

Thanksgiving
Romans 1:21/Luke 17:11-19

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Last week I mentioned that Oregon was “recriminalizing” hard drugs.

Keep in mind that Federal law and some state laws are contradictory. Under federal law, drugs that were decriminalized in some states remain illegal under federal law.

The decriminalization program as implemented in Oregon was not working. If you just legalize hard drugs, you open the floodgate of new users who are likely to overdose. Without a program to get people off drugs, many people become addicts, find ways to get the money to buy addictive drugs and overdose. That was documented in the articles from NPR, New York Times and the Atlantic in last week’s lesson.

Oregon decriminalized some hard drugs in 2020. My understanding is that it made drug possession on a par with parking tickets (per NPR article at: <https://www.npr.org/2021/06/18/1007022652/oregons-pioneering-drug-decriminalization-experiment-is-now-facing-the-hard-test>) This is a complex issue. Oregon was trying to emulate the model accomplished by Portugal in emphasizing treatment for addiction. The implementation of the Oregon program was not similar to Portugal’s. And some are frustrated by the failure of this program.

This week, Canada is also “recriminalizing” hard drugs when used in public. Below are quotes from City News Ottawa. I originally saw the article on msn.com. I decided to try to find a Canadian news source that was closer to the events.

“OTTAWA — Public drug use became illegal in British Columbia once again on Tuesday, after the federal government granted the province’s request to scale back its drug decriminalization pilot.”

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“The change represents a major policy climbdown for the provincial NDP [New Democratic Party] government more than a year into the three-year pilot program with Ottawa that is aimed at tackling the deadly overdose crisis.”

“But Ya’ara Saks, Canada’s mental health and addictions minister, dismissed any notion the shift is an admission the program was a failure¹”

Further in the article:

““Effective today, with Health Canada’s approval, public drug use is illegal in all public spaces in B.C.,” Mike Farnworth, the province’s public safety minister, said Tuesday.”

“When police are called to a scene where illegal and dangerous drug use is taking place, they will have the ability to compel a person to leave the area, seize the drugs when necessary, or arrest the person if required.”

“Addiction remains a health matter, not a criminal one, Farnworth said, but “that doesn’t mean anything goes.””

“Parks and beaches have to be safe and welcoming for families, the doorways of small businesses have to be free for customers, and hospitals have to be places where people can work and get care safely,” he said.²”

Let us shift to a topic from Romans. Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is a response to observation. We see what God has done and thank Him for it. Or in some cases we give thanks for what we have confident expectation of receiving. Possibly, thanksgiving is a need we have in our souls. When someone gives us something, we thank them.

1 <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/2024/05/07/ottawa-approves-british-columbias-request-to-scale-back-drug-decriminalization-pilot/>

2 <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/2024/05/07/ottawa-approves-british-columbias-request-to-scale-back-drug-decriminalization-pilot/>

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The Greek word for giving thanks starts with *charis*, grace. “Thanks” adds a prefix of “*eu*” or “good.” *Eucharistos*. Good grace. That is perhaps an oversimplification. But it gets the idea across.

Paul tells us that giving thanks to God is God’s will for all believers. This is His desire for us. We are to thank Him. We observe and see that God has given us grace in a multitude of ways. Our response is to thank Him. This is a form of praise.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always;

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing;

1 Thessalonians 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

In everything. In every situation. Here is another one of Paul’s “all.” It is literally, “In all.”

Indeed, the Hebrew equivalent, the one which is translated by the Greek word for giving thanks in the Septuagint means praise.

God expects our thanksgiving, our praise. Look at the healing of the ten lepers in Luke chapter 17. Remember that Luke was Paul’s “doctor.” He was associated with Paul’s ministry.

Luke 17:11 While He (Jesus) was on the way to Jerusalem, He was passing between Samaria and Galilee.

The English obscures the nuance of the Greek.

While. This is literally, “it came to pass.”

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Was on the way to. This is not the word I expected. Normally, at least in the Gospel of John, Jesus “went up” to Jerusalem. That city is on a mountain, so you always have to go up to it. But here, this is a word that means “to travel” or “to journey.”

