

“CHRISTIAN GRATITUDE”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

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Monthly Newsletter

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LUKE 17:11-17

The Bible says that as Jesus was passing through Samaria and Galilee, that ten leprous men cried out for mercy. They wanted to be healed of their leprosy.



Jesus tells them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” “And as they were going, they were cleansed.” V. 14

Because they obeyed, they were healed by the power of God. But sad to say only one came back to thank Jesus.

“Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.” vv. 15-16

Jesus then said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine - where are they?”

In this passage of scripture, we can see two types of Christians.

1. The one who is grateful!
2. The one who is ungrateful!

THE CHRISTIAN WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

“Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him and he was a Samaritan.” vv. 15-16

This is the Christian who is grateful in what God has done for him. There is gratitude in his heart because of what Jesus has done in his life. There is joy, peace, and love. There is anointing and a new song in his heart. There is strength and power.

The ten leprous men were healed! But only one was grateful.

“Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice,” v. 15

The one that was healed:

- Gave glory to God because of the miracle he received from Him.
- Gave glory to God because now that he was healed, he could go back to his family and wife.
- Gave glory to God because now he could be an asset to society and was not a reject of society anymore.
- Gave glory to God because now he could enjoy good health and hug his love ones.
- Gave glory to God because of a second chance to be healthy again.

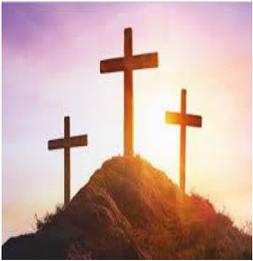
The one that was healed:

“... and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him.” V.16

- Gave glory to Jesus for having mercy on him.
- Gave glory to Jesus for His compassion and kindness in answering his prayer.

The one that was healed was grateful because he understood that Jesus was going to take his place on the cross where he would receive by faith:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Salvation</i> | <i>Spiritual Authority</i> |
| <i>Forgiveness</i> | <i>Healing</i> |
| <i>Justification</i> | <i>Power (Over the devil)</i> |
| <i>Sanctification</i> | <i>Life (Anointing)</i> |



I believe that the leper that was healed was saved that day and understood that Jesus was now in his heart.

He had the power to walk in victory in this ungodly world.

He had Jesus to help him in the days of his storms and valley days as a Christian.

He had the Life of God in his heart so that he could live life and enjoy it.

He had purpose and direction in life and eternal life in heaven. This leper that was healed was very grateful!

God commands us to be grateful:

“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe.” Heb. 12:28

“We ought always to give thanks to God for you ... 2 Thess. 1:3

“It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High:” Ps. 92:1

When the Christian is grateful to God no matter what comes his way, or what he is going through, he will with joy continue walking with God.

THE UNGRATEFUL CHRISTIAN

The nine that were healed: “Then Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine - Where are they?” V.17

This is the Christian who is not grateful of what God has done in his life.

These type of men and women soon forget what Jesus has done for them. They forget where God has brought them out from. All of a sudden it seems that they are not enjoying their new walk with Christ. These Christians who have no gratitude toward God are like the Israelites that were set free from their bondage in Egypt.

They complained, murmured, rebelled and always wanted to go back to Egypt. (They forgot how Satan had them in the world!)

They were never content with nothing that God gave or did for them. People who are always complaining and grumbling, bring the judgment of God into their lives.

“Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.” I Cor. 10:10

Who were these ungrateful people who were destroyed by the devil? The Israelites that were on their way to the Promise Land.

The nine lepers did not have any gratitude in their hearts for Jesus because they:

- Did not value Jesus. They were selfish, carnal-minded, and blind.
- Did not care for anyone but themselves.
- Did not want to walk the walk with God, and still wanted the world.
- Did not have any faith in God but in themselves.

Ungrateful people will go their way and never fulfill the will of God in their lives. Being grateful means that you have gratitude in your heart.



If you are a Christian and you have lost your gratitude towards God, you are in danger of backsliding.

CONCLUSION:

THE CURE FOR AN UNGRATEFUL HEART.



Come to your senses and acknowledge it, that you are ungrateful to God.

Confess your sin to God and repent.

When you repent God will restore you and fill your heart with joy.

When there is joy in your heart, there also will be gratitude in your heart for God.

And when there is joy, there will also be strength in you to walk the walk no matter what the devil throws at you.

Neh. 8:10 ... **“Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”**

Your strength to be grateful.

Your strength to walk the walk.

Your strength to love and forgive.

The ‘joy of the Lord is your strength’ that will help you go all the way to the finish line in our Christian race.

Remember, UNGRATEFUL CHRISTIANS HAVE LOST THEIR JOY OF THE LORD!

Come back to Jesus and start drinking once again of that New Wine that Jesus gives.

Jesus said, **“Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”** John 7:38