

Word of Life Church & World Outreach Center
Carlsbad, New Mexico
Sunday Morning, November 18, 2018

- I. Have you ever felt like your life was a train wreck?
 - A. Some well-meaning but misinformed religious person told you you were supposed to be thankful for everything that happens in your life.
 - B. Things God never told you or intended for you to do.
- II. But doesn't the Bible say...
 - A. Give thanks for all things? **Ephesians 5:20** *giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
 - B. Give thanks continually? **Hebrews 13:15** *Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.*
 - C. We are to give thanks in everything because nothing can happen unless it is the will of God. **1 Thessalonians 5:18** *in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

Why would God expect you to give Him thanks for what the devil did to try to destroy you?

- III. Give thanks for what?
 - A. Does all mean ALL? **Ephesians 5:20** *giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
 - B. All things UNTO GOD.
 - 1. The things that are God's. **Matthew 22:15** ¶ *Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. 16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. 17 "Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? 19 "Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a*

denarius. 20 And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" 21 They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

2. All things He did.

- a. Good and perfect gift. **James 1:17** *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*
- b. Does it steal, kill and destroy, or does it give abundant life? **John 10:10** *"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*
- C. IN everything... **1 Thessalonians 5:18** in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
- D. Paraphrase. "In the midst of everything that is going on in your life, do not become unthankful because thanksgiving is God's will for you."
- E. Thanksgiving IN trouble will get you OUT OF trouble.

Give thanks, not for what is going on, but for what God did about it

IV. What do I give thanks for when trouble comes?

- A. **Isaiah 53:5** *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*
- B. **Psalms 91:11** *For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*
- C. **2 Timothy 1:7** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

- D. **Psalm 91:15** *He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. 16 With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation."*
- E. **Isaiah 59:19** *So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.*
- F. **Proverbs 4:20** ¶ *My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. 21 Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; 22 For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.*
- G. **Proverbs 17:22** ¶ *A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.*