

**I AM THANKFUL FOR...**  
**(Philippians 4:6)**

- I. David was thankful for God's goodness (1 Chronicles 16:34).**
- A. David understood that God is good to His people.
    - 1. James tells us that every good gift comes from God (1:17).
    - 2. Several times both Ezra and Nehemiah made mention of the "good hand" of their God being on them.
  - B. Think of the blessings given us by God and His goodness cries out to us.
    - 1. Physically we are blessed above all other nations.
    - 2. We have great spiritual blessings that are showered down on us daily.
  - C. The Psalmist wondered at "how great" the goodness of God is (Psalm 31:19) and Paul reminded us that the goodness of God leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4).
  - D. We should be thankful for how good God is to us.
- II. David was thankful for God's holiness (Psalm 30:4).**
- A. Holiness is a characteristic of God, it is what He is.
    - 1. God is pure (Habakkuk 1:13).
    - 2. He cannot partake in sin or be around such because of His holiness.
  - B. We serve a God who wants us to be like Him (1 Peter 1:15-16).
    - 1. We can be holy because of the blood of Christ.
    - 2. We can be holy because of the example we have from both the Father and the Son.
    - 3. We will not be as holy because we will sin from time to time, but we can be pure and we must be pure.
  - C. Because of His holiness, we have such great spiritual blessings.
    - 1. He wants us to be like Him.
    - 2. Therefore, He gives us what we need to be like Him.
  - D. Without the holiness of God, we would have no hope of being the holy sacrifice we are to be to God (Romans 12:1).
- III. David was thankful for God's word (Psalm 119:62).**
- A. Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible and it is all about God's word and what it can do for us and what our response to God's word should be.
  - B. David was thankful that God thought enough of man to inspire men to write down what He wanted man to know about Him and about serving Him.
  - C. God's word tells us about:
    - 1. His love;
    - 2. His care;
    - 3. His Son;
    - 4. His plan for mankind;
    - 5. His reward for the faithful and the doom of the unfaithful.
  - D. God's word makes us complete (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
  - E. There would be no way to ever be in the presence of God without His word, so we should ever be thankful for it.

**IV. Paul was thankful for Jesus (2 Corinthians 9:15).**

- A. Notice the word “unspeakable.”
  - 1. It means indescribable.
  - 2. Paul did not have the words in his vocabulary to adequately describe God’s gift to mankind in the form of His Son Jesus.
- B. Have you ever really sat and pondered what Jesus means to you and to all mankind?
  - 1. Have you given thought to what you have because of Him?
  - 2. It truly is indescribable.
- C. He lived for us and He died for us.
- D. Without Him, we have nothing of any substance.
- E. This was a man who did all he could, at one point in his life, to do away with those that followed Jesus.
- F. Now he would tell us that he didn’t have enough words to describe Jesus and how thankful he was for Him.
- G. We must and should thank God continually for Jesus.

**V. Paul was thankful for his brethren (Romans 1:8; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; 2 Timothy 1:3; Philemon 4).**

- A. Paul was thankful for his Christian friends.
- B. He often mentioned the fact that he prayed for his brethren.
- C. He was thankful for the way they received God’s word.
- D. He was thankful for their faith and continued faithfulness.
- E. He was thankful for their treatment of him and others.
- F. Think about the times you’ve been in need and some brother or sister in Christ aided you.
  - 1. No wonder we are told to forbear our brethren.
  - 2. No wonder we are told to wait on them.
  - 3. The reason for these things is that so many of them do so much for us.
- G. Take time to think of the things your brethren have done for you.
- H. No doubt if we did that we would continually thank God for them.

**VI. Paul was thankful for our victory in Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:57).**

- A. You and I can overcome death through Jesus.
- B. Death has no power over us because it is not the end, it is a release.
- C. Yes, we fear the unknown and are bothered by thoughts of separation because this is all we know.
  - 1. By faith, we can see heaven.
  - 2. Because of God’s word, we can know about it.
- D. Death is not the final event of life.
- E. Separation does not have to take place forever and it won’t for those who are in Christ.
- F. We can overcome Satan and gain the victory of sin and death through Jesus.
- G. How thankful we should be.