Samaria versus Jews. The Northern Kingdom was conquered and many of the Jews were removed and replaced by non-Jews. At times, the Samaritans claimed to be Jewish. There started a hatred between Jews and the people of Samaria. The Jews claimed that the Samaritans were not Jews and could not worship in the Jewish temple. Josephus has some comments on this which I covered elsewhere. Samaritans were considered aliens by Jews. But more than just vanilla aliens. They were considered a threat to the Jews.

Between. Literally, “in the midst.”

In my mind, the wording is peculiar. If Jesus was traveling from Galilee to Samaria, why not put those place names in that order. Instead, the literal text per Wuest, “And He also himself was going through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.³” Luke has put Samaria in focus since it becomes a point of contention later in the narrative.

Luke 17:12 As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him;

Village. The village is not named. This village may have been on the border between Galilee and Samaria or maybe it was in Samaria. It is not important for this narrative. In fact, it might detract from it. Commentators would be trying to pin some significance to the name. So Luke leaves out the name.

Lepers were considered unclean. They knew that, so they kept their distance to preclude infecting others or making others “unclean.”

³ Kenneth Samuel Wuest (1988). *The New Testament; an expanded translation*,. Grand Rapids, Eerdmans. p182

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**Luke 17:13 and they raised their voices,
saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”**

Master. This word is peculiar to Luke in the gospels. It is equivalent to “Rabbi.” They do not recognize Him as “Son of David” or other Messianic title. I am more attuned to the vocabulary of the gospel of John. So I find it interesting to see the different vocabulary that Luke uses in contrast to John. Looking at my usual sources from Bible church websites, there is a lack of teaching from the gospel of Luke. John is a favorite. It deals with Christ’s life from a spiritual perspective. Matthew deals with the “king” and kingdom. Mark is short.

Master. A word peculiar to Luke meaning “master” or “teacher.”

Have mercy. This is enforced humility. We are sometimes forced into helpless situations which can lead us into humility. We have to look to God in humility asking God to act on the basis of grace: We do not deserve God’s help, but in his mercy He does help us. In this case, they same have mercy on us. This was picked up in Christian religious liturgies. Here is a helpful statement from Christianity.com:

““Kyrie Eleison” translates from Greek to English as “Lord, have mercy.” Its simplicity belies its depth of meaning, as it encapsulates a plea for divine compassion and forgiveness. This phrase acknowledges human frailty and sinfulness while beseeching the Lord to bestow His mercy upon the supplicant. It is a humble acknowledgment of human dependence on God's grace and a reminder of the central tenets of the Christian faith: love, forgiveness, and redemption.⁴”

**Luke 17:14 When He saw them, He said to
them, “Go and show yourselves to the**

4 <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-terms/kyrie-eleison-meaning-and-use-in-christianity.html>

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priests.” And as they were going, they were cleansed.

They are not healed because of faith. He heals them for His purposes. It is one of the credentials of the Messiah.

Sometimes while we are in sin, God can bless us in an unusual way to get our attention. Discipline is used to get our attention and change our mind about the sin. But sometimes, we can be surprised by something good happening to us which causes us to realize that we are in status quo sin. It can have the same effect that discipline might have had. It can also cause us to be a bit sad because we know that if we were doing something “righteous” it was by our own righteousness and hence not rewardable. It was not done in the power of the Holy Spirit.

He gives them the command to show themselves to the priests. This is normal for someone who is healed. So Jesus gives them the command to show themselves healed before they are healed. Again something that seems backwards from our perspective. First Samaria and then Galilee in the text. Now Jesus sends them to the priests before they are healed. It is a way to send a message to the priests: “The Messiah has arrived!”

The lepers obey Jesus. They are on their way to show themselves to the priests. They had nothing to lose. If they are healed, then Hallelujah. If not, blame it on this guy Jesus.

But lo and behold they are miraculously healed en route. Nine of the lepers continue since that is what Jesus told them to do. They observed they are healed. Perhaps they are eager to get back to a normal life. That is accomplished by the priests identifying them from a human perspective as “healed.”

But the one, a Samaritan, understands his healing is from Jesus who must be the Messiah since this healing is a sign of, a credential of, the

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Messiah. He has faith. Jesus says so. He expresses his recognition of what God did through the Messiah.

