

## Thanks Be to God

The national Day of Thanksgiving was first declared by \_\_\_\_\_ during the Civil War

### I. THANKS BE TO GOD FOR VICTORY OVER DEATH 1 Corinthians 15:57

*This verse comes at the end of a chapter in which Paul explains the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ*

A. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) In his own strength, no man has ever conquered \_\_\_\_\_ ; it is the great leveler
- 2) But Jesus triumphed over death, and when we trust Him, we share His bodily \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) This word is in the \_\_\_\_\_ tense: it does not focus on what Christ DID or on what shall be
- 2) Our future sharing in Christ's past resurrection ever encourages us that IN THE END WE \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The glory, joy and love we will experience in \_\_\_\_\_ is overwhelming reason to give thanks

### II. THANKS BE TO GOD FOR TRIUMPH IN MINISTRY 2 Corinthians 2:14

A. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) A "triumph" was a parade in which a victorious \_\_\_\_\_ was honored by Caesar
- 2) God grants His victorious Son this triumph and we follow as His army shouting His \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) The victory of the church is not based on \_\_\_\_\_ efforts, methods, schemes or programs
- 2) The victory of the church in her ministry is rooted in faith in the finished work of \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Even when we cannot seem to see the ministry of Christ advancing, nothing can \_\_\_\_\_ it

### III. THANKS BE TO GOD FOR THE GIFT OF HIS SON 2 Corinthians 9:15

*The "indescribable" or "unspeakable" gift refers to \_\_\_\_\_ and all that is summed up in Him*

*But this word cannot rightly be translated "indescribable" or "unspeakable" since \_\_\_\_\_ for many years have been describing and speaking of Jesus! A better translation is \_\_\_\_\_*

*The blessings that we as believers know because of Jesus Christ cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ up*

A. God's Gift Is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Any Grace in Our Lives

- 1) In verse 14 Paul speaks of the super-grace at work in the lives of the \_\_\_\_\_ Christians
- 2) When we see grace at work in any \_\_\_\_\_, it is always due to God's unreckonable gift, Jesus
- 3) So we give thanks when we see \_\_\_\_\_ at work in our own lives or the lives of others

B. God's Gift Is the \_\_\_\_\_ for the Giving that We Do

- 1) In 2 Cor. 8-9 Paul is motivating the Corinthians to give to the needy Christians in \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The greatest \_\_\_\_\_ for Christians is our response to the unreckonable gift, Jesus
- 3) Thankfulness is not just saying "thank you" to God; it is the great \_\_\_\_\_ of the Christian life
- 4) And purposely, intentionally taking time to give thanks is like filling the tank with \_\_\_\_\_