



PRAYER FORCE

The WAR is DECIDED in the HEAVENS

Prayer Focus

November 23-29, 2020

Holy - Thanks

As we have been more aware of the refining and purifying process, an increasing desire to be Holy is arising within us.

Holy means to be “set apart.”

That is why the Sabbath is holy, it is to be set apart and is sacred. It has a special purpose - rest.

*“Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘**You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.**’”* Leviticus 19:2

*“**And you shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.**”* Leviticus 20:26

*“**Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God.**”*
Leviticus 20:7, see also 1 Peter 1:16

It is imperative that we understand, acknowledge, and declare ourselves consecrated to the Lord. We are holy - set apart for a sacred purpose.

We are to be different, separate – **distinguishable** - from the world around us.

Character of the New Man

“¹²Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, long-suffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you

also must do. ¹⁴But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
Colossians 3:12-17

Qualities of being Holy

- 1) **We are unafraid** – *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”* John 14:27; *“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”* 2 Timothy 1:7
- 2) **We have godly wisdom** – *“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”* James 3:17-18
- 3) **We abound in love** – *“And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.”* 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13
- 4) **We speak truth** – *“These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace.”* Zechariah 8:16; *“The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of your righteous judgments endures forever.”* Psalm 119:160
- 5) **We walk by faith and not by sight** – *“For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens...Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee...For we walk by faith, not by sight.”* 2 Corinthians 5:1,5,7
- 6) **We are free** – *“Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”* Galatians 5:1
- 7) **We rejoice always** – *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.”* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22
- 8) **We are one** – *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”* Ephesians 4:4-6; *“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us,*

that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” John 17:20-23

Thanksgiving

Gratitude is the quality of being thankful. True thankfulness requires humility.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:4-7

“Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.” 1 Chronicles 16:34

“I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.” Psalm 9:1-2

As we continue to intercede for our state and our nation, let us be thankful for what God has already accomplished.

President George Washington’s Thanksgiving Proclamation provides a good place to begin.

Thanksgiving Proclamation

[New York, 3 October 1789]

By the President of the United States of America. a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me “to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this

Country previous to their becoming a Nation—for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war—for the great degree of tranquillity, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted—for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

and also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions—to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually—to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed—to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord—To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us—and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New-York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

Go: Washington

Pray

- Offer thanksgiving for God's character; His goodness, faithfulness, truthfulness, righteousness, lovingkindness, trustworthiness, justice etc. Give a testimony of how He met you this week.
- That families would forgive each other, love each other, and be gracious to each other, especially during this holiday season. Pray for healing of broken relationships.
- For prodigals to repent and return home, for true salvation to take place in each of their lives.
- That truth and justice would prevail in the U.S. election and that all corruption would be rooted out, brought to light, and suffer righteous judgment.

- Offer thanks that the Founding Fathers of this nation recognized Almighty God as the Ruler of Nations, humbly thanked Him for His kind care and protection, and sought to obey His will. Pray that our nation would return to this posture, and the hearts of the men and women of this nation would be transformed by the Gospel as we, the Body of Messiah, arise and shine. See Isaiah 60
- That we would know our calling to be holy to the Lord and walk in that knowledge as the Body of Messiah.
- That we would exude gratitude, recognize how much we have been given, and worship the Lord in thanksgiving continually.
- Offer thanks that - in Him - we have victory. *“Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.”* 2 Corinthians 2:14-15