

Grace & Truth Bible Church

Virginia, Minnesota
November 2019

The Danger of Taking Your Blessings for Granted

I have felt for a long time that one of the particular temptations of the maturing Christian is the danger of getting accustomed to his blessings. Like the world traveler who has been everywhere and seen everything, the maturing Christian is in danger of taking his blessings for granted and getting so accustomed to them that they fail to excite him as they once did.

Emerson said that if the stars came out only once a year, everybody would stay up all night to behold them. We have seen the stars so often that we don't bother to look at them anymore. We have grown accustomed to our blessings.

The Israelites in the wilderness got accustomed to their blessings, and God had to chasten the people (see Num. 11). God had fed the nation with heavenly manna each morning, and yet the people were getting tired of it. "But now our whole being is dried up," they said, "there is nothing at all except this manna before our eyes!" (v. 6). Nothing but manna! They were experiencing a miracle of God's provision every morning; yet they were no longer excited about it. Nothing but manna!

One of the evidences that we have grown accustomed to our blessings is this spirit of criticism and complaining. Instead of thanking God for what we have, we complain about it and tell him we wish we had something else. You can be sure that if God /did /give us what we asked for, we would eventually complain about that. The person who has gotten accustomed to his blessing can never be satisfied.

Another evidence of this malady is the idea that others have a better situation than we do. The Israelites remembered their diet in Egypt and longed to return to the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic. They were saying, "The people in Egypt are so much better off than we are!" Obviously, they had forgotten the slavery they had endured in Egypt and the terrible bondage from which God had delivered them. Slavery is a high price to pay for a change in diet. Warren Wiersbe

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. Psalm 95:2

October Offerings

- General - \$12,594.30
- Missionary - \$2040.00
- Mission Conference - \$1593.00
- Missionary Kid's Offering - \$115.49
- 2B Free - \$100.00

Memory Verses for November

A Psalm of Thanksgiving - Psalm 103

Vs. 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Vs. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:

Vs. 3 Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,

Vs. 4 Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,

Vs. 5 Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

I Thank Thee

O Thou whose bounty fills my cup,
With every blessing meet!

I give Thee thanks for every drop—
The bitter and the sweet.

I praise Thee for the desert road,
And for the riverside;

For all Thy goodness hath bestowed,
And all Thy grace denied.

I thank Thee for both smile and frown,
And for the gain and loss;

I praise Thee for the future crown
And for the present cross.

I thank Thee for both wings of love
Which stirred my worldly nest;
And for the stormy clouds which drove
Me, trembling, to Thy breast.

I bless Thee for the glad increase,
And for the waning joy;

And for this strange, this settled peace
Which nothing can destroy. —*Christian Victory*

Be thankful to Him and bless His name. Psalm 100:5