

WHAT COMES AFTER THANKSGIVING
PSALM 100:4

Introduction

If I were to ask the question this morning—WHAT COMES AFTER THANKSGIVING? I wonder what kind of variety of answers we would get?

Well, if we were talking about Thanksgiving Dinner, some of the answers might be:

- 1) Football
- 2) A Nap
- 3) Turkey leftovers
- 4) A Diet
- 5) Shopping

But I'm not talking about Thanksgiving Dinner. Well some might be thinking of Thanksgiving Day and say...

- 1) Black Friday
- 2) Christmas!/Hanukkah

But I'm not talking even talking about Thanksgiving Day, I'm talking about **THANKSGIVING!** Notice **verse 4** of our text this morning!

What comes after "*be thankful unto Him?*"—**BLESS HIS NAME!**
Well, what in the world does that mean?—**BLESS HIS NAME!**

In the Scripture, when the LORD "*blesses*" men they are helped and strengthened and made better off than they were before! Amen!

I know I certainly have been **BLESSED of the LORD!**

But how can sinful, mortal creatures "**BLESS THE LORD!?**"

Don't you think that's something we need to know about?

Listen to what the LORD told his people Israel:

Deuteronomy 8:10—“When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.”

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The Psalmist David said:

Psalm 34:1—“I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Listen to me, when men "*bless the LORD,*" He is not helped or strengthened or made better off in any way! After all, how are you going to help or strengthen One Who is absolutely perfect!? That's impossible!

When the Old Testament speaks of *blessing the LORD*, it is NOT speaking of a process that aims at the increase of the LORD's strength, because the LORD God is Almighty!

Rather, man's *blessing the LORD* goes to our **MOVING BEYOND** our mere **WORDS** of thanksgiving to the **EXPRESSIONS** of our thanksgiving to Him!

Blessing the LORD is both the **EXPRESSION** and **EXCLAMATION** of our **gratitude to Him** and our **admiration of Him!**

When you do something nice for someone or give someone an extraordinary gift of some kind, what means more to you—their **WORDS** of thanks to you OR their **EXPRESSIONS** of their gratitude to you? Both are nice, but the **EXPRESSIONS** of gratitude show that the **WORDS** are not just an empty display of what is expected!

Let's look at this matter of "*Blessing The LORD*" this morning!

I. WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE PRAISE HIM!

Psalm 34:1—“I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Psalm 71:8—“Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day.”

1 Chronicles 29:10-14

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Hebrews 13:15—“By him therefore let us offer **the sacrifice of praise to God continually**, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.”

Psalms 50:23—“**Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me...**”

II. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE SING HIS PRAISES!**

Psalms 96:1-3—“O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. 2 Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. 3 Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.”

Psalms 149:1—“Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints.”

1 Chronicles 16:7-15, 23-36

- A. **Give Thanks Unto Him! (Vs 8)**
- B. **Tell Others What He Has Done! (Vs 8-9, 24)**
- C. **Glory In Him! (Vs 10)**
Rejoicing in what HE has done and is doing!

III. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE SEEK HIM!**
(1 Chronicles 16:11)

- A. **Seek His Strength.**
- B. **Seek His Face.**

Psalms 105:3—“Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD. 4 Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.”

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- IV. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE REMEMBER AND ACKNOWLEDGE ALL HIS BENEFITS! (1 Chronicles 16:12)**
Psalms 145:10—“**All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.**”

Psalms 103:2—“**Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**”

- V. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE OFFER BACK TO THE LORD! (1 Chronicles 16:28-29)**

A. **Offer Him Glory!**

1 Corinthians 10:31—“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

B. **Offer Him Strength!**

Colossians 3:23—“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;”

C. **Offer Him An Offering!**

- VI. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE FEAR BEFORE HIM!**
(1 Chronicles 16:30)

A. **Be Mindful Of His Word! (1 Chronicles 16:15)**

B. **Be Mindful Of His Control! (1 Chronicles 16:31)**

C. **Be Mindful Of His Goodness And Mercy! (16:34)**

- VII. **WE BLESS THE LORD WHEN WE WORSHIP HIM FROM DEEP WITHIN!**

Psalms 103:1-2—“**Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**”

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*Deuteronomy 6:4-5—“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: 5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God **with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.**”*

*Psalm 104:1—“**Bless the LORD, O my soul.** O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.”*

Conclusion

What comes after thanksgiving? Blessing the LORD! Are you blessing Him?

Psalm 145:1-5, 21

Extol = “To raise or lift up.”