

Thanksgiving
“Bless the Lord, your God”
Deuteronomy 8:10
November 26, 2025
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Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, our text for this Thanksgiving eve is from
Deuteronomy 8:10

“When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you.”

So far the text:

Is that the way it always works? You’ve enjoyed a good meal and then you give thanks to God and bless His name? Maybe you say this Bible verse together before everyone leaves the table.

“Oh give thanks unto the Lord for He is good for His mercy endureth forever” Amen.

Is there a moment of praise before the meal and after the meal when your belly is full and your content?

Or is that something that has to be taught from generation to generation? Is that something that one has to be reminded to do?

The Book of Deuteronomy is sometimes called the 2nd giving of the Law. Moses gives a repetition of the Law to the children of Israel who are on the East side of the Jordan, opposite Jericho, ready to enter the promised land, now in the 40th year since they left Egypt. An entire generation has grown up and needs to hear God’s Word again.

We need to hear God’s Word again and be reminded of all the blessings He has given us as we stand on the cusp of another new Christian year, so that we would also give thanks again and again.

As Moses speaks to the Israelites he reminds them of what they just went through. The entire 40 years in the wilderness was a teaching experience. God was teaching them to rely solely on Him.

Does God not do the same to us? For when we despair of our own strength and might, then we see more clearly that what we have is all by the grace of God and we give Him great thanks!

Often times, God has to remind us of this just as He reminded the Israelites for 40 years. They didn't have any grocery stores to go pick up a turkey in the wilderness. They didn't have food at their disposal or water. They had to learn to trust God that He would provide for them.

God didn't give them food the ordinary way, but rained down bread from heaven, manna, and quail for meat. In this way, God humbled them to trust in Him. Is humbling a good thing? Oh yes! God chastises whom He loves. He refines us and molds us to rely on Him more and more.

How has God humbled you this year out of love? How has He made you rely on Him even more? What hardships have you endured that made you even more thankful when God delivered you from your troubles?

Moses taught the people of Israel that by going through these experiences, they learned that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

For God has not only given us a full stomach but also a full soul with the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ!

His Words are life where we do not have life because of our sin. God offers us entrance into the promised land of heaven. He humbles us first and teaches us that no man is worthy. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Like the lepers, all humanity are spiritual outcasts and unable to cure the leprosy of our sin. And when we see this and repent of our sin, God graciously lifts us up and shows us the way to cross into heaven – Jesus!

For He led the perfect life.

Wasn't Jesus tempted by the devil to turn a rock into bread? But Jesus replied that it is written, and quoted Moses...Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Jesus was humbled for our sakes and never sinned. He endured His Father's wrath because we have wandered like the Israelites. And by His stripes we are healed.

As we read in our epistle reading from 1 Timothy 2:5, we give thanks to God that He has given us the one Way, the one Mediator, who has paid our ransom for sin, for all people completely!

5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

For this we bless the Lord and give thanks!

Israel's clothing didn't wear out and neither does the robe of righteousness that God gives to us. With this robe we enter heaven! ...where our praising and thanksgiving will never cease.

We thank you God for our daily food, for teaching us to trust in your daily for all that you give us for our bodies and souls!

Oh, bless the Lord oh my soul! And forget not all His benefits!

Amen.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Amen. (Philippians 4:7)