



The Truth

Aletheia Group weekly newsletter

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“Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.” (Psalm 30:4)

“With all that is happening in this world, it is easy to forget the blessed hope that we have in Christ Jesus. We at Aletheia Group want to thank you for your support and wish you a very blessed Thanksgiving.” –Dave



We are truly a blessed people. Even with all that we face, no,

especially with all we face we should be able to count our many blessings and name them one by one. Try that little exercise if it has been a while since you gave thanks to our great God in Heaven for Who He is and all we have in Christ.

Our Thanksgiving Holiday is in tribute to all that the Pilgrims went through and if you’ve never heard the complete story of Thanksgiving, then you should read Rush Limbaugh’s rendition from his book “See, I Told You So.” You can read an [excerpt](#) of the chapter at his website. And I know many of my readers are not fans of Rush Limbaugh but he is not my focus here; it’s the aletheia truth of what happened at Thanksgiving. (Please save me the emails).

Thanksgiving is about recognizing the providence of God in our lives and giving Him the glory for all we have and all we are. The wonderful truth of the gospel in a world that rejects absolute truth is that we have the

promise from Messiah Jesus that we can not only know the absolute truth, but also that we can be set free by that truth:

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

Would to God that we as a nation would return to the aletheia truth found in the Holy Bible. I pray that a new hunger for God’s Word would sweep across this land because our only blessed hope is found in the Blessed One Christ.

Many people are looking toward the 2012 election as the most important election of our lifetime. I would agree with that sentiment. However, what is more important is not a G-O-P resurgence in Washington D.C. but a G-O-D resurgence throughout this land; in our homes, our churches, and our communities.

Our Founders, and the Pilgrims before them, knew of the need of God’s Providence. We need to once again learn that lesson. So turn the page and let’s get started learning that lesson.

FROM THE FOUNDERS



Revisionist historians like to paint the Father of Our Nation, George Washington as a deist, one who believes in a god that is inattentive to our every day lives. The prayer below from young George shows a man keenly aware of an Omnipotent God and His Son and Savior Jesus Christ.

“Most Glorious Lord God, from whom proceedeth every good and perfect gift, I offer to Thy Divine Majesty my unfeigned praise and thanksgiving for all Thy mercies towards me...I have sinned and done very wickedly, be merciful to me, O God, and pardon me for Jesus Christ sake.” From George Washington’s personal prayer book he created in his field notebook, in his own handwriting, 1752.

One of our main [goals](#) here at Aletheia Group is to play an active role in the United States returning to her American Christian heritage. The only way that will happen is if we pursue and defend the truth wherever that may lead.

One of the most effective ways to counter the lies of secular humanists is through using the words of our Founding Fathers to prove, as we have in our e-booklet “Do Politics and Religion Mix?”, that the framers of our constitution meant for us to be a godly and moral people. Our last edition of The Truth we used the very familiar quote from President John Adams telling the military that “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people.”

What could possibly be meant by “a moral and religious people”? By morality the Founders point to it in the Declaration of Independence when Jefferson wrote of “the laws of nature and nature’s God.” Writing in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis explains the Law of Nature:

This law was called the Law of Nature because people thought that everyone knew it by nature and did not need to be taught it...taking the race as a whole, they thought that the human idea of decent behavior was obvious to every one.

So how did we lose this common knowledge? Part of the blame lies with the pulpit. Turn the page to see what needs to be done.

FROM THE PULPIT

“As a national holiday Thanksgiving rolls around with precise, annual regularity. It’s time to stop complaining, to pause, and to count our blessings. For one day a year we practice the grace of gratitude. Here’s a better idea. We could designate one annual event on our national agenda to complain, grumble, and close our eyes on all blessings from God and people. Then the other 364 days we could live as a thankful people of God ‘giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.’” From “Sermons for the Season” by Dr. C.W. Bess, Broadman Press, 1985.

I love that quote! It’s from my former pastor who used to lead our church in Wiesbaden, Germany. C.W., as he is known to everyone, always preached a message of gratitude. He would preach the gospel truth and no matter the harshness of the message, he always reminded us of the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. C.W. believes that if we would just be more grateful in life then a common decency would return to our culture. I couldn’t agree more.

The problem in this land and particularly from the pulpits is we are too worried about having our needs filled. If today’s culture were to be supplanted back to 1776 and on, we would still be British subjects and no doubt the Continental US would be broken into separate nation-states and colonies of disparate empires.

We have all across America seeker-friendly churches when we should have only seeking-Jesus churches. Now I am speaking only to those churches self-described as Christian. I am not advocating a forced national religion. Of course I pray for a revival where the great majority of Americans worship the Lord Jesus Christ, but this can only happen through the fearless and faithful preaching of His gospel.

Many services today and next Sunday no doubt will speak on a heart of thanksgiving, but I know that far too many will concentrate on “Your Best Life Now” instead of “Your Life Redeemed Today.”

One of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the second president of Princeton, John Witherspoon is quoted as saying:

It is in the man of piety and inward principle, that we may expect to find the uncorrupted patriot, the useful citizen, and the invincible soldier. God grant that in America true religion and civil liberty may be inseparable and that the unjust attempts to destroy the one, may in the issue tend to support the establishment of both.

A common decency comes from the person who has a moral standard grounded in the religion of Jesus Christ, and that produces the grace of gratitude in all. Will it in you? Turn the page to see what each of us can do?

TO THE STREETS

How should WE the People celebrate this Thanksgiving? Here are just a few suggestions:

1. Do as the wonderful old hymn "Count Your Blessings" suggests. "Count your many blessing, name then one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done." If you purposely make a list on Thanksgiving morning of all in your life that you consider a blessing, I'm thinking you're going to have a new attitude this holiday season.
2. Do something kind for someone less fortunate. Give to food banks, a love offering to your church for holiday baskets, help out a neighbor in need. There are always people less fortunate than you and the way you realize that is by helping them in anyway you can. That is taking the true love of Christ to the world.
3. Call your family that you cannot visit in person (I need to do this especially). It's a shame that too many of us do not talk to our family except on holidays, but at least we should do that. Then perhaps you can make a commitment to keep in touch more. Family is so important and that is never more brought home then during the holidays where someone you love is no longer with you. Make a special effort to call your family!
4. Set aside some time in the morning before the parades, food and football games and read Psalm 100 and 111. These are wonderful psalms of thanksgiving to our gracious God in heaven.
5. Renew your commitment to be who God has made you to be. Surrender your life completely to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. That will surely give you a thankful heart.

So many prognosticators are predicting the end of the world in 2012, the downfall of America if Barack Obama is re-elected, and our economic system completely collapsing.

The aletheia truth of the matter is no one person on earth actually knows. The only Person who does know once walked this earth as God-man and now sits on His throne in heaven. He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings. He is in control of all our destinies, whether we acknowledge that truth or not.

From Karen and me, we wish you a most Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

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