

What Do You Think?

- » “People are not thankful for what they do not value.”
- » “People are not thankful for what they think they deserve.”



Be Thankful



Col. 3:15-17

Context

» Problem: *Division/Disunity* (2:8-23)

- Based on false doctrine: *the commandments and teachings of men*
- Deception, judging, *self-made religion*
- National, social, economic lines (3:11)

Context

- » Solution: *set your minds on things above, not on things of earth (3:1-4)*
- Put off *the old self (3:5-11)*
- Sinful/fleshly attitudes, actions, behaviors, practices

Context

» Solution: *set your minds on things above, not on things of earth* (3:1-4)

- Put on *the new self* (3:12-17)

- The Character of Christ (12-14)

- The Peace of Christ (15)

- The Word of Christ (16-17)

Col. 3:15-17

» *Be Thankful*

1. In Our Attitude
2. In Our Admonition
3. In our Actions

1. In Our Attitude

» *Become thankful -> make thankfulness a habit and pattern of your lives*

- Remember what God has done for us in salvation (1:3, 12; 2:6-7)
- In prayer (4:2)
- *With the peace of Christ?* (3:15)

1. In Our Attitude

- » *Corporate thankfulness* – we are different and should be thankful for all others who are also called (11) -> more opportunity to be like Christ (12-13)
- Others hear us and are encouraged to praise, and God is glorified (2 Cor. 4:15)

1. In Our Attitude

» Lack of thankfulness to God means:

- You don't know what God has done
- You don't care what God has done
- You don't really want to know God (cf. Rom. 1:21; 2 Cor. 4:14; Col. 1:12)

2. In Our Admonition

» *The word of Christ?* (3:16)

- Cf. *the word of truth, the gospel* (1:5); *the word of God* about Christ (1:25-27); *the word* about Christ (4:3)
- “we proclaim Him” (e.g. – Acts 13)

2. In Our Admonition

» “richly dwell within you”

- *Dwell* – *be at home in*

- *Richly* – *prized, highly valued*

- *You* -> corporate: teach & admonish
one another with all wisdom (cf. 1:28)

2. In Our Admonition

» From the indwelling of the word:

- *Psalms* – from the OT (Luke 20:42) [or personal? (1 Cor 14:26)]
- *Hymns - praise to God* (Acts 16:25)
- *Songs* – focused on God's deeds? (Rev. 5:9-10; 15:3-4)

2. In Our Admonition

» *Teaching and admonishing* should be accompanied by *thankfulness in our hearts* (i.e. - *the whole inner man*)

- Response to God for what He has done

3. In our Actions

» “Whatever you do in word or deed, do all...”

1. “In the name of the Lord Jesus”

- i.e. – as He would do it (see 3:12-14)

2. “giving thanks through [Jesus] to God the Father”

3. In our Actions

» What are some examples of “whatever you do”?

» Can you do *all you do* in His name and giving thanks to God while doing it?

- Any attitude adjustment needed?

- Anything you need to stop doing?

3. In our Actions

» “in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thess. 5:18)

- NIV: “give thanks in all circumstances”
- What if I don’t like the circumstances?
- *What do I value?*

So What?

- » Thanksgiving should accompany everything we do, all the time
- It is the result of **appreciating** what God has done and is doing
- It requires knowing, valuing, humility, action/expression

So What?

» Thanksgiving Service – Tues, Nov. 26

- Would you be willing to share some expression of praise or thanksgiving with the rest of us?
- Poem, song, paragraph, prayer, etc.