

The Power and Process of Thanksgiving!



Wednesday, November 27, 2013

Dear Thankful Ones:

This year I have been thinking about Thanksgiving differently. ***There is a power in Thanksgiving. There is a process to Thanksgiving.*** There is not another time of year that I enjoy as much as Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was the original “Feast of Tabernacles” for America. This Thanksgiving is more historic than any other that America has known since this year Hanukkah aligns with our Thanksgiving celebration. Here at Global Spheres Center we spent the week thanking God for each one of you. He has used you mightily this year to accomplish much in the Kingdom. Tonight the Garden will be lit, signifying **“the LIGHT returning to the Garden of God in this nation.”** On Sunday morning, Robert Heidler will be speaking on ***“The Power of Thanksgiving!”***

Thanksgiving is the act of giving thanks! ***Thanks*** is a grateful acknowledgment of benefits or favors, especially to God. Gratefulness and acknowledgement are part of the power of Thanksgiving. The expression of *thanks* produces power. ***Thanks*** and praise go hand in hand. Our Lord inhabits the praises of His people! Thanksgiving is a public celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor or kindness. Thanksgiving is a day set apart for giving *thanks* to God. In God’s divine order, He would encourage His people to give offerings of Thanksgiving.

One of my favorite passages concerning Thanksgiving is from Luke 17. Ten lepers were all healed. One returned, gave thanks and worshiped the One who healed him. The Lord said to that one, “You are now made whole”! That is the **power** of Thanksgiving!

The PROCESS of Thanksgiving!

The process of change or transition can be difficult. This process normally involves three stages: an ending, a time of confusion, and then a new beginning. We are usually in a process with the Lord. In this process, you must remember to be thankful that you are becoming who the Lord

has intended for you to become. I asked one of our dearest friends, Penny Jackson, to write me the process that she is going through this Thanksgiving. Many of you can relate to the process:

In the past five months I had three events happen that rocked me to the core of my being - my spiritual being. None of them were huge; many of you have had more serious things happen. Heck, I have even had more serious things happen. But what was significant about these events was that they shook my faith. I had said "yes" to some things that were extremely hard to say "yes" to, and then it "didn't work." What I thought I knew and understood where God was concerned took a big hit. Whether or not it should have, it did. And I was hurt and mad at God.

For the couple of months afterwards, I just questioned and questioned. "God, I did what I thought You said. Why didn't it work? What went wrong?" Then I questioned my ability to hear Him when I couldn't hear an answer. Finally I got the revelation that I can't try to predict or assume an outcome, even if I did hear Him correctly and obeyed what He said. I had a real revelation in having expectations.

When I got that lesson, I thought I would be back in tight with the Lord. But instead I have found myself dancing around Him, watching Him from a distance, almost wary. I have been speaking with Him, but it's almost like I have had my guard up.

About a month ago I even told Him I needed a break from Him and things related. No, lightning didn't strike me. Instead, one Friday night I felt a strong urge to light my menorah but couldn't figure out why because of where I was. I did have enough sense to obey, though. As I lit it, my room filled with the most amazing, peaceful presence of the Lord. It was just awesome. We didn't talk much, but I just knew that He was there and wasn't upset with me for what I was going through.

I'm not through that season yet. I have quit questioning, but I am still just in that limbo state. I'm not discontent; in fact, yesterday was one of the most joy-filled days I have had in a while. I knew enough to thank Him because I knew He was the source. But I am still watching and wondering about it all. I get on Facebook and everyone seems pumped and excited for what's ahead, and I am just watching and wondering. I don't doubt that there are awesome things ahead.

But I think the season I am going through is critical. I am having to see if I really know who God is and if He is who He says He is. I am having to see for myself and not based on others' experiences. I can't fake it 'til I make it now. I can't rely on others to pump me up with their faith. It's mano a mano, me and God. I have my own dossier of awesome deeds of the Lord in my own life, but there's just something more He wants me to see now.

It's like taking a test when you already know what the answer will be. I know He is faithful, and I know He is awesome, and I know He is powerful, and I know He is wonderful. But I am having to get that deep within me in a very real way. I have to know that I know that I know that to be able to go into the season ahead.

Well, I have kind of laid myself out here for all to see. Judge if you must; I don't care. But there may be those out here who are experiencing this, too, and now you can know that you are not alone. God deals with all of us in different ways at different times. At first I felt guilty that I couldn't jump up and down with others about what's ahead, etc., but then I just didn't have the energy to take that feeling on for long. I think a lot about Isaiah 30:15 - In quietness and confidence will be your strength...in returning and rest will you be saved. So I am resting a lot, and quiet a lot...and periodically sighing, "Help, Lord."

I have known Him too long to be concerned about the ultimate outcome. He has promised to perfect those things which concern me. He has not left me nor forsaken me. I am the apple of His eye, and my name is engraved on the palm of His hand. It will be okay. And I believe the fruit of this season will be an incredible closeness with a God that I thought I knew but will know even more intimately and truthfully for who HE is. And that will make it all worth it.

With Thanksgiving, there is *power* in the process. There is *power* in the act. There is *power* in the acknowledgment of our Lord and Savior. Many of you may still want to give a Thanksgiving offering. We are so grateful for all the Lord has done for us here, and look forward to giving a special offering to express our gratitude to the Lord. You can donate [online](#), by calling our office at **1-888-965-1099** or **1-940-382-7231**, or by postal mailing your donation to **Glory of Zion, PO Box 1601, Denton TX 76202**.

Blessings,
Chuck D. Pierce