

Saying Grace

Sunday, April 30th 2017

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 ⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills; ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones *are* iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper. 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.

¹¹ “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, ¹² lest—*when* you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell *in them*; ¹³ and *when* your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied; ¹⁴ when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

- The proper response to plenty is thanksgiving and worship.
- In the absence of proper worship people would forget.
- Become complacent and greedy and even deny that God provided for them.
- As if they didn't even need God.

¹⁵ who led you through that great and terrible wilderness, in which were fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty land where there was no water; who brought water for you out of the flinty rock; ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end— ¹⁷ then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’

¹⁸ “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Not only is he prophesying about the potential of the promise land.

- He is also trying to protect them from repeating past mistakes.
- They had a habit of forgetting about the provider after receiving their promise.

God's gifts can only bring you joy when they are partnered with gratitude.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1. Rejoice always
2. Pray Continually
3. Give Thanks in All Circumstances
4. WHY? Cause that is God's will for you!!

Happy people are not the ones who have the best of everything.
They are the ones who make the most out of the things they do have.

Thankfulness should characterize the Christian life in every circumstance!
Not thanks for everything but thanks in everything!!