

Let Us Come Before His Presence With Thanksgiving

I. Introduction:

A. As faithful Christians, we have the privilege of prayer (**Proverbs 15:29** and **John 9:31**).

1. We don't have to beg to be heard like some in the past had to (**Psalms 88:1-2** and **Psalms 141:1-2**).

2. Of course, we have to maintain this privilege through continued obedience to God (**Proverbs 28:9** and **I Peter 3:12**).

B. Being in the last days (**Acts 2:16-21**, **Hebrews 1:1-2**, and **I John 2:18**), we live among those who are unthankful [among other things] (**II Timothy 3:1-5**).

1. We cannot allow this world to rub off on us in this or any other matters (**Romans 12:1-2** and **Ephesians 4:17-20**).

2. Becoming ungrateful is part of a formula that leads to all sorts of trouble (**Romans 1:18-32**).

II. Body: *"Let Us Come Before His Presence With Thanksgiving..."* (**Psalms 95:2**).

A. We are supposed to be a thankful people (**Colossians 3:15-17**).

1. Of course, that includes giving thanks to our Father in Heaven (**Ephesians 5:20**, **I Thessalonians 5:16-18**, and **Hebrews 13:15**).

2. Think about a state of mind of gratitude that extends beyond just prayer. The word "grace" means, in part, just that - gratitude (cf. **Hebrews 12:28**).

B. Don't forget all that God has done, does, and will do (**Psalms 40:5**, **Psalms 68:19**, and **Psalms 103:2**).

1. Physically (**Genesis 1:27**, **Genesis 8:22**, **Psalms 65:9-13**, **Psalms 104:24-26**, **Psalms 147:7-8**, **Jeremiah 5:22**, **Jeremiah 31:35**, **Acts 14:17**, etc.).

2. Spiritually (**Psalms 119:62**, **Psalms 136:1**, **Acts 28:14-15** [cf. **Romans 16:1-4** and **II Corinthians 7:5-7**], **Romans 8:24**, **I Corinthians 15:57**, **I John 2:25**, **I John 4:9-10**, etc.).

C. Through Christ, we get to come before the throne of God (**Hebrews 4:14-16** and **Hebrews 10:19-23**).

1. Through Christ we have access to the Father (**Romans 5:1-2** and **Ephesians 3:11-12**).

2. Jesus paid the highest price to give us such access that was not common for God's people before (**Hebrews 9:1-12**).

III. Conclusion: *"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving"* (**Colossians 4:2**).