

WHAT MAKES US THANKFUL?



One outstanding television personality said before millions of viewers that it would take him seven days to come up with something for which he could be thankful.

But what is it that makes us thankful? And keeps us thankful?

It is God who can do something special in our lives that can make us thankful, not only daily, but for all eternity.

What enriches life? Is it not heaven touching us? Didn't Jesus say that He came to give us life, even life more abundant? (John 10:10).

If you live in the world and are of the world then you will only get what the world can give. But if you belong to the kingdom of heaven by faith in Christ then you will receive what the kingdom of heaven can give. As the Bible says: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17).

It may be that until now you have been ignoring the Son of God and the Bible has been a closed book to you; God has not been in your thoughts.

You need to become alive towards God. You need to taste and see that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8). You need to invite the Lord Jesus Christ into your heart and life.

If you will do this, you will never be the same person again. He will make you a new creation, a new person (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Your life will be filled with a joy, a love, a peace you have never experienced before.

If you find it hard to give thanks to God, maybe He is not your Savior. Now is the time to change all of that and become a child of God through Jesus Christ. If you do this, everyday will be a day of thanksgiving for the rest of your life.

The Bible says that God loved us so much that He gave His Son to die for us on the cross, that we might be forgiven, cleansed and reconciled to Him.

In returning God's love and receiving His Son as your Lord and Savior, you will do yourself the greatest favor. You will have forgiveness of sins and everlasting life.

You will have Someone with you to help you day by day, to give you courage and hope. You will never be alone again. What more can you ask for?

To receive Christ, simply pray and tell Christ that you trust in Him as your Lord and Savior. Ask Him to come into your heart and life.

Written by Frank Muñoz, who was a Pastor and a Bible Teacher. He was a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary. This article is from the archives of the late Frank Muñoz, and is reprinted by David Muñoz, Box 128, Sullivan City, TX 78595.

THE HOPE OF CHRISTMAS



Christmas to me means hope. Hope for the world and hope for the individual who will receive it.

There is no event in all the history of mankind so beautiful, so important, so tender, so divine and human as the birth of Jesus the Son of God and Savior of the world.

That beautiful bundle in the manger was God's offer to us of another life, another way of living. It was His offer to us of pardon and peace.

No one has to be bound by the goals and standards of this world. God gives us an alternative, a different path to walk on, a road that leads to life.

But the truth of all this did not dawn on me until I was in my early twenties. Until I had a taste of the pleasures of this world. Until I saw that the world with all its entertainment and thrills could not satisfy the longing deep in my soul for something genuine, something lasting.

What I was unconsciously searching for, but could not find, was peace of mind and love – real love.

Well think about that peaceful night in Bethlehem when God intervened in history to show that He cared. He gave us His best Gift that night. It was not gold or silver. It was not a precious stone or diamond. But much more. It was His only beloved Son.

And God loves you now and cares for you. But you have to give Him a chance in your life. You have to open your heart and life to the One who was born in that manger and died on that cross. He is a living Savior who loved you and gave Himself for you on the cross.

Everyone has his share of problems and difficulty in this world. Christians suffer what all other people suffer. What makes the big difference is that we have the Lord Jesus Christ with us to help us and guide us.

The hope of Christmas is valid and real. But it is found in the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ offered His peace to all who believe in Him: "Peace I leave you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

This Christmas take heart. You have great hope offered to you by the living God. He gave His Son as a babe that beautiful Christmas night. He gave His Son as Savior on the cross 33 years later. He offers His Son to you now as your own personal Lord and Savior.

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