

PHILIPPIANS Lesson 44

Chapter 4, verses 4-6: Rejoicing in the Lord in Everything with Thanksgiving

27 February 2023

There is a serious shortage of thanksgiving to God from His people. We need to be reminded of God's worthiness to receive thanks and praise from us continually.

All through the bible, the worship of God was about singing praises to God, playing instruments in praise to God, and hearing sermons about the goodness of God and the blessings of God.

- Nehemiah 11:16-17** When the Israelites gathered together for worship, there were men whose responsibility it was to begin the meeting by offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God. Thanksgiving was the primary focus of the assembly.
- Philippians 4:4, 6** When we assemble, we ought to always begin rejoicing in the Lord and offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God. More prayers of thanksgiving would lead to fewer prayers of *"give me, give me."*
- Nehemiah 12:8** In the Old Testament, the Levites had worship leaders who were responsible for thanksgiving. That was their primary duty.
- Nehemiah 12:46** The Israelites were historically always praising God and thanking God.
- Psalms 147:7** The hymns that we sing ought to include thanksgiving and praise to God. Every good thing we have came from God. He is worthy of our thanks.
- Psalms 69:14-30** This Psalm is about Jesus being betrayed, forsaken, and put to death. Yet, in the end, He praised God with a song, and magnified Him with thanksgiving (vs 30).
- We learn that God is worthy of our praise and thanksgiving even during our trials, troubles, and bad times.
- Psalms 107:21-22** Thanksgiving is the sacrifice God wants.
- Psalms 116:12-17** When you occupy yourself with what God has done for you, you happily and thankfully render unto Him whatever He desires without murmuring or complaint.
- Psalms 100:1-5** Serving the Lord isn't just about giving the expected offerings. It begins with being thankful to the Lord who made us, blesses us, is merciful to us, and provides us with the truth.
- Psalms 95:1-2** When we are in God's presence, we are told to give Him thanks and to make a joyful noise with Psalms.
- Psalms 26:6-7** The key to worshipping God in an assembly of believers is thanksgiving. Everything else is secondary.
- Leviticus 7:11-12** Peace offerings could be offered for a thanksgiving.
- Leviticus 22:26-29** Thanksgiving is to be given of your own free will. It wasn't instituted to keep anybody out of hell.

Don't become so preoccupied with yourself that you find it easier to complain to God than to rejoice and give thanks to God and express your satisfaction to Him.

God is worthy. He deserves our thanks and praise.