

TRULY THANKFUL
PSALM 100

INTRODUCTION

Warren Wiersbe said these words in his book entitled “*God Isn’t In a Hurry*”: “*I have felt for a long time that one of the particular temptations of the maturing Christian is the danger of getting accustomed to his blessings. Like the world traveler who has been everywhere and seen everything, the maturing Christian is in danger of taking his blessings for granted and getting so accustomed to them that they fail to excite him as they once did.*”

Emerson said that if the stars came out only once a year, everybody would stay up all night to behold them. We have seen the stars so often that we don’t bother to look at them anymore. We have grown accustomed to our blessings.

The Israelites in the wilderness got accustomed to their blessings, and God had to chasten the people (see Num. 11). God had fed the nation with heavenly manna each morning, and yet the people were getting tired of it. “But now our soul is dried away,” they said, “there is nothing at all, beside this manna before our eyes!” (v. 6).

Nothing but manna! They were experiencing a miracle of God’s provision every morning; yet they were no longer excited about it. Nothing but manna!

One of the evidences that we have grown accustomed to our blessings is this spirit of criticism and complaining. Instead of thanking God for what we have, we complain about it and tell him we wish we had something else. You can be sure that if God did give us what we asked for, we would eventually complain about that. The person who has gotten accustomed to his blessing can never be satisfied.

Another evidence of this malady is the idea that others have a better situation than we do. The Israelites remembered their diet in Egypt and longed to return to the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic.

They were saying, “The people in Egypt are so much better off than we are!” Obviously, they had forgotten the slavery they had endured in Egypt and the terrible bondage from which God had delivered them. Slavery is a high price to pay for a change in diet.”

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Perhaps sometimes we also become too accustomed to our blessings! There are so many things we have for which we need to be truly thankful! Amen?

Psalm 100 is a Psalm of praise and thanksgiving. (Let’s do something different this morning. Those who can stand with me, please stand and let’s read Psalm 100 in Unison.)

Here we find seven things in verses three and five for which we as Believers should truly be thankful for:

I. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS GOD! (Vs. 3)

In other lands and even here in the United States, there are many people who worship other gods and/or a different Jesus than the one revealed here in the Bible. i.e. They do not worship the true and living God!

Some in heathen lands still worship idols they fashion themselves:

Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. [5] They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: [6] They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not: [7] They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat. [8] They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.

Idols are dead! Those that worship them are spiritually dead! However, our God, the true and living God is very much alive!

I’m so glad that we don’t worship the gods of **mythology!** I remember studying mythology in High School! Mrs. Tayloe! We called her Aphrodite! Talk about a myth! God is not a myth! He is real!

Our God is not the same as Allah, Allah had no son! And without the Son of God we have no salvation and no life!

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Psalm 115:3—“But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.”

Isaiah 42:8 - I am the Lord: That is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Revelation 1:8 - I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Why should we be truly thankful that the Lord is God?

He is the one revealed to us in Creation, in Conscience, in Christ, and in the Canon of Scripture!

He is the one who provided Salvation for us! (John 3:16)

He is the one that forgives us and gives eternal life through His Son!

He is the one that says “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee!”

He is the one that answers prayer!

No matter what goes wrong in your life today, the LORD is God!

No matter who is in the White House, the Kremlin, Buckingham Palace, or any other place of power, the Lord is God!

No matter how you feel, the Lord is God!

The LORD is always in control! He is always Sovereign!

Nothing gets by Him! Nothing takes Him by surprise!

WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS GOD!

II. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS THE ONE WHO MADE US! (Vs. 3)

Primarily this is talking about the LORD having made Israel what it was! (He is the One Who called Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees and made his name great by making the nation of Israel!)

But so many times Israel would forget the simple truth that they were who they were because of the LORD who made them!

Listen, the LORD is also the one that has made us too!

Both physically and now that I’m born again, spiritually!

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I wouldn’t be here if it weren’t for my wonderful God Who made me!

Psalm 139:14—“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.”

“The LORD made us” means that **where we were born, the family we were born into, our intellect, abilities, and skills all point back to the LORD!** Everything except our sin!

And even when we were in our sin it was the LORD Who protected us and brought us to Himself!

THERE ARE NO SELF-MADE MEN!!! If it weren’t for the LORD we’d both have nothing and be nothing!

WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS THE ONE WHO MADE US...

III. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT GOD IS OUR FATHER. (Vs. 3) *“We are his people...”*

When this Psalm was written it was the children of Israel who could say, *“We are his people...”* As a nation that is still true of Israel!

But today God’s people are also those who have been born into His family!

Now, we know that because of sin, mankind was and is alienated from God.

Isaiah 64:6—“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Romans 3:10—“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:”

But God in His love sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to earth to pay for our sins.

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1 Corinthians 15:3-4 - "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [4] And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:"

Jesus told a very religious man named Nicodemus in John 3:3, "*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*"

We were born the first time into an earthly family.

We were born that first time spiritually dead and in need of being born again a second time to get into the Heavenly family.

We are born spiritually into the family of God when we turn from our sin and place our full faith and trust in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour!

John 1:12-13—"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: [13] Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

We who have been born again now have a Heavenly Father:

A Heavenly Father who loves us!

A Heavenly Father who hears our prayers!

