

THANKSGIVING SERVICE 2010

RESTORING AMERICA'S AWARENESS OF GOD AND HIS PRESENCE
IN THE FORMATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

" WE GIVE THANKS TO YOU O' GOD "

*THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD IN THE FOUNDING OF AMERICA
AND THE CHRISTIANS CALL TO THANKSGIVING.*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Thankfulness, Gratitude, Providence, America

Introduction to the Text;

Psalm 75:1

Appreciation, Gratitude, Thanks –Thanksgiving;

Is something that is not natural to us – thankfulness is an act of the human will
– we decide, we choose to be thankful.

Thanksgiving Is; a Uniquely American Holy Day

Psalm 75:1

We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks!

For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near.

Robert Treat Paine 1775

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

"I desire to bless and praise the Name of God Most High for appointing me my birth in a land of Gospel Light where the glorious tidings of the Savior and of pardon and salvation through Him have been continually sounding in mine ears."

President George Washington

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent

author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3rd day of October, 1789 A.D.

1st President George Washington

In Washington D.C. at the Library of Congress, there housed are many other records of American "Holy Day" accounts.

The earliest record of an actual, "**decided**" thanksgiving was in 1541 by Spanish explorer Coronado.

Then French Protestant colonists in St. Augustine, Florida, held a thanksgiving service to **Almighty God** in 1564.

And In 1607, the Jamestown settlers held A "**Solemn Assembly** of Thanksgiving to God" at Cape Henry, Virginia.

The first recorded call for an **Annual Thanksgiving** was given at the Berkeley Plantation, Virginia, in 1619, when Captain John Woodliffe and 38 settlers aboard the ship Margaret, proclaimed, "*We ordain that the day of our ships arrival at the place assigned for plantation in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.*"

As Modern Americans, the First Thanksgiving

that comes to our minds is based upon paintings and historical accounts of the thanksgiving of 1621 at Plymouth Colony.

Psalm 33:12

Blessed or Happy is the nation whose **God is the LORD,**

The Worlds National Boundaries

Deuteronomy 32:8

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, He divided mankind, He fixed the borders of the nations according to the number of the sons of men

“WE GIVE THANKS TO YOU O’ GOD”

NURTURING A THANKFUL AND JOYFUL HEART AND LIFE

1.) For His Awesome Works

Psalm 145:3

Great *is* the LORD, and **greatly to be praised**; And His greatness *is* unsearchable. :4 One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts. :5 I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, And on Your wondrous works.

He was Known as “The Pilgrims Pastor” John Robinson Wrote

“Now as the people of God in old time were called out of Babylon, the place of their bodily bondage and were to come to Jerusalem and there build the Lord’s temple, so we are the people of God now to go out of this spiritual Babylon to a America a new Jerusalem for us and there to build ourselves as lively stones into a spiritual house for the Lord to dwell in.”

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you **both to will** and to do for *His* good pleasure.

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2.) For His Exceeding Supply

Psalm 103:1-5

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: :3 Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, :4 Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, :5 Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

It’s as Though God had “Preserved America” for These last Days.
(I do believe that personally)

from 1740’s to around 2000

The Lord Blessed America with More Than Any Other Nation
has ever Seen or Had

If you doubt the existence of God, I invite you to visit your local grocery store. - The pineapples, corn, apples, the meat section, the canned goods - Just fruit and vegetable section only is amazing to me.

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3.) For His **Strong Protection**

Take a Look at the Patriotic Songs of America.

Read our National Anthem.

(they speak of a nation that was dependent upon the Lord)

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; :6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. :7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

“a patriot must be a religious man.” wrote Thomas Jefferson.

“God who gave us life gave us liberty,” and again “can the liberties of a nation be thought **secure** when we have removed their only firm basis, **a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the Gift of God?**”

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4.) For His **Gracious Invitation**

The Pilgrims and Our Founders Responded to His Invitation.

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, **appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world** for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And **for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence**, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.

Psalm 144:15

Happy are the people who are in such a state; **Happy** are the people whose God is the LORD!

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, :2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a **quiet and** peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

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5.) For His Sweet Forgiveness

The First Continental Congress appointed the day of thanksgiving and praise... “So that the people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts and join in prayers that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, to forgive us our sins and to enlarge His kingdom which consists of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

*The Continental Congress, 1777
by Samuel Adams and Richard Henry Lee.*

What Caused The United States of America
To be Once so Great? – it was what she was built upon. The belief in God and the Bible. The love for fellow man because God loves people...

