

## **Giving Thanks In Everything YP conference 2010**

Tom W. from personal experience, CD by John McArthur called “In everything give thanks,” thanksgiving day at our home 2010 ([Link to MacArthur’s sermon](#))

1. **I Thess. 5:16-18 In everything give thanks:** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (except for personal sins.) Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing.
2. Thanksgiving directly to God as one who knows Him. Not a shot into the atmosphere.
3. Thanksgiving is normal for a Christian and it is part of him as a redeemed person.
4. **Unsaved** Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God (in creation) they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Unsaved **steps that leads to God giving them up.**

1. **Revelation** Rom 1: 19
2. **Rejection** vs 21
3. **Rationalization** vs. 22
4. **Religion** vs. 22 is man at his lowest and at this point God lets them go. God gave them up **to vile affections.**

### **Some Catagories of Unsaved**

1. **Some think things happen by luck** No thankfulness at all —you can't thank luck.
2. **Fatalists —some unexplained nameless force controls everything** leaves no one to thank for good or bad.
3. **“I can control my life” — usually positive thinker, successful person** They may start out thinking they don't know why they are so successful, but then they start to believe that they dreamed it, schemed it, planned it, and pulled it off.
4. Nothing for God. It was and still is me, me, me.

Man is not good, he is a sinner, but when he is saved and is truly a Christian there is in his life a thankful spirit.

“It's hard to find one who is more thankful than a new Christian.”

### **The call to thankfulness and scriptures to support being thankful:**

#### **Rom 8:28 IS THE OVER-ARCHING PRINCIPLE to BEING THANKFUL**

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

When we see the end result we can be thankful. Operation, exercise, preparation, etc.

Other verses:

Col. 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and **be ye thankful.**

Col. 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks** to God and the Father by him.

**WE MANY TIMES ARE NOT THANKFUL AND THUS WE NEED TO REMIND OURSELVES AND OTHERS TO PRACTICE THANKFULNESS.**

1 Corinthians 14:16 ... **your giving of thanks** (when early church got together) they **were there to give thanks.**

2 Cor. 4:15 ... the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. **Normal Pattern of Christians**

2 Corinthians 9:11 enriched by God... produces thanksgiving

Deeds, proper living

Speech nothing unwholesome comes out of my mouth. When I open my mouth there must not be bad talk or speech, but **giving of thanks.**

Eph. 5:15-18 **Filled with the Spirit**

Giving of thanks for Salvation, and much more. Overflowing with gratitude.

Col 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so **walk ye in him:**

Col 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and **be ye thankful.**

Col 3:17 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and **be ye thankful.**

Col. 2:4 Devote your life to it.

**I Thess. 5:16-18**

Rejoice evermore.

Pray without ceasing.

**In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**

**\*\*\*This is what penetrates every true believer to his or her very core and we should be characterized by these three things: If we don't practice these three things then we are being controlled by the flesh. These commands are for us to obey. They are some of the best ways to determine our spiritual health.**

Don't judge your spiritual health by church attendance, ministry activity, doing my duty to give money, time, etc. be at bible study , haven't robbed , raped, cheated on taxes, etc.,

But by the question **"Do I rejoice all the time? Do I Pray without ceasing? and am I increasingly thankful?"** This is the will of God in Christ Jesus.

Can I work up these three things on my own? No.

Phil. 2:13 It is God which worketh in you to will and to do his good pleasure.

**What are some of the things that will corrupt the spring of our innermost hearts?**

1. **Doubt:** about God and His character. Not sure word can be trusted, Doubt sovereign power, Doubt wisdom. Question His love.
2. **Selfishness** I don't like it the way it's going. I want my plan above God's. I want, I want. Not content with how things are going. We may be saying God get off the throne of my life and put me there.
3. **Worldliness—material** vision, being filled with the trivia of life. Concentration on things. Concerned with stuff.

**"Be thou my vision Lord of my heart" old hymn.** In red hymn book **That's the heart of the Christian vision.**

4. **Critical Spirit—**Bitter, negative, sour life attitude corrodes the sweet springs of our Christian life. Over-analysis of everything (how I'm treated, etc.) Arises from pride.

Enlarged ego. I want people to think better of me than I am.

5. **Impatient—God** doesn't work on my time schedule. I can't wait on process. I want it now. Wants everything fixed my way and I know best how to do it. **Why not look for signs of process and be thankful for them? Thank you Lord, I see your hand in it.** We however, may say I want it and I want it now like a little kid. Keep looking for signs of progress and thank the Lord for them.
6. **Coldness (apathy, lethargy)** Luke-warmness of Laodicean. Ephesus (churches in Revelation)

No passion for worship, lack of study of God's word, lack of care for others and service can steal thankfulness.

**Rebellion**— I'm angry with God, I'm unthankful and I don't like what's happening in my life. Many forms. Children, spouse, death of family or close friend, the deadly affects of sin (cancer, etc.)

Violation of any of the above seven things is gross sin and a violation and defying of God's command to rejoice, pray, and give thanks continually.

If we yield to the Spirit and ask Him to help us do his will for us, the following will happen:

1. God is glorified
2. You're blessed
3. Church is built up
4. Sinners saved
5. While we wait for the Lord to come for us we can be filled with joy.

\*\* On death bed one mentioned give thanks because He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new **name written**, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. Rev. 2:17