Luke 17:15 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice,

He didn't mumble. He let everyone know, "I am healed! Jesus did it"

Here is an emphatic exclamation. This man may have had tears in his eyes because of his emotion of gratitude. His life previously was "done." He was cursed to beg for food and a place to get in out of the rain. But he could not get near to people. If he did people might throw rocks at him to get him to leave them. And now he can be a "normal" human being again. This is what the game shows on TV might say is "life changing." Tears of joy!

Luke 17:16 and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.

Wow! This is a demonstration from deep emotion.

And he was a Samaritan. The punch line.

Luke 17:17 Then Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they?"

Luke 17:18 Was no one found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

Foreigner. This is not the word for Gentile or people. It means not of a common descent. It can mean "bastard." That is how the Jews thought of Samaritans. The inner courts of the temple were forbidden to Samaritans since they were not considered "real" Jews.

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Adolph Deissman gives a fascinating insight. There was a limestone block inside the temple warning “foreigners” (our word) from entering on pain of death. The inscription translated by Deissman reads “Let no foreigner (our word) enter within the screen and enclosure surrounding the sanctuary. Whoever is taken so doing will be the cause that death overtaketh him.⁵”

Jesus may have had this inscription in mind when He spoke.

A lingering question in my mind is, who was Jesus talking to? He is referring to the Samaritan in the third person. So there is an unnamed person or persons in the audience. Perhaps His disciples. The text does not say. Whoever heard would have been the source of this story.

Luke 17:19 And He said to him, “Stand up and go; your faith has made you well.”

Stand up. That is a correct translation. But this word also has a spiritual/theological significance. It is a word used of resurrection.

Has made you well. This word is also used of “salvation.” So, is Jesus using a double entendre here? You are well physically but you have believed and are saved spiritually as well?

Go. This is a word for journey. I understand this as a command to live his life in a new realm. He is healed physically so he can reenter society as a normal man. He is saved spiritually so he has a relationship with God. The Jews might not let him into the temple, but he has a relationship with the Savior who was standing in front of him. And this is the word used of Jesus in verse 11 as Jesus was going to Jerusalem.

Each time I read Jesus’ words, I realize how powerful a statement this is.

5 Adolf Deissmann (1995). *Light From the Ancient East: The New Testament Illustrated by Recently Discovered Texts of the Graeco-Roman World*. Hendrickson Publishers Inc. page 80

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From this passage, Jesus considered thanksgiving, especially thanksgiving for grace from God to be very important.

Jesus healed them for His purpose. He was compassionate, yes. But He is illustrating the blindness of the Jews towards the Messiah. We saw in John chapter 4 how the Samaritans responded to the Messiah. But in Jerusalem, the priests were eventually successful in having Him put on the cross and executed from their unbelief.

I was going to go through and outline some important points from Paul's use of the verb and nouns from the Greek word for thanksgiving. But I found something already prepared and taught multiple times at Spring Valley Bible Church: Herman's doctrine of thanksgiving. Below, I have excerpted points from one of his presentations of the doctrine of thanksgiving.

Doctrine of Thanksgiving

I. The most inclusive verse on thanksgiving is Eph. 5:20 where we are exhorted to always give thanks to God the Father for all things in the name or authority of Jesus Christ:

- (1) always
- (2) giving thanks
- (3) for all things
- (4) in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
- (5) to God, even the Father

The Greek word *thanksgiving* **eucharistia** is from **eucharistos**: **eu** means *well* + **charizomai** to give freely. The base word is from **charis**, grace. The verb form **chairō** means to rejoice, be thankful, grateful, gratitude for what God has done, is doing, or is going to do. As you can see this is a rich word. Thanksgiving involves grace of God, to which we respond joyfully in giving thanks.

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II. Thanksgiving is required of every believer.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Note four things:

1. Give thanks.
2. In or for everything.
3. This is the will of God...What is the Will of God? Well, I can tell you for certain that His will is for us to give thanks to Him for everything (good things and bad things).
4. This is His will in Jesus Christ. Thanksgiving is not designed for the unbeliever, for the unbeliever refuses to believe in Jesus Christ.