A Heavenly Father who corrects us!

A Heavenly Father who delivers us through difficult times!

We have a Heavenly Father who is looking out for us!

WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT GOD IS OUR FATHER.

"We are His people..."

IV. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS OUR SHEPHERD! (Vs. 3)

"We are His people and the sheep of His pasture!"

Remember that our God is a triune God—the Holy Trinity.

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Our one God is manifested to us in three persons!

We have God manifested to us as our Heavenly Father! We have God the Holy Spirit manifested to us as our indwelling guide and Comforter! We have God the Son, manifested to us as our Savior!

When we accept Jesus as our Savior, He is also our Shepherd!

John 10:11—"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

What is the job of a shepherd? The job of the shepherd is to take care of the sheep! That is exactly what Jesus, the Good Shepherd does!

John 10:27-28—"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: [28] And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

I feel that the best description of Jesus' activity as the Good Shepherd is found in the **23rd Psalm**. Someone has said: The 23rd Psalm has been a source of comfort to myriads of people in life and in death.

"The Lord is my Shepherd"— That Is The Perfect Shepherd.

"I shall not want"— That Is Perfect Satisfaction.

"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures" — That Is Perfect Rest.

"He leadeth me beside the still waters" — That Is Perfect Refreshment.

"He restoreth my soul" — That Is Perfect Restoration.

"He leadeth me in paths of righteousness" — That Is Perfect Guidance.

"I will fear no evil" — That Is Perfect Peace.

"Thou art with me" — That Is Perfect Company.

"Thy rod and Thy staff" — That Is Perfect Comfort.

"Thou preparest a table" — That Is Perfect Provision.

"Thou anointest my head" — That Is Perfect Consecration.

"My cup runneth over" — That Is Perfect Joy.

"Surely Goodness and mercy shall follow me" — That Is Perfect Care.

"I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." — That Is Perfect

Destiny.

The LORD takes such good care of us, we should be truly thankful!

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V. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD IS GOOD! (Vs. 5)

“The LORD is good all the time, and all the time the LORD is good!”

We have a home in Heaven! The Lord is good!
We receive an answer to prayer! The Lord is good!
We have our needs met! The Lord is good!
A friend or family member finds Christ as Savior! The Lord is good!
We have a faithful and loving husband or wife! The Lord is good!
We have great parents and/or kids and grandkids! The Lord is good!

But listen:

When we lose our job! The Lord is good!
When we get sick or injured! The Lord is good!
When we lose a loved one! The Lord is good!
When our spouse is unfaithful and divorces us! The Lord is good!
When our parents or children despise us! The Lord is good!

The Lord is good no matter what happens to us! He does not stop being good! And He does not stop working all things together for good in our lives, even the bad things!

Romans 8:28–“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

So, no matter what goes right for us or what goes wrong for us we can be truly thankful that the LORD is good!

VI. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD’S MERCY IS EVERLASTING! (Vs. 5)

When it comes to God’s mercy and His loving kindness, there is no limit! It is not 25 servings of God’s mercy and I’m cut off. Nor is it 250 servings and I’m cut off, or 2,500 servings and I’m cut off.

God’s mercy or loving-kindness is always at work in my life!

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I have seen it a lot in my own life!

When I sin and yet I’m still saved, I see His lovingkindness!
When I sin and yet He forgives me over and over again, I see His lovingkindness!

When potential problems are solved, God shows His loving-kindness!
When He provides guidance, God shows His loving-kindness!
When He provides His peace, God shows His loving-kindness!
When He gives us insights into problems or into His Word, God shows us His loving-kindness!

It excites me to think that His loving-kindness to me is everlasting!

Many of us have lost Christian loved ones in our lifetime.
God is still showing them loving-kindness in Heaven!
2 Corinthians 5:8–“We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

We who know the Lord will also experience His mercy throughout all eternity!

VII. WE SHOULD BE TRULY THANKFUL THAT THE LORD’S TRUTH ENDURES TO EVERY GENERATION!

The word translated “*truth*” here has also been translated as *faithfulness* in other places of Scripture and carries the idea of *steadiness of firmness*.

God has been faithful to show his Truth to every generation!

God is also faithful to every generation of those who trust Him!

Great is His faithfulness!

Sometimes we get concerned for our children and our grandchildren because of the increase in wickedness and danger in our society! Don’t let that concern overwhelm you!

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God has given us His promise that He will be faithful to the next generation of believers as He has been to this generation and all generations in the past!

Conclusion

Thanksgiving Day is gone. But our thanksgiving season has not!
Thanksgiving season for the believer is every day!

In our thanksgiving season, we have every reason to be truly thankful to God!
Psalm 100 has given us these 7 reasons to be truly thankful!

Is the LORD YOUR GOD? If not He wants to be! If He is rejoice and be thankful!

He is the One Who has made you! Rejoice and be thankful!

Are you His people? If you are rejoice and be thankful! If not, you can be a part of His people if you will take His Salvation!

The LORD is the one that leads us and guides us as a loving, caring Shepherd!
Rejoice and be thankful!

The LORD is good all the time! Rejoice and be thankful!
His Mercy is everlasting! Rejoice and be thankful!
His Truth endures to all generations! Rejoice and be thankful!