We became one by being united in a common cause.
WE HAVE FAILED TO COMMUNICATE THAT COMMON CAUSE.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

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6.) For His Perfect Salvation

The Pilgrims Escaped Europe for Religious Freedoms,
Not for economic, nor social justice reasons, not for racial issues

1 Timothy 2:3-6

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, :4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. :5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, :6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

As Modern Americans, the First Thanksgiving

that comes to our minds is based upon paintings and historical accounts of the thanksgiving of 1621 at Plymouth Colony. In the winter of 1620, just a couple of months after landing at Plymouth nearly half of the 102 pilgrims had died of starvation and or exposure. But in the spring of 1621, On March 22, 1621 A Native American Indian named Squanto - literally walked out of the woods speaking English, having become a Christian in England. Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to plant and grow corn and fish - thus saving the Pilgrims lives – in the fall of 1621 Squanto with they thanked “Almighty God”.

William Bradford wrote later that Squanto was a "special instrument sent by God for their good beyond their expectations"

Upon His Death Bed, Patrick Henry

“Doctor, I wish you to observe how real and beneficial the religion of Jesus Christ is to a man about to die. I am, however, much consoled by reflecting that the religion of Christ has, from its first appearance in the world, been attacked in vain by all the wits, philosophers, and wise ones, aided by every power of man, and its triumphs have been complete.”

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7.) For His **Continued Mercy**

“**MERCY**” *deep compassion, great pity.*

**America Needs the Mercy of God More Tonight
Than at any other time in history – America is in danger
and we’re far from God.**

2 Corinthians 1:10

God, who **delivered us from** so great a death,
and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us,

Psalm 118:1-4

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His **mercy endures forever.** :2 Let Israel now say, “His **mercy endures forever.**” :3 Let the house of Aaron now say, “His **mercy endures forever.**” :4 Let those who fear the LORD now say, “His **mercy endures forever.**”

Then Col. George Washington, Serving under British Command, wrote to his brother, John: After the Battle of Mo’nonga’hela in 1755, in which Col. George Washington’s life had been spared while all others were killed,

“But by the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot out from underneath me, yet escaped unhurt, although death was leveling my companions on every side of me.”

Did You Know That...

I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, do set aside and appoint Thursday, the thirtieth day of November 1933, to be a Day of Thanksgiving for all our people. May we on that day **in our churches** and in our homes give humble thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us during the year past by Almighty God.

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8.) For His **Great Love**

What can be said about God’s love?

This morning Lisa and I prayed together and

Just Thanked Him for Loving us, Thanked Him for being so loving, Thanked Him for being the God of all love....

Ephesians 2:4-6

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His **great love** with which He loved us, :5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), :6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

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9.) For His Steadfast Hope

Romans 5:5

Now **hope does not disappoint**, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Did You Know That...

That in 1941, the 77th. Congress permanently established the fourth Thursday of each November as a national holiday....

Declaring, **“Lets us celebrate the Thanksgiving observance, remembering to retain the original gratefulness to God that has always been the spirit of this, the oldest of all American holidays”**

Psalm 116:17

I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.

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10.) For His Wonderful Son

Colossians 1:3

We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

At the **Constitutional Convention of 1787**, James Madison proposed the plan to divide the central government into three branches. He discovered this model of government from “The Perfect Governor”, as he read **Isaiah 33:22**; **“For the LORD is our judge (judicial), the LORD is our lawgiver (legislative), the LORD is our king (executive); He will save us.”**

Isaiah 33:22

“For the LORD is our judge (judicial) , the LORD is our lawgiver (legislative) , the LORD is our king (executive) ; He will save us.”

In 1812, Then President James Madison

signed a federal bill which economically aided the Bible Society of Philadelphia in its goal to mass produce and to distribute Bible’s throughout America. “ It was Approved by Congress, February 2, 1813 by Congress

Robert Treat Paine

Signer of the Declaration of Independence

I desire to bless and praise the name of God most high for appointing me my birth in a land of Gospel Light where the glorious tidings of a Savior and of pardon and salvation through Him have been continually sounding in mine ears.

Dr. Benjamin Rush

Patriot and Signer of the Declaration of Independence

My only hope of salvation is in the infinite, transcendent love of God manifested to the world by the death of His Son upon the cross. Nothing but His blood will wash away my sins. I rely exclusively upon it. Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly!

————— *End of Study* —————