

Thanksgiving Under The Focus

(Part 2)

“Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, ‘Be careful and increase in number and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands. Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.’” (Genesis 9:1-3)

From the pulpit of thanksgiving we continue this week to look toward different directions and bring to you more clear views and facts through the example of Noah. In the previous message we spoke in some details about the process of offering and thanksgiving; what it contained, and how it is corrupted and perverted by the world. We found that the offering of Noah toward God after the flood pleased and soothed the heart of God. It altered God’s anger and made Him promised saying, *“Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of His heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creation, as I have done.”* The offering of Noah also promoted God’s endless blessing on the ground as He promised, *“As long as the earth endures, seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”*

As a worshipper, you are a psalmist who is now standing in the pulpit of thanksgiving. You are happy with new freedom and deliverance, with new blessing and new grace of God. And if you add to your thanksgiving a glance of discernment, and some little action to look around you, you will meet one or more of the following points:

1) A new stage: In carrying a task or mission, we do by steps or stages. Thanksgiving is in between stages similar to the break time between the two halves of a match. One half may be finished but still there is 2nd half that may also be extended further. This is an important stage for thanksgiving though is not yet the final stage. It is only the intermediate phase that you are in and more is coming, so prepare yourself.

2) A new life: Here, the stage of thanksgiving is located at the end border of the old life going to the new life. The old life of sin, sickness, poverty, enslavement, blindness, death, dependence, suffering and shame has already disappeared and new life of righteousness, healthiness, loveliness, richness, revival, liberty, and glory has come. The word of God stated that, *“when perfection comes, the imperfection disappears.” (1 Corinthians 13:10)*

3) A new duty given to you: What does God want you to do at this stage and what responsibility has God addressed to you? After the event of the flood, when all its trials have ended, many things are to be done. And Noah with the seven members of his family that God has saved, when they stood for thanksgiving, God told them:

- a. *Be fruitful:* It denotes the good quality of living that you have in the new life or the new stage that God gave to you. What will you do after you are saved and how will you use the new car, the new house or the higher salary? What do you plan after marriage? How will you deal with the new baby that God gave you? If we draw a statistic diagram for illustration we can put all these questions under the vertical axis or the vertical expansion of the high quality Christian life.
- b. *Increase in numbers:* It denotes the quantity of work that you have to do, the multiplication to occupy the available space and the position that should be filled. And that was what had happened with Noah; from his three sons Ham, Shem and Japheth came out the three mighty nations of Hamites, Shemites and the Japhethites.
- c. *Fill the earth:* This is the horizontal expansion to scatter, to spread and to fill the earth. God has planned you not to stay in one place, but to creep in a programmed way to reach gradually the adjacent zones around.

4) A new authority: *“The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.”* At any situation that you are in, after a victory or a blessing, God will give you a new authority or He will add to your previous authority. That authority may be over your spouse, over your children, over your employee in your place of work, over your country mate or over a group of people that you are living with. ***They are given into your hands***, but you have to deal with them mindfully as we stated above.

5) A new bonus of blessing: (*...I now give you everything.*) You will not be restricted by the previous blessing that you already received from God. But with everything new, expect from God a new blessing that He will give you as He said, *“Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.”*

My Dear and Beloved: How wonderful it is to know all these facts! But, it is more attractive if we can see them around us and ahead of us in the coming time while we are standing in the pulpit of thanksgiving, as we agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God in heaven I give you the praise and I adore you for all the grace that you had given unto me. Lord I give thanks and full of appreciation to all what you had lavished upon me. Lord help me to discern more your grace in my life. Lord I commit myself to serve wholeheartedly and be responsible and accountable to all what I receive from you. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*