



II Cor. 3:17 -- "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is..."

LIBERTY

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THANKSGIVING



In the years following the coming of the first settlers, Thanksgiving was a time for reflection and gratitude to God. The concept was so ingrained in the national fabric that it was natural for the day to be incorporated into the official national life, such as taking oaths on the Bible, reading the Bible in schools, offering public and private prayers and setting aside Sunday for a day of rest and worship.

Thanksgiving is truly a special time for believers as we step away from the world and give time, relection and gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

In Days Gone By

On November 19, 1863, President Lincoln gave his famous Gettysburg address.

On November 20, 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

NOV. 23 - "Happy Thanksgiving"



Thanksgiving Dinner

A thankful heart is a thoughtful heart, and a thoughtful heart is a thankful heart.

A little schoolboy living in an urban ghetto began attending a mission Sunday School and shortly became a Christian. Soon he was called on to defend his faith. "If God really loves you," he was asked, "why doesn't He take better care of you? Why doesn't He tell someone to send you a pair of shoes?"

The boy thought a moment, then replied as the tears came to his eyes, "I think He does tell somebody; but they are not listening."

Mayflower Quiz

The following quiz will refresh your mind with early American history, the questions having to do with the Pilgrims and their associates. In each case choose your answer from the three possibilities given and grade yourself ten for every one you get right.

1. When the Pilgrims left England seeking religious freedom, they found a haven in: (a) Switzerland; (b) Holland; (c) France.
2. The name of the skipper who piloted the *Mayflower* safely across the Atlantic was: (a) Christopher Jones; (b) William Jones; (c) John Paul Jones.
3. The *Mayflower* landed at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts, a cold December day in the year: (a) 1520; (b) 1720; (c) 1620.
4. A babe was born on board the *Mayflower* en route to America and given an appropriate name, which was: (a) Peregrine White; (b) Oceanus Hopkins; (c) John Billington.
5. The number of passengers arriving at Plymouth on the *Mayflower* was: (a) 302; (b) 72; (c) 102.
6. An English-speaking Indian befriended the Pilgrims and taught them to plant and fertilize corn. His name was: (a) Squanto; (b) Hiawatha; (c) Hobomok.
7. The Pilgrim who served as governor of the colony for 31 years, wrote an account of Pilgrim activities that was published, and delivered the first Thanksgiving proclamation, was: (a) John Alden; (b) Cotton Mather; (c) William Bradford.
8. The first Thanksgiving feast was held in the state of: (a) Maine; (b) New Hampshire; (c) Massachusetts.
9. To a lady goes much of the credit for establishing the last Thursday of November as a



Her Thanksgiving Day Sermon

Eben E. Rexford

Now Dan'el, this is 'Thanksgivin'—a day when the good Lord meant We should all sit down and think over the blessin's He has sent, And give Him the credit that's due Him for the good things He bestows;

But you've got into the habit, as ev'ry one 'round you knows, Of finding fault with most things, while you overlook the good, An' you don't thank the Giver for them, as ev'ry Christian should.

Now, Dan'el, I'm goin' to be honest, an' tell you plain an' square. What I think about your grumblin'—you don't use the good Lord fair; You fret 'cause the corn was a failure; you worried about the grass, But never a word, my husban', about the dear little lass That the Lord in His merciful kindness gin back when we thought she must die;

What's all the corn in the country, an' ev'rything else, say I, To the child that the Lord has spared us? So, if you are bound to complain,

Act honest an' give Him the credit for our blessin's as well as our pain.

You know just as well as I do that the sun don't always shine, But all of our worry an' frettin' won't clear your sky or mine. It's a good deal better, my husban', to take things as they be, When we can't make 'em any different, as sensible folks agree. If a thing can't be helped don't worry, but make the best of it, dear, An' think about all life's good things till the cloudy sky gets clear. It's foolish an' wicked—yes, wicked! I say it out plain an' square— To look at the dark side always. 'Taint using the good Lord fair.

What if the corn was a failure? We'd a good big crop o' wheat, An', with that an' the meat an' potatoes, we're sure of enough to eat. You don't expect ev'rything, do you? Things might ha' been worse, my dear,

Think how we'd feel, my husban', if our little girl weren't here. Be honest, and give the Lord, dear, the credit He ought to get. Jest reckon up all our blessin's an' you'll find we're deep in His debt; You'll see you ain't actin' right, Dan'el, to dwell on the dark side; so Give Him the credit that's due Him, an' you'll have a 'Thanksgivin', I know.

national Thanksgiving Day. She was: (a) Nancy Hanks; (b) Sarah Hale; (b) Betsy Ross.

10. Plymouth Rock, which weighs more than seven tons, has been moved several times. It reached its present resting-place in: (a) 1880; (b) 1920; (c) 1774.

—From *God's Revivalist*

ANSWERS TO MAYFLOWER QUIZ
1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (a) 5. (b) 6. (a) 7. (c) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (c)

THANKSGIVING— THEN AND NOW

They had so little, these pioneers—
A ship, some food, and land to clear,
Crude homes to build on rugged sod;
Yet grateful praise was made to God.

We have so much—we modern men—
Spaceships, much food, TV in den;
Our families sleep on innersprings—
Should we not praise the King of kings?
—Nat Olson

Miscellaneous-

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS
*NEWS



THANKSGIVING DAY, 2017 - I Thessalonians 5:18, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

This Thursday, November 23, we will celebrate another Thanksgiving Day. For me it will mark my 84th Thanksgiving, but in reality, every day for the Christian is a day of thanksgiving. The scripture above, and many others, tell us of God's love and goodness to us, even to sending His only begotten Son to die for our sins. We could have no greater gift than the gift of salvation. It is through Jesus that we know the real meaning of thanksgiving. Our



Pilgrim fathers had a solid biblical basis for pausing to give thanks to God, which every Christian should still do. The principle of thanksgiving to God is found in Psalm 100:4, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him and bless His name."

The status of Thanksgiving Day has been degraded in recent times. It is often called "Turkey Day" and football is more important in most people's minds. In some schools children are taught that Thanksgiving Day was inaugurated simply to express thanks to the Indians from the colonists. However, there is no mention of God, His goodness or His blessings to the colonists or to our great nation.

For many people, this year may not have been an easy one, but there is much more to be thankful for than there is to complain about. The critical and complaining person misses the sunshine and sees only the clouds. Instead of seeing the roses he sees only the thorns. It is easy to fall into the practice of ingratitude. Oftentimes we take for granted our family, our church, our friends, our health, our freedoms and even our salvation in Christ.

As we enter into the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas this year, let us ever be mindful of God's blessings on us each day and thank Him with hearts filled with gratitude.

THANKSGIVING

is mentioned over 140 times in the Bible!