



happy
Thanksgiving

1 Chron. 16:7-12, 23-31

“Building a Bridge from Temporality to Eternity”

1 Chron. 16:7 Then on that day David delivered first *this psalm* to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph and his brethren.

8 Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

10 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

11 Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

12 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

13 O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones. ...

23 Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.

24 Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

25 For great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also *is* to be feared above all gods.

26 For all the gods of the people *are* idols: but the LORD made the heavens.

27 Glory and honour *are* in his presence; strength and gladness *are* in his place.

28 Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

29 Give unto the LORD the glory *due* unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

30 Fear before him, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.

31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let *men* say among the nations, The LORD reigneth.

Our theme this year is “*Building Bridges.*”

Jn. 4:24 God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

Remember Lincoln

Washington, D.C.

October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States

to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. **No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.** It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People.

I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

William H. Seward,
Secretary of State

<http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/thanks.htm>

1 Chron. 16:8 Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

This morning we will look at what Thanksgiving is and how it benefits us.

I. THE CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE

1 Chron. 16:8 Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

A. The Emphasis for our Interest – “Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name...”

- Recognize the Lordship of Christ for all men, in all things.
- Recognize God’s direct interaction in the lives of mankind.
- Realize that God wants us to interact with Him in regard to personal, earthy, temporal matters.
- Realize the power of prayer is important to God, allowing us to affect changes in life via prayer.

B. The Effort to Implement – “...make known his deeds among the people.”

- The temporality of our lives is to influence others for eternity.
- God expects and directs us to be His witnesses – all the time, everywhere!

1 Chron. 16:24 Declare **his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.**

28 Give unto the **LORD, ye kindreds of the people**, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

30 Fear before him, **all the earth**: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.

31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and **let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth.**

II. THE COGNITION OF PRIORITIES

1 Chron. 16:25 For great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised: **he also *is* to be feared above all gods.**

26 For **all the gods of the people *are* idols:** but the LORD made the heavens.

A. The Reality of Worship

- Mankind is hard-wired to worship.
- God demands that He be the priority of man's attention and worship.

Mt. 12:30 **He that is not with me is against me;** and he that gathereth not **with me** scattereth abroad.

Jn. 4:24 God *is* a Spirit: and **they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

- Worship that is not based upon the truth of God's Word is a form of idolatry.
- The primary focus of mankind is, in one form or another, to worship self.

Jas. 4:4 Ye **adulterers and adulteresses**, know ye not that the friendship of **the world** is enmity with God? **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**

1 Jn. 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. **If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but **he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

B. The Reality of Warfare

1 Pet. 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;**

12 Having your **conversation honest among the Gentiles:** that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, **they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God** in the day of visitation.

- Life's greatest challenge is focus upon God rather than us.
- The temptations, trappings, and tragedies of life distract us from God.

Rom. 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.

In the midst of the turmoil of tragedy, the noise of agony drowns out the still, small voice of God as He is speaking to calm those who are devastated by uncontrollable events of life. Those who know the Lord will be in constant communication with Him regardless of life's challenges. The Lord hears and heals the seeking soul of the wounded heart.

III. THE CELEBRATION OF PRAISE

A. Purposing for Praise

1 Chron. 16:8 Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

10 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

11 Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

12 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

23 Sing **unto the LORD**, all the earth; shew forth from day to day **his salvation**.

24 Declare **his glory** among the heathen; **his marvellous works** among all nations.

25 For **great is the LORD**, and **greatly to be praised**: he also *is* to be feared above all gods.

26 For all the gods of the people *are* idols: but **the LORD made the heavens**.

27 Glory and honour *are* in **his presence**; strength and gladness *are* in **his place**.

28 **Give unto the LORD**, ye kindreds of the people, **give unto the LORD** glory and strength.

29 **Give unto the LORD** the glory *due* unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: **worship the LORD** in the beauty of holiness.

30 Fear **before him**, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.

31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and **let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth**.

B. Prioritizing our Pleasure

Psa. 103:21 Bless ye the LORD, all *ye* his hosts; *ye* ministers of his, **that do his pleasure.**

Psa. 147:11 **The LORD** taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Psa. 149:4 For **the LORD** taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Eph. 1:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of **his will**, according to **his good pleasure** which he hath purposed in himself:

Phil. 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both **to will and to do of his good pleasure.**

Conclusion

2 Thess. 1:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power:

12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Heb. 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Rev. 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.