home and prepare the biggest dinner; (Turkey and all the trimmings, side dishes and the works) invite friends and family or drive or fly to visit friends and family who have also prepared the feast to give thanks.

In almost of these dinners I have been invited to, different people will stand up and give thanks for their achievements during the past year through their own efforts on the job, their families, their businesses, and school and so on. Please don't get me wrong these things are worthy of thanks giving, but what has been missing in most of these dinners I have attended was WHO are they giving thanks TO.

In my opinion, thanks must be given to someone for some things and not for something to no-one. The following are the definition I found in the dictionary of the word "Thanksgiving".

- 1 The act of giving thanks
- 2 An expression of thanks to God
- 3 A public act of religious observance or a celebration in acknowledgment of divine favors
- 4 The act of giving thanks; grateful acknowledgment of benefits or favors, especially to God. An expression of thanks, especially to God.
- 5 A public celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor or kindness.

6 A day set apart for giving thanks to God.

The things most of us give thanks for on this day is an evidence of the wonderful provision a Christian believer in Jesus Christ has inherited before God that is as permanent and secure as his or her salvation. The Word of God clearly testifies to the Christians inheritance which is the reason why we must give thanks to God at all times, especially during this public celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor and kindness to have all what we have and who we have.

Let's go to the Bible and look up on a few of the reasons for giving thanks from God's point of view. Please take time and search the Bible and you also will find a lot more passages that gives reasons for a continued thanks giving heart. Here are some basic fundamental reasons why we must give thanks to God because you are;

## Saved by grace

**Ephesians 2:8-9** "God saved you through faith as an act of kindness. You had nothing to do with it. Being saved is a gift from God. **9** It's not the result of anything you've done, so no one can brag about it."

## Totally forgiven

**Colossians 2:13-14** "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave **ALL** our sins; **14** having cancelled the written code with its regulations that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross." Please pay attention to the word **ALL**. (*All means all that's all, all means.*)

## Reconciled to God

**Romans 5:10** "If, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of his Son, how much more, having being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life;"

## Justified

**Romans 3:23-24** "For **ALL** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," There, the word **ALL** has appeared again to make a good point

## Made into a new creation

**2 Corinthians 5:17** "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, all things have become new. **18** And all things are of God, who

reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and who gave to us the ministry of this reconciliation,"

## Made at peace with God

**Romans 5:1** "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

## Made righteous

**2 Corinthians 5:21** "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

This next one is what Redd Fox from the TV sitcom "Sanford and Sons" will call the BIG ONE. We are:

## Made perfect FOREVER

**Hebrews 10:4** "By one sacrifice He (Jesus) has made perfect forever those who are being made holy." FOREVER And ever and ever, and all God's people say;

## Freed from condemnation

**Romans 8:1** "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Many Christians still condemn themselves even after God has said if they are in Christ there is no condemnation. They spend time worrying on what they are doing instead of looking at what Christ has done for them

## Made holy and blameless

**Colossians 1:22** "But now Christ has brought you back to God by dying in his physical body. He did this so that you could come into God's presence without sin, fault, or blame."

## Freed from the law

**Romans 8:2** "Through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit set me free from the law of sin and death."

## Hidden with Christ in God

**Colossians 3:3** "You died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God."

## Clothed with Christ

**Galatians 3:27** "Clearly, all of you who were baptized in Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

**NOTE:** To be "clothed with Christ" means that whenever God looks at the believer He sees the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Last and by far not the least, you as a believer in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, in other words born from above are loved perfectly and unconditionally by God

## Loved perfectly

**Romans 8:38-39** "For I am convinced, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, **39** nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

With this conviction, we should have no doubt about our celebrating a public act of religious observance in acknowledgment of the divine favors God has bestowed on us.

**A HAPPY THANKSGIVING 2013 TO YOU ALL AND MAY GOD  
RICHLY BLESS YOU**

You can also visit Basic Gospel ministry at [www.basicgospel.net](http://www.basicgospel.net) for more on this and many other topics. This is a great site you can visit often and find peace with God.

## Keep It Simple

**Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.**

If you have any questions, comments or you know anybody else who will benefit from this study please feel free to give us their email address and they will be added to our mailing list to receive weekly lessons. The email address is [belightletters@gmail.com](mailto:belightletters@gmail.com)

**REMEMBER!!** A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle (Ephesians 5:8)

**Let's go light another candle**