

My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness Various Texts

INTRO:

Almost every time we sing this song it makes me want to preach it. The reason is that virtually every phrase comes from somewhere in the Bible. The first verse, *“My heart is filled with Thankfulness for Him who bore my pain”* is about our deliverance from sin and its condemnation. The second verse, *“My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside”* details God’s faithfulness in our lives. I particularly love the phrase, *“Whose every promise is enough for every step I take.”* However, because I don’t think you want me to preach for four hours, I am just going to preach using the last verse of our song.

I. My heart is filled with Thankfulness Because God Reigns Above.

II. My heart is Thankful because Everyday I have on earth was given by the King.

I. My heart is filled with Thankfulness Because God Reigns Above.

A. When we sing this third verse of our hymn we sing about our matchless God saying, we are thankful that He is the One who reigns above.

1. We know He reigns above because the first words of the Old Testament proclaim God made this universe **Genesis 1:1.**

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

2. Not only did God create it, He also runs it **Daniel 4:32-35.**

“And [the angels] shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. they shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.’ That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles’ feathers and his nails like birds’ claws. And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, “What have You done?”

3. This says our God is the Sovereign Ruler of the heavens and the earth. The Lord Jesus Christ created all things and holds all things together.

Hebrews 1:2-3 *“Has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, Whom He has appointed heir of all things, through Whom also He made the worlds; Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”*

The Lord Jesus Who will never leave us or forsake us made all things and by Him they exist. Not only did He create it, He rules over it.

B. Then we sing *“whose wisdom is my perfect peace.”* As with the statement that He reigns above, this truth is repeated several times in scripture.

Colossians 2:3 *“In [Christ Jesus] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”*

Our God is infinite in knowledge and wisdom. The Apostle Paul wrote in **Romans 11:33** after showing us an overview of God’s plan for the ages, *“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!”*

What are we to do when we lack wisdom? James told us in **James 1:5** *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”*

Because God is all wise, we can have perfect peace. Our peace comes from knowing He is too wise to ever make a mistake and He is the blessed controller of all things.

C. *“Whose Every Thought is love”*. This is especially true for all who trust Christ, because Jesus died for us and *“There is therefore no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus”* (**Romans 8:1**). We have no more terror of God’s wrath. Christ’s righteousness credited to our account by faith has canceled it all.

D. His sovereignty and love meet in His providence. Remember the blessing of **Romans 8:28**?

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

God works all things together for our good or it wouldn’t happen.

II. My heart is Thankful because Everyday I have on earth was given by the King.

A. Everyday we live has been personally designed and formed for us.

Psalm 139:16 *“Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.”*

1. This verse talks about a time before David was born. He wrote that even at that time, God designed him, created him, and recorded in His book the days

God Himself formed for Him even before they existed. The point is, **God creates the future.**

2. God is infinitely aware and involved in our lives before we were even conceived, as a fetus in the womb, born, and live out our lives. Do you remember God call of Jeremiah, the prophet, **Jeremiah 1:5?**

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

3. Not only did our God create the future, He will be with us every day of that future. God created our days and gave them to us. What are we going to do with these days? The Apostle Paul wrestled with this idea in **Ephesians 5:15–17.**

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

B. Our Response because we know, recognize, and are thankful for all this, is to commit ourselves to *“Love and Follow Him”*. This brings to mind several verses.

1. Perhaps the most striking is the application Paul drew from all God did in the Gospel and the incredible wisdom of God visible in His plan for the ages. Paul’s application is **Romans 12:1-2.**

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your [reasonable] service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

The only reasonable response to God for all He did in Christ is to give our bodies as a sacrifice to God, which is living, and holy and well pleasing to Him. We must make an absolute commitment to the living Christ. We cannot do this without divine help.

2. **Ephesians 4:1–3** ***“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”***

The calling here is God calling us to salvation. We need to walk in such a way that our lives demonstrate our thankfulness for God saving us. This means we should be characterized by humility (willing to live out God’s will). It includes our living in harmony with our fellow believers and in a real growing relationship with our God.

We sing these words, are we willing to do them?

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.

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