



# WEEKLY SERMON

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**Sunday** November 19, 2023  
**Teacher – Tommy Dowling**  
**Message:** Thanksgiving - 2023

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**Text:** See lesson

When you are discouraged, turn to Deuteronomy 1:21 where we read, "**Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged.**" Many of our favorite hymns tell us what to do when discouraged.

Someone asks, "**Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come?**" We should rather remember that "**I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free. For His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me.**" The beloved hymn, "**What a Friend We Have in Jesus,**" gives us sound advice in saying we should "**never be discouraged**" over a burden, for we can "**take it to the Lord in prayer.**" The spiritual, "**There Is a Balm in Gilead**" says: "**Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain and then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.**"

So if you're discouraged today, remember that a moment in the presence of our Lord can change your attitude. Count your blessings. Realize you're more valuable than the sparrows. Take it to the Lord in prayer, and let the Holy Spirit revive your soul again.

Do not fear or be discouraged. But if discouragement comes, and it will, then try two things:

**First:** Do what David did in I Samuel 30:6, "**And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.**" Begin to search the scripture for passages that will strengthen yourself in the Lord.

**Second:** Do what God told Moses to do for Joshua in Deuteronomy 1 :38, "**But Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.**" Find someone today or this week and "**Encourage them.**" Maybe it is a family member, one of your children, a friend, or someone in the ministry. By the way, it may be the person sitting next to you in church on any given Sunday.

**When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.**

**Are you ever burdened with a load of care?  
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?  
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,**

And you will keep singing as the days go by.

When you look at others with their lands and gold,  
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;  
Count your many blessings — money cannot buy  
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

So, amid the conflict whether great or small,  
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;  
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,  
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

Refrain: Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your blessings, see what God has done!  
Count your blessings, name them one by one,  
Count your many blessings, see what God has done.  
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

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### Prayer for REVIVAL in our NATION

The Indictment upon us found in Proverbs 14:34 is simple: **“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.”** Prayer is required:

1. To forgive us our trespasses, as we confess the sins of our families, the sins of our church and the sins of our nation.
2. To awaken our nation to repentance and to acknowledge God;
3. For revival in our churches; for repentance among our national leaders;
4. For a return to the Bible and a resetting of values to the divine standard;
5. For a priority to be placed upon the attendance to the church services;
6. For a renunciation of atheism, humanism, hedonism, ecumenism, homosexuality, and a change of heart of leaders on matters that will destroy the moral, spiritual, and godly fiber of our nation.
7. For a reshaping of church programs to get soul winning on the front burner daily and for the salvation of souls;
8. For a return to bold preaching of God's truth.
9. For God's hand upon the President and his cabinet leaders.
10. For the protection of the military in the war zones.
11. For the Federal Congress and the Supreme Court.
12. For solutions to the economic problems in our nation
13. For protection of believers and churches in a nation that is more secular than Christian in nature.

In His Amazing Grace –  
*Pastor David Miklas*

# Being Thankful For What God Does For Us

## Bible Study Objectives:

1. To remind us that thanksgiving is a non-negotiable expectation/command for every believer: (I Thessalonians 5:18)
2. To remind us that thanksgiving is natural when we are aware of the benefits we receive: (Psalms 68:19, 103:1-22)
3. To remind us that thanksgiving is possible even when your life has been drastically changed forever: (Daniel 1:2-6)
4. To remind us that thanksgiving is always manifested in your attitude and in your actions: (Daniel 6:3, Daniel 6:10)

## Bible Study Content:

1. We are to be thankful that our names have been written in the Lambs book of eternal life: (Revelation 21:8,27)
2. We are to be thankful that we have the promises of almighty God: (Deuteronomy 33:25, Isaiah 43:2, Isaiah 41:10,13)
3. We are to be thankful that we can rejoice daily because every day is a special gift from God: (Psalms 118:24)
4. We are to be thankful that we have a recipe for how we are to behave when we come to church: (Psalms 100:1-5)
5. We are to be thankful that we have a shepherd that will guide/answer us when we call: (Psalms 91:15, Psalms 23:1)
6. We are to be thankful that God is the God of justice, one day all wrongs will be rectified: (Romans 2:6, Galatians 6:7)
7. We are to be thankful that God is the supreme God of mercy, we don't get what we deserve: (Lamentations 3:22-39)
8. We are to be thankful that God is the supreme God of grace, we get something we don't deserve: (Psalms 84:11)
9. We are to be thankful that we have an example of how we are to take responsibility for our sins: (Psalms 51:1-17)
10. We are to be thankful that we have an example of how not to react when our sins are exposed: (Genesis 3:1-13)
11. We are to be thankful that God has clearly identified the antidote for all worry and depression: (Philippians 4:6-7)
12. We are to be thankful that we know exactly what happens to us the very moment after we die: (II Corinthians 5:8)
13. We are to be thankful that we get to witness, but God must draw a person if salvation is to occur: (John 6:44)

14. We are to be thankful that we do not have to stay offended by the words/deeds of others: (Psalms 119:166-165)

15. We are to be thankful that we get our eyes/understanding opened as we faithfully attend church: (Psalms 73:1-17)

16. We are to be thankful that we can encourage ourselves when everyone around us is discouraged: (I Samuel 30:6)

17. We are to be thankful that unbearable burdens become bearable when we get into the yoke: (Matthew 11:28-30)

18. We are to be thankful that trouble never comes to stay, it always comes to pass: (Psalms 30:5, Luke 1:8, James 4:14)

19. We are to be thankful that when we obey God's rules, God always gives/sends to us great reward: (Psalms 19:11)

20. We are to be thankful that we can experience sweet sleep in spite of our many problems: (Psalms 4:8, Proverbs 3:24)

**Bible Study Summary: Give God thanks: (Hebrews 13:15)**

- 1. Count your blessings instead of your burdens.**
- 2. Count your gains instead of your losses.**
- 3. Count your joys instead of your woes.**
- 4. Count your friends instead of your foes.**
- 5. Count your smiles instead of your tears;**
- 6. Count your courage instead of your fears.**
- 7. Count your full years instead of your lean;**
- 8. Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.**
- 9. Count your health instead of your wealth;**
- 10. Count on God instead of yourself.**

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The Above lesson was written by Tommy Dowling  
a Sunday School Teacher for over 40 years.

If God has spoken to your heart after reading the sermon " **Being Thankful For What God Does For Us.**" right now talk to God about what He has spoken to you.

Do you have the assurance that one day you will go to heaven? If you have no assurance that you know Jesus Christ, then I trust you will decide to accept Him as your personal Savior. The Bible tells us in

Acts 16:31, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..."

Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This prayer is here for those who need to ask Jesus to be their personal Savior: "I do want to go to Heaven. I know I am a sinner, and I do believe Jesus Christ died for me. I realize I cannot buy this great salvation, nor can I earn it. Knowing Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay my sin debt and to purchase my salvation, I do now trust Him as my Savior, and from this moment on I am completely depending on Him for my salvation."

If you made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, please let me know. Please send an e-mail to [pastormiklas@aol.com](mailto:pastormiklas@aol.com) and I will send you some literature that will help you in your Christian life.

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