

To be blessed and so to give God thanks I must be right with Him

Ps 147:1 **Praise the LORD** (it means give Him thanks)! **For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant** (sweet), **and praise is beautiful.**

Who will give God genuine, not fake, thanks this thanksgiving? Only the righteous will:

Ps 140:13 **Surely the righteous are thanking you, they live in your presence.** TLB

Why are the righteous thankful? Because they are “in Christ” they live in God’s presence

1 Thess 5:18 **In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God** (as we live) **in Christ Jesus, concerning you.** [As we live in Him He makes us thankful:]

How are the righteous always thankful? God’s Holy Spirit inspires us continually to be so

Heb 13:15 **By Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name** (for His kind, loving nature).

Isa 57:19 (God) **I create the fruit of the lips...**(and so He inhabits our praises)

What are just some of the blessings God will lead us to be genuinely thankful to Him for?

Ps 107:8 **Oh, that people would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men** (to all us human beings)!

Ps 103:3 **Who forgives all your sins, Who heals all your diseases,**

4-5 **Who redeems your life from destruction and surrounds you with love...**
...Who satisfies your (spiritual) mouth with good things (His word) **So that your youth (your spirit) is renewed like an eagle (Angel, an ageless spirit).**

Ps 23:1 **The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want** (because every need is met).

4 **Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod (Your word) **and Your staff** (Your Holy Spirit), **they comfort me.****

6 **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will live in the house of the LORD (in Your presence) **Forever.****

Ps 8:2 **Out of the mouth of (spiritual) babies and nursing children You have ordained praise, because of Your (and our) enemies (wicked spirits), **So that You may silence the enemy** (from harming us through their thoughts).**

Who won’t give God real thanks this thanksgiving? Those not willing to be made righteous

Rom 1:21 **For although they knew God, they...did not give thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.** NIV

Ps 100:4-5 **Enter into His gates (into His presence) **with thanksgiving**, (that is) **into His courts with praise.** **Be thankful to Him...For the LORD is good...****

Psalms 118:19 **Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD.**

20 **This is the gate of the LORD, Through which the righteous shall enter.**

21 **I will praise You, You have answered me, And become my salvation.**

What is the condition of the unrighteous? They are controlled by their evil human nature

Rom 8:5 **Those who live as their human nature tells them to, have their thoughts controlled by what human nature wants. Those who live as the Spirit tells them to, have their thoughts controlled by what the Spirit wants.**

7 **So we become enemies of God when we are controlled by our human nature; for we do not obey God's rule (and will not be blessed or thankful).**

2 Tim 3:2-4 (These) **People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud...unthankful...unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, ...headstrong...lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,**

5 **Having a form of religion but refusing its power (God's Spirit to rule them).**

What is God's remedy for the unthankful, unrighteous? Simply to receive His chastening

Heb 12:6 **For whom the LORD loves He chastens (corrects, instructs and nurtures)...**

11 **Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it (and likely chastened along these lines:)**

Forgive: Matt 6:14 **if you forgive others their sins, your Father will forgive your sins (otherwise you will stay unrighteous and therefore unsaved from sin).**

Be forgiven: 1 Jo 1:9 **If we confess our sins (acts of self-will) God will...forgive us our sins and so make us righteous (and thankful, now able to receive His Spirit).**

Submit to the Holy Spirit's control over your will, displacing your human nature's control

Eph 5:18-20 **Do not be under the influence of wine, but be filled with (yield to the influence, to the control of) the Spirit, [so that now you will be, by Him:]**

20 **Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of (you are now living in the nature and presence of) our Lord Jesus Christ,**

Rom 8:2 **Because the rule of the Spirit of life (over your will as you live now) in Christ Jesus has made you free from the rule of sin and death (to God).**

Then this will now happen: Jer 33:11 **The voice of joy and...of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and...of the bride (of Christ - you), the voice of those who will say: "Praise the LORD, For the LORD is good" and of those who will bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. Because I will cause the captives of the land (unthankful Christians in captivity to their human nature and thus to the devil) to return as at the first, says the LORD**