

Upon Entering The THANKSGIVING Season

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The following was motivated by F.B. Meyer's October 13th devotional (titled "The Blessing of Thankfulness").

Uplifting Bible verses (using the NKJV) relating to this precious mind-set (that is, of a grateful heart) are, in part, these ...

“... giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ ...” Ephesians 5:20

“Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.” Hebrews 13:15

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” I Thes. 5:16-18

Did you notice the “in everything” of verse 18? Even in troublesome times, we are commanded to give thanks. II Corinthians 6:3-10 offers [further] helpful perspective:

“We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and *yet* true; as unknown, and *yet* well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as chastened, and *yet* not killed; as sorrowful, yet **always rejoicing**; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and *yet* possessing all things.” (emphasis ours)

F.B. Meyer puts the above Counsel in this light: “The advantage of joy and gladness is that it is a source of strength to the individual soul, and to all others who come within its range and commends our Christianity! Sidney Smith says: ‘I once gave a lady two and twenty recipes against melancholy; one was a bright fire; another, to remember all the pleasant things said to her; another, to keep a box of sugar-plums on the chimney-piece and a kettle simmering on the hob. I thought this mere trifling at the moment, but have in after life discovered how true it is that these little pleasures often banish melancholy better than more exalted objects.’ F.B. Meyer goes on to say ...

“We may interpret the advice of this humorist and essayist by turning into joyous praise all the incidents of our daily life, arising with gratitude and thankfulness from every good and perfect gift to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The world is sad and has to pay her jesters and entertainers; it is a mystery to her that the face of the Christian should be bright and smiling, although the fig-tree does not blossom, and there is no fruit in the vine. Let us count up treasures and blessings, and we shall find that even in the saddest and loneliest life there is something to turn our sorrow into singing (2 Cor. 6:10).” (page 304; *Our Daily Walk*)

May the beauties of Jesus Christ be your ongoing peace and joy unto eternal hope which will one day be realized in absolute fullness – unto our blessing and, even better, unto our great יהוה God's glory and praise! Even so, please come quickly Lord Jesus.