Also: Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves (daily devotion) to prayer, keeping alert in it (keeping alert as to what you are praying) with *an attitude of thanksgiving*;

III. There are a few requirements for bonified thanksgiving, thanksgiving that is accepted by God: **First in the power of the Holy Spirit and from a grateful heart.**

IV. We are to give thanks for all things. (1 Thessalonians 5:18 text above) and:

Ephesians 5:20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

1. **Always** at all times.

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2. **Giving thanks** even if we do not understand. We are to give thanks. Why? His plan is in progress and we may not understand His plan.
 3. **For all things.** Again, we may not understand what is going on but we are to have the attitude from knowledge of the Word of God and from the power and leading of Holy Spirit to give thanks. It is amazing how God can turn seemingly bad things to wonderful blessings. In Acts, the spreading of the Church was primarily because of persecution. **always giving thanks for all things.**
 4. Give thanks in the name, the authority of Jesus Christ, our Savior, His Son. Here you have to understand the intimate relationship between God the Father and His Son. Our thanksgiving comes through or on account of His Son.
 5. **to God** Thanksgiving is addressed to God the Father. This does not minimize Jesus Christ. Please remember this is why Jesus Christ came to the Earth: to reveal God the Father and to establish a relationship with God the Father. He is our Father because of our relationship with Jesus Christ, Baptism of the Holy Spirit into Jesus Christ. And now, we share His sonship. Remember that all through the Old Testament they did not pray to God as Father. They knew Him as Father but only after the coming of Jesus Christ do we address Him as Father. **Give thanks to God the Father in the power of Holy Spirit, in authority of Jesus Christ**
- V. Give thanks for all things: 1 Thess 5:18 and Eph. 5:20, but also coming up in our study of Colossians.

Colossians 3:17 Whatever you do in word
(what you say) or deed, (what you physically do)
do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, (there
goes sins! Do it in the name, authority and will of

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our Lord Jesus; He is our Lord, who takes us to our Lord God the Father) **giving thanks through Him (Jesus Christ) to God the Father.**

Thanksgiving is addressed to God the Father. I know there are people who think they are really spiritual because they give thanks to Jesus Christ or pray to Jesus Christ, but Scripture directs us to give thanks to God, the Father of Jesus Christ and our Father.

VI. Here is one that may escape you: We are to give thanks **for one another**. We should daily give thanks for husband/wife, children, parents, and fellow believers at church. Often Gerald Webber in Houston tells me to express to you his thanksgiving for you, that he has access to our studies in the Word of God. I give thanks for you when I study, thankful that you care enough and desire to learn more of the Word of God. There are so many passages that remind us to be in prayer for one another.

1 Thessalonians 1:2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, making mention *of you* in our prayers; (more than just giving thanks, but intercessory prayer for them).

1 Thessalonians 1:3 constantly bearing in mind (while in prayer) **your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,**

1 Thessalonians 1:4 knowing, brethren beloved by God, *His* choice of you;

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1 Thessalonians 1:5 for our gospel did not come to you in word only, (now he gives thanks for their response to the gospel) **but also in power and even in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.**

1 Thessalonians 1:6 You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, have received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit,

1 Thessalonians 1:7 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God (gospel) which you heard from us, you accepted *it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.* (gives thanks for their Salvation)

2 Thessalonians 1:3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is *only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater;*

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2 Thessalonians 1:4 therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure.

VII. Give thanks to God for His answers to your prayers and needs.

Philippians 4:6 **Be anxious for nothing.** First note the preposition **for**. There is no preposition in the original manuscripts: **nothing be anxious** not for or in, but this covers everything in life. We are not to be troubled about politics, wars, what is happening in America, moral decline, and not about anything in our own lives, finance, health, marriage etc. Nothing be anxious, worried about, troubled about. Now comes the big question: **Why not?** Things are falling apart, why not be anxious? **But** in contrast to being anxious **in everything** that is especially in reference to those things you would be anxious about. Be ready here: if you are not anxious about these things people will think you do not care! Think something is wrong with you! But in your soul you know why you are not anxious.

by prayer and supplication. What is the difference between prayer and supplication? First, note the conjunction translated **and** which seems to be saying **by prayer and by supplication**. Let me tell you about that conjunction AND. The Greek word *kai* takes up 4 ½ columns in a Greek lexicon; it conveys several different meanings. Here, “emphatic” or “specifically.” **by prayer specifically supplication.** This Greek word describes a certain category of prayers. The Greek word means *to make known one’s particular need*. In Classical Greek, it was used of a prisoner’s request, for freedom, as well as to deities. It means more than just a simple request! So here in Philippians chapter 4, it refers to a

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category of prayer, where we make known to Him a specific supplication of things really going out of the norm.

