



“Thanksgiving 2024”

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November 24, 2024

Thanksgiving is...

1. ...a time to acknowledge the Divine Author of All _____.

1) Remember to acknowledge the _____ of God.

James Monroe, Nov. 16, 1818, 2nd annual message

When we view the blessings with which our country has been favored, those which we now enjoy, and the means which we possess of handing them down unimpaired to our latest posterity, our attention is irresistibly drawn to the source from whence they flow. Let us then unite in offering our most grateful acknowledgments for these blessings to the Divine Author of All Good.

Thanks to God for ...

✳ ...the _____ action of His unseen providential hand.

✳ ...the _____ action through God's people.

☪ The prayer closet is the battlefield of the Church, the base of supplies for the Christian and the Church. Cut off from it there is nothing left but retreat and disaster. – E.M. Bounds

☪ “Silence in the face of evil is evil itself: God will not hold us guiltless”

☪ 13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. [Gal 5:13 ESV]

☪ 27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory.** [Col 1:27 NASB95]

2) Remember that God is _____.

☪ 7 For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with a skillful psalm. 8 God reigns over the nations, God sits on His holy throne. 9 The princes of the people have assembled themselves [as] the people of the God of Abraham,...

...for the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted. [Psa 47:7-9 NASB95]

...for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted. [Psa 47:6-9 NIV]

...for God has authority over the rulers of the earth. He is highly exalted! [Psa 47:6-9 NET]

☪ 5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands. [Psa 143:5 ESV]

2. ...a time to remember God’s _____ care.

✳ **God appointed the _____ and _____ of all the nations.**

☪ 26 and He made from one [man] every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined [their] appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, [Act 17:26]

✳ **God _____ the nations after the flood.**

☪ "From these the coastlands of the nations were separated into their lands, every one according to his language, according to their families, into their nations. ... These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, by their nations; and out of these the nations were separated on the earth after the flood." - Gen 10:5, 32

1) God preserved the _____ that were settled by many congregations.

French Admiral D’Anville’s failed attempt to destroy the colonies in 1746.

Conducting the most powerful military fleet of the day his command made up of 70 ships with 13,000 troops intended to recapture Louisburg Nova Scotia and destroy from Boston all the way to Georgia. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote in his poem, “A Ballad of the French Fleet”

“Admiral D’Anville had sworn by cross and crown, to ravage with fire and steel our helpless Boston town...” Massachusetts Governor William Surly declares a Day of Humiliation, Prayer and Fasting October 16, 1746 to pray for deliverance. Rev. Thomas Prince prayed, “Send Thy tempest, Lord, upon the water...scatter the ships of our tormentors!” It was on that day a hurricane subsequently sank some and scattered the rest of the entire French fleet with 4,000 sick and 2,000 dead crew members from disease including Admiral Duc D’Anville.

2) God delivered the _____ from Britain and formed our nation.

The text of George Washington's October 3, 1789 national Thanksgiving proclamation.

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 in prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the mini and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”

John Hancock appointed the 11th day of December 1783:

...”a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer...that He has been pleased to continue to us the Light of the Blessed Gospel...That we also offer up fervent supplications to cause pure Religion and Virtue to flourish...and to fill the world with his glory. “The Citizens of these United States have every Reason for Praise and Gratitude to the God of their salvation...”

John Adams, Oct 11, 1798, To Massachusetts Militia:

We have no government power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

3. ...a reminder of the benefits of _____.

- ✳ Under threats by the world powers of the day, Spain, France, and England, the Colonists of the 17th & 18th Centuries turned to humiliation, prayer, and fasting.
- ✳ The citizens of the 19th & 20th centuries turned to prayer and fasting as well. They repented of their personal wrongs and of their collective social and cultural wrongs as a nation. They appealed to God’s mercy and acknowledged the deficit in any self-righteous claim to God’s favor.
- ✳ Pray that the 21st century church in the USA will bow before Almighty God in these times of distress and appeal to His mercy and grace alone.

1) God may relent of national destruction if we _____ from evil.

☪ *16 "O Lord, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people [have become] a reproach to all those around us. ... 18 "O my God, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Your great compassion. [Dan 9:16, 18 NASB95]*

☪ *7 "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy [it;] 8 if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it. [Jer 18:7-8 NASB95]*

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2) God may incline us to godly _____.

John Adams, March 23, 1798, National Day of Humiliation, Fasting & Prayer

That the citizens of these States, abstaining on that day from their customary world occupations, offer their devout addresses to the Father of Mercies...with the deepest humility, acknowledge before God the manifold sins and transgressions with which we are justly chargeable as individuals and as a nation, beseeching Him at the same time, of His infinite grace, through the Redeemer of the World, freely to remit all our offenses, and to incline us by His Holy Spirit to that sincere repentance and reformation which may afford us reason to hope for His inestimable favor and heavenly benediction.

Concluding Remarks:

God will judge the _____.

8 Arise, O God, judge the earth! For it is You who possesses all the nations. [Psa 82:8]

12 Let the nations be aroused And come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, For there I will sit to judge All the surrounding nations. [Joe 3:12 NASB95]

31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. 32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; [Mat 25:31-32 NASB95]

God will judge _____ and _____.

21 So it will happen in that day, That the LORD will punish the host of heaven on high [angels], And the kings of the earth on earth. [Isa 24:21 NASB95]

15 So the nations will fear the name of the LORD And all the kings of the earth Your glory. [Psa 102:15 NASB95]

3 On the day I called, You answered me; You made me bold with strength in my soul. 4 All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD, When they have heard the words of Your mouth. 5 And they will sing of the ways of the LORD, For great is the glory of the LORD. [Psa 138:3-5 NASB95]

We are to carry on _____ until Christ returns.

13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. [Luk 19:13 KJV].