

Enter With Thanksgiving Series

November 17, 2021

Scripture: Psalms 100:1-5

1 (A Psalm of praise.) Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

3 Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.

5 For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

Summary: WE can enter His gates with thanksgiving if we understand a few things Psalm 100 shares with us

- When we do know, understand who is who in life we will have a hard time being able to express thanksgiving.

- First...

1. We need to understand who the Lord is.

- We are told in verse 3 that the LORD is GOD!

- When we live our lives not knowing that, as it puts a lot of pressure on us because we think we have to do it all, we think the world rests on us.

- It is the LORD who is GOD!

- The Hebrew employs an emphatic pronoun in order to separate God from false gods.

- **Anyone else who tries to take God's spot is a false god.**
- **Probably as important as it is to know who God is...**

2. We need to understand who we are.

- **Verse three makes sure that we understand that we are NOT God.**
- **He made us; we are HIS people, the sheep of HIS pasture.**
- **Too many of us go through life thinking that WE are god, and that He is OUR creation and that HE is the sheep of OUR pasture.**
- **When we think WE are god, we will not direct our thanksgiving where it belongs; we will think that we are the masters of our own domain.**
- **The Founding Fathers of our great nation KNEW they were not god unlike many politicians today.**
- **Once we figure out who is God and who is not, it brings a sense of security to us. It also helps us to properly align the priorities of our life.**
- **We will never be thankful if we think we have done it all, we need to understand who is God and who is not!**
- **Psalms 100:4(ESV) 4Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

III. Entering with thanksgiving is expressed in our attitude toward God.

- **The gates, if taken in the literal sense refer to the main gates to the temple whereas the courts are the open spaces which surround the temple or tabernacle.**
- **This speaks of worship.**
- **This goes to the issue of who is God and who is not.**

1. We are to exhibit thankfulness to God.

- This thought goes back to attitude, if we have an attitude of pride, then we will fail to recognize to whom the glory or thankfulness goes to.
- If we do not know to whom we are to be thankful toward, then we will not be thankful, we will think that all we have comes from our own efforts.
- There was a story about a little fourth-grader who stood up to give a report concerning the origins of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Here's how he began:

- The pilgrims came here seeking freedom of you know what. When they landed, they gave thanks to you know who. Because of them, we can worship each Sunday, you know where.
- WE should not be in a position where we are thanking you know who and prayer for you know what.
- If we are thankful for what we have, then we need to know that God is our provider.

• 2 Corinthians 2:14(ESV)

14But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

- Throughout the New Testament we are called to be thankful to God.
- Let's examine some final thoughts from verse 5

• Psalms 100:5(ESV)

5For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

IV. Entering with thanksgiving centers on the attributes of God.

- We can enter with thanksgiving because of what our God is all about.
- Verse five shares three of God's awesome attributes.

1. The Lord is good.

- **God is not a being of mere “power;” he is not merely the Creator; but he is benevolent, and is, therefore, worthy of universal praise.**
- **He is the essence of goodness.**
- **In the earlier verses, God’s claim to admiration is founded on the fact that He is the “Creator,” and has, as such, a right to our service; in this verse, the claim is asserted on account of his moral character:**
- **Another attribute of God is...**

2. The Lord’s love endures.

- **No matter what happens God will always love us. He may not like what we do but He will still love us.**
- **We can enter with thanksgiving knowing that.**

We have all made mistakes in life, some of them are pretty big, but none of them are too big to make God not love us. He has loved us from before He created us.

3. The Lord is faithful.

- **God will always do what He says, no matter what.**
- **It is nice to know that what is right today will be right tomorrow, conversely what is wrong today will be wrong tomorrow.**
- **1 Corinthians 1:9(ESV)**

9God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- **God will ALWAYS be faith, what a blessings and what a great reason to be thankful.**
- **Wouldn’t you like to have people in your life who were that way?**

CONCLUSION

- **Are you thankful for what God has given you? No matter what our circumstances are, we can find something to be thankful for. We can be thankful for the salvation that we can have through Jesus.**
- **When the Pilgrims celebrated their first thanksgiving, they could have just complained about how rough things had been for them, but instead they took time to give thanks. Paul could have complained about his circumstances, but he thanked God.**
- **One way that you can show God that you are thankful is to give Jesus your life and devotion.**