Philippians 4:6 (Revised) nothing be anxious but in everything by prayer specifically supplication (now note what our mental attitude should be even in difficult times:) with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

You see people, when we pray to God with a mental attitude of thanksgiving, things happen in our souls...We are not focused on our difficulties but on the God who can do something about it...When you let God know your supplications with thanksgiving, note what happens in your soul:

Philippians 4:7 And (now we have the resultant use of the conjunction *kai*) and now the peace of God which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Guard against what or who? Against Anxieties, worries, falling apart, against Stress, Anxiety, Depression (SAD). Keep you in peace. And people, sometimes this is all you desire, not things, not inner happiness but just peace in your soul, so you can sleep at night. Well, this is what you get from the Holy Spirit when you are in His Power and you make your supplications to Him with thanksgiving.

VIII. We are to give thanks to God every time an unbeliever believes in Jesus Christ as Savior.

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2 Cor. 4:15 For all things are for your sakes, (benefit) so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people (that is the grace of the gospel, more and more people are believing in Jesus Christ as Savior) may cause (our response to the spreading of the Gospel, right here in our own country) the giving of thanks to abound (increase) to the glory of God. (for saving souls...)

So, tomorrow, day in and day out, thank God that people in America, throughout the world, are believing in Jesus Christ as Savior of their souls for all eternity.

IX. A local assembly of believers should be known for giving Thanks.

Ephesians 5:3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; (that is, it is proper among believers that these things are not mentioned among them).

Ephesians 5:4 and *there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.* (For all God is doing.)

X. Thanksgiving is the result of all blessings God has given you:

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Colossians 2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, (starts with filling of the Holy Spirit) then

Colossians 2:7 having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him (Bible Doctrine) and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and overflowing with gratitude.*

XI. Legalism should always be countered with Thanksgiving.

1 Timothy 4:3 *men* who forbid marriage *and advocate* abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.

1 Timothy 4:4 For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude;

1 Timothy 4:5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.

XII. Warning in regards to giving thanks to God.

Psalm 50:22 “Now consider this, you who forget God, Or I will tear *you* in pieces, and there will be none to deliver.

God Himself closes this Psalm with a severe warning in regard to Thanksgiving.

Now consider this. He starts out with the particle of exhortation. **Now:** urgency, it is time now to do something, before it is too late.

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Next we have the *Qal imperative*. It is a command to stop emoting and stop thinking about yourself in the self-centered life and to start thinking, concentrating on what is going on in your life.

The verb means to *discern what is happening in your life*, to stop and take a look at all that is happening in your life. What you are doing with your life, your time, your money in reference to Christ!

This is one area where the believer must be honest – *do not lie or deceive yourself* --- you can lie to others, but the fool lies to himself about himself.

Next we have the demonstrative pronoun **this**. What are you to consider in verse 23? Something about offering thanksgiving. But, before we get to what you are to concentrate on in verse 23, let's look at the negative if you don't, in the rest of verse 22.

There is something you better know about not concentrating and about not offering thanksgiving.

Verse 22b God declares what happens if we do not offer thanksgiving. So you better do something about yourself, and your own attitude of thanksgiving. and you parents. Better do some very serious thinking about your children to have a constant attitude of thanksgiving to God and appreciation for life from God! and blessing from God. So many parents today actually contribute to the *me-generation* by failing to instill in their child's upbringing a mental attitude of thanksgiving but instead, an attitude that I *deserve everything and more*. So many people, young people, think their parents, and the government *owes them to take care of them and provide for them*.

Psalm 50:22b ...now consider this, you who forget God...

