

Good thanks

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High.

Psalm 92:1

The axiom given in this verse has simple and significant ramifications. Giving thanks to the LORD is good because it is right. If it is good to give thanks unto the LORD, then we would expect this good action to yield good results. And for whose good is it? Do we make God any better when we give Him thanks? Of course not. We cannot add anything to His holiness, omnipotence, omniscience, righteousness, or any other of His many marvelous attributes. Giving thanks is a good thing for us. We are blessed by recognizing Him from whom all blessings flow.

We thank Him for who He is. Our benevolent Creator made us for Himself, that He might share His goodness with us, not for selfish benefit, for there is no selfishness in Him. The more we thank Him for His person, the more we can appreciate His mighty condescension in loving and caring for us, and being our salvation.

We thank Him for what He does. “Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered” (Psalm 40:5). We also thank Him for what He does not do. “He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities” (Psalm 103:10).

The intrinsic goodness of giving thanks to the LORD is evident. By thanking Him in such ways, our soul is enriched, our countenance is lightened, and our influence is positive.

On the other hand, the negative results of not giving thanks to Him are also evident. While mankind moves further from the LORD God, we see the trend of ungratefulness manifested. The spirit of complaint comes easily to the natural human spirit, as we have all inherited a self-serving attitude from our first parents in the garden. We see the evidence of this in our culture, where happiness seems to be continually diminishing. Yet not many are observing the relationship between this spirit of ingratitude and the growing misery of human existence. There is a logical order to this.

Therefore, let us use not only the coming holiday, but every day, to reflect the truth of this simple statement and impact all about us. “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful” (Colossians 3:15).