

A PSALM FOR THANKSGIVING

--PSALM 100:1-5--

INTRODUCTION:

God's Word certainly calls us who have put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ to be thankful people. Our Scripture reading this morning from Colossians 3:12-17 admonished us to be thankful 3 times in those 6 verses. We are truly to be a people whose lives are characterized by thanksgiving. This morning I chose a psalm that is probably familiar to many of you. Even though it is familiar, have we ever stopped long enough to give thought to what to what it is saying? This is a fitting psalm for this week as we head towards Thanksgiving, the header for this psalm is my message title, "A Psalm for Thanksgiving."

I. THANKSGIVING RESULTS FROM A RIGHT ATTITUDE

(Psalm 100:1-2)

- a. The psalmist begins with 3 imperatives that should characterize the life of a _____ Christian.
- b. In the second imperative we are commanded to "_____ *the LORD with gladness...*" (Psalm 100:2a, NASB95) (Matthew 11:29-30; Colossians 3:22-24)
- c. The third imperative that the psalmist gives us demonstrates our heart attitude of thankfulness as expressed in our _____ of God.
- d. We cannot leave these two verses without looking back at verse one to see to whom the psalmist is _____ these three imperatives.

II. THANKSGIVING RESULTS FROM A KNOWLEDGE OF WHO GOD IS (Psalm 100:3)

- a. The psalmist now teaches us in verse three that thanksgiving results from a right understanding of _____ God is.
- b. We must first acknowledge that the LORD Himself is _____.
- c. Once we have acknowledged and understand this, we must know that it is God who has _____ us.

- d. This phrase, "the sheep of His pasture" is a phrase that refers to our _____ before God.
- e. The word "_____" is significant as well. As the word "sheep" speaks of our relationship to God through Christ, the word "pasture" speaks of God's relationship to us. (John 10:11-15)

III. THANKSGIVING IS OUR RESPONSE (Psalm 100:4)

- a. The psalmist in verse 4 speaks of our response when we have a right attitude, and we have a correct understanding of who God is. The result of both of these is _____.
- b. Of all the people on the earth, those who have been _____ in the blood of Christ should be of all people the most thankful.

IV. THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S CHARACTER (Psalm 100:5)

- a. The psalmist ends by giving us three _____ of God that can only increase our thanksgiving.
- b. He begins by reminding us that God is _____.
- c. Next the psalmist reminds us that God's _____ is everlasting.
- d. Finally, the psalmist reminds us of God's _____ to all generations.

CONCLUSION:

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving as a holiday, a day set aside for giving thanks I thought that it was fitting this morning to look at A Psalm for Thanksgiving. The theme of this psalm is that for the Christian everyday should be Thanksgiving. Are you a thankful person? Let our worship be founded on thanksgiving, let our service be out of thanksgiving, and let our speech be infused with thanksgiving.