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We have a Hebrew *Qal participle* describing a class of people throughout all history, **forgetful**.

Principle: This is the opposite of Thanksgiving. This word explains why people do not give thanksgiving to God. **they forget**. Unfortunately, many today have never learned to remember God. What this word conveys is very important to God for He never forgets His people:

Isaiah 49:15 “Can a woman forget her nursing child And have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. (by application this refers to all members of /body of Christ)

Now before I get to this on spiritual ground, I want to make sure you understand in the realm of common sense. So many people forget that you do not earn or deserve anything in life. You forget some basic principles about life. Husbands and wives soon forget and stop being thankful for their spouse; and then thanking their partner; *they stop appreciating* their partner and all they do. We reach the point where we assume they have to do all these things *because* they are our husband or our wife, that we do not have to say “Thank you” and both express gratitude. Sometimes this gets to the point where you actually think you *earn or deserve* everything they do for you -- expressing appreciation and thanks; a husband or wife who fails to express thanksgiving is thoughtless, rude and arrogant. In regard to your children, parents this is your responsibility to teach and train your children to have a mental attitude of thanksgiving and to be able to express thanksgiving This is part of life, but even more so for the believer who walks in the power and leading of Holy Spirit. This is part of the Spirit-filled life itself. This is also applicable in your work, home, romance, social life. Now back to our context.

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Psalm 50:22b ...now consider this, you who forget God...

This is a description of America today.

What does it mean to *forget God*?

Obviously, we could spend months on this one but let's note some things in order.

- You forget that He is your Creator who gives you physical life. This is why they remove the Bible from our Judicial system, from our educational system and from churches.
- You forget that He is your Savior and given you eternal life.
- You forget that He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in you for your Spiritual Life.
- You forget that He is the source of every blessing.

These should lead to or cause Thanksgiving to God.

But forgetting these leads to living a self-centered life, living for your own benefit, your pleasure, rather than glory of Jesus Christ.

Believers who live self-centered lives are forgetful and ungrateful.

You live like you have forgotten that you are here by Grace and that you live by Grace.

Now what happens to people who forget God? Here is the warning.

Psalm 50:22b ...Lest I tear you in pieces and there be none to deliver.

OK, here is a warning to learn about God. Here is His mental attitude toward those who forget that He is! And stop giving Him thanksgiving.

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Lest in Hebrew, is an *averting conjunction*. That is, if you want to avert God tearing you and your life into pieces then you better start paying attention and stop forgetting God and start offering thanksgiving to Him throughout the day.

Tear you in pieces in the Hebrew reveals the power and temperament of God. *It means to seize and tear apart*. It describes a most painful life or death. It means that God is going to reach down and seize the person and tear His life apart, which involves misery and pain.

And then God adds a little note in reference to His power and person.

You have forgotten that there is no power, no authority over His.

Psalm 50:22c ...and there is none to deliver

When you forget God you are concentrating on something or someone else to give your life meaning and give your life blessing and protection. But when you forget God, this also means that you have forgotten that there is no power, there is no one who can come to your rescue when God is bringing Divine Discipline.

We have the Hiphil of the Hebrew word for deliver. In the Hiphil it means *caused to be deliverance; caused to be snatched away from danger*. And there will be none caused to deliver them.

See when you forget God, you place your confidence in something else to protect you from all the problems of the earth.

Jeremiah 17:5...Cursed is he who trusts in man...

Psalm 50:23 “He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who

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orders *his way aright* I shall show the salvation of God.”

What happens when you offer thanksgiving to God? You Honor God!

What happens is that you continue to fulfill your purpose here on earth. Most do not even know why they are here on earth. You are here to glorify God, glorify Jesus Christ. One way we glorify God is by faith. Another is by offering Thanksgiving.

Psalm 50:23 He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me...

Now, we do not live in the age of sacrifices and rituals but we do live in a time/age, where we honor God by thanksgiving.

To slaughter for sacrifice. Instead of you being torn and slaughtered for your forgetfulness, your sacrifice is slaughtered. In the English, **offer a sacrifice** is all one word in the Hebrew.

Next, we have the kind of sacrifice: *tho-rah* Thanksgiving or as we have it here with sacrifice: **thank offering**.