

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Scripture: Psalm 34:1-3

1 I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

3 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

This is how Psalm 34 begins. The writer (or prayer) is thankful because the Lord has answered and delivered him. And so, it is good to start the day thanking God (Psalm 34:1-3; 118:19; Ephesians 5:20; Philippians 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18) for His deliverance. When we begin the day giving thanks to God, it sets the tone for the day.

“Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord” (Psalm 118:19). As we go through our daily lives, everywhere we look we give thanks for what we see (Ephesians 5:20). The result is an attitude of rejoicing rather than moping or complaining, which are incompatible with thanksgiving. We are truly different if our day is filled with rejoicing (Philippians 4:4) and thankful prayers regardless of circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).

Suppose you get stuck, you can always thank God for what He has done for you (Psalm 40:1-3; Daniel 2:23; Revelation 5:10). Think of Psalm 40:1-3: the believer was lost and on their way to Hell until God brought them out of the pit and established them.

It is good to pause each time God does something and thank Him. A good example is found in Daniel 2. Perhaps you remember the passage. Daniel almost lost his life, but God revealed to him Nebuchadnezzar’s dream and its interpretation. Daniel paused and prayed.

I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king’s matter (Daniel 2:23).

He thanked God before proceeding to Nebuchadnezzar. Often, we ask God for help and quickly forget Him when a crisis passes. Thank God for His worthiness and for making all of us a kingdom of priests (Revelation 5:10).

Thank God for who He is (Psalm 118:1; 29, 138:1-2; Daniel 2:20-22). “O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: because His mercy endureth for ever” (Psalm 118:1). We thank God for His goodness, and we do it with our whole heart.

1 I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name (Psalm 138:1-2).

Daniel prayed like this. “Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are His: And He changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings, and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: He knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him” (Daniel 2:20b-22).

Let us be about thanking God, praying prayers of thanksgiving.

JEREMIAH 29
INITIATIVE

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