

In The Grip Of Gratitude

- Ingratitude: Lk.17:11-19
- Gratitude can be ugly: Jon.4:6
 - 1620, pilgrims arrive; thanksgiving
 - 1789, Washington – national day
 - 1863, Lincoln – annual event
 - 1941, FDR – 4th Thursday of Nov.
- Lk.17:17 – thanks for healing
- Ph.1:3 – thanks for spiritual healing

I. God Gave Israel Many Reasons
To Be Thankful: Ps.103

- 1-2: 'Bless LORD' (6x)
- 3: forgiveness; healing
- 4: redemption
- 5-6: satisfied with good things
- 7-9: revelation; mercy; grace
- 10: not treated as our guilt deserves

- 11-13: FOR – distance. Mic.7:19
- 14-15: FOR – knows our weaknesses
- 16: FOR – blowing in wind
- 17-18: BUT – mercy forever
- 19: THRONE in heaven; over all
- 20-22: BLESS = thank
 - Mt.26:26, blessed bread
 - 1 Co.11:23-24, gave thanks
 - 1 Co.14:16

I. God Gave Israel Many Reasons
To Be Thankful: Ps.103

II. Israel Took Many
Opportunities To Complain

- Ex.14:12, before 'baptismal' water ...
- Ex.15:22-24, after 'baptismal' water.

Israel ignored God's blessings –

- **Chose Israel:** exalted nation status
- **Redeemed Israel:** no more slaves
- **Blessed Israel:** protection, manna, clothes, Canaan, prosperity

Constant
complaints

Inexcusable
unbelief

Our twofold danger

1. Value gifts over Giver. Dt.8.
2. Focus on negative over positive,
1 Co.10:10.

I. God Gave Israel Many Reasons
To Be Thankful: Ps.103

II. Israel Took Many Opportunities To Complain

III. Paul – Model Of Gratitude

Why should Paul be thankful?

1. 2 Co.11:22-23, the torture

2. 2 Co.12:7-9, the thorn

Acts 27:...35, thanks

Why did Paul give thanks?

- Food, Mt.6. 1 Tim.4:3-4.
- **Faith**, Ro.1:8 [Dn.2:23].

Pharisees: blind guides (Mt.23:16).

NT: kind guide (Ac.8:31).

Gives us hope – Ph.1:21-24.

Future eternal blessings.

Why did Paul give thanks?

- Food, Mt.6. 1 Tim.4:3-4.
- Faith, Ro.1:8 [Dn.2:23].
- Salvation, Ro.7:14-25...8:1-3.
- Friends, Ro.16:4; 1 Th.3:9; Ac.28:15
- Service, 1 Co.15:9-10. [Dn.6:10].
- Greatest Gift, 2 Co.9:15.

Inexpressible, indescribable, ineffable (too overwhelming to be expressed in words).