

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

LIBERTY

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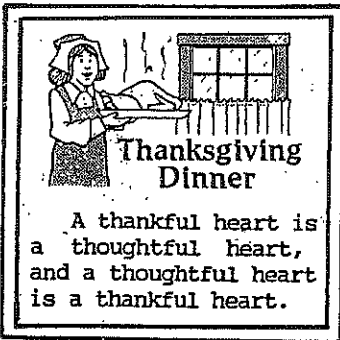
Pastor Randy Love

Leonard Dice, Editor

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Happy Thanksgiving



Give thanks

*When skies are clear and days are bright,
Give thanks to God by day and night;
In gratitude and tender love
For all His blessings from Above:*

*When shadows fall across your way,
With sweet thanksgiving humbly pray;
Then listen to the still, small Voice,
And in His peace thou shalt rejoice.
So whether days are bright or fair,
Be ever watching unto prayer;
To offer praises never cease,
And God will fill your heart with peace.*

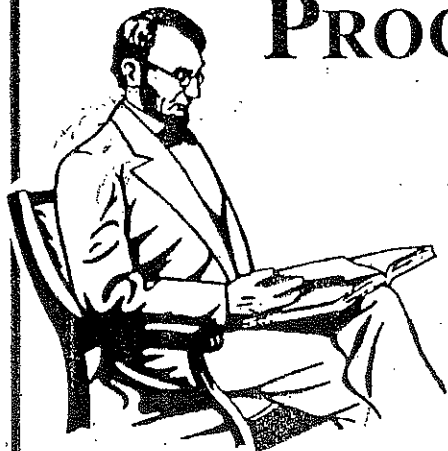


Thanksgiving

My God
Today I kneel to say,
"I thank You."
For once my prayer holds no
request,
No names of friends for You to
bless,
Because I think even You
Might sometimes like a prayer
that's new—
Might like to hear somebody pray
Who has no words but thanks to
say,
Somebody satisfied and glad
For all the joys that he has had;
And so I say again,
"I THANK YOU, LORD."



'THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION'



ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
1863

It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity, we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people, I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.



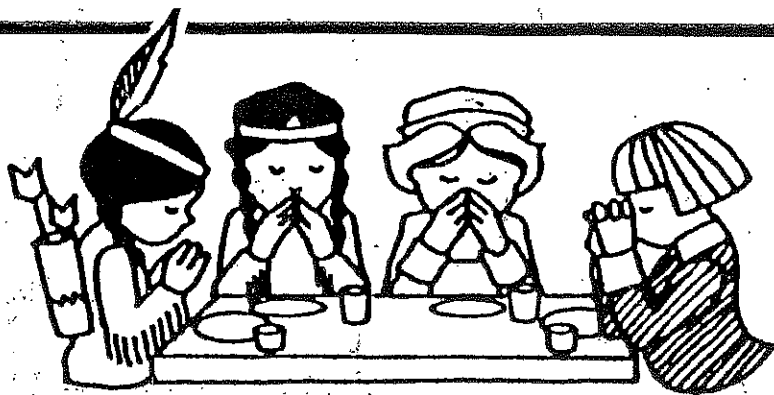
WASHINGTON'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor;

WHEREAS, Both the houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness!"

Now, therefore, I do recommend next, to be devoted by the people of the states to the service of that great and glorious being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, and that will be, that we may then all unite rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country.

-George Washington



Why Do We Have Thanksgiving Day?

Thanksgiving Day in the United States is an annual day of thanks for the blessings of the past year. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. It is a historical, national and religious holiday that began with the Pilgrims. After the survival of the first American colony through the bitter winter, and the gathering of the harvest, Gov. William Bradford of Plymouth Colony issued a thanksgiving proclamation in the autumn of 1621.

This first Thanksgiving lasted three days, during which the Pilgrims feasted on wild turkey and venison with their Indian guests. On November 26, 1789, President Washington issued a proclamation of a nationwide day of Thanksgiving. He made it clear that the day should be one of prayer and giving thanks to God.

A traditional Thanksgiving dinner takes place yearly at the White House and in almost every American home. Roast turkey and pumpkin pie are among the symbols of this festival.