

THINGS I AM NOT THANKFUL FOR

Introduction

- 1) God's people are to be thankful people (Psa. 100:4; 1 Thess. 5:18; Col. 3:15), but there are things for which Christians cannot be thankful if they put God and His kingdom first
 - a) Paul was *not* thankful about the abuse of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:20-22)
- 2) There are people in this world, religious and nonreligious, who are thankful for such things.
- 3) I want to be a thankful person – but as a Christian ***I am not thankful for...***

I) THE RELIGIOUS DIVISION OF DENOMINATIONALISM

- A) I am *not* thankful for ***the religious division of denominationalism*** because:
- 1) Jesus prayed that it would not exist (Jn. 17:20-21)
 - 2) It is the opposite of the divine goal of unity in truth among believers (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - 3) It deceives those in error into thinking they are right with Jesus (Matt. 7:21-23)

II) THE ENORMOUS DESIRE FOR EARTHLY POSSESSIONS

- A) I am *not* thankful for ***the enormous desire for earthly possessions*** because:
- 1) The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil and brings many sorrows (1 Tim. 6:9-10)
 - 2) It causes many who are rich to not enter the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 19:21-24)
 - 3) It distracts me from pursuing the spiritual riches of God in Christ (Lk. 12:19-21)

III) SEEKING PEACE THROUGH COMPROMISE WITH EVIL

- A) I am *not* thankful for ***seeking peace through compromise with evil*** because:
- 1) Error will triumph when the righteous compromise their stand for truth (1 Cor. 5:6)
 - 2) Strongholds of error and false arguments will continue to harm (2 Cor. 10:3-5)
 - 3) It creates an unequal yoke of truth and error (2 Cor. 6:14-16; 1 Jn. 1:6)
 - 4) Standing for truth at the expense of peace is sometimes necessary (Matt. 10:34-37)

IV) DEATH

- A) I am *not* thankful for ***death*** because:
- 1) It is a curse upon mankind because of sin (Gen. 3:19)
 - 2) It separates the body and spirit God created and joined together (Eccl. 12:7; Jas. 2:26)
 - 3) It brings mourning and sadness to family and friends (2 Sam. 18:33; Jn. 11:32-35)
 - 4) It is the last enemy to be defeated (1 Cor. 15:26; 2 Cor. 5:1-4)

V) SATAN AND HELL

- A) I am *not* thankful for ***satan and hell*** because:
- 1) Satan is a liar and murderer (Jn. 8:44)
 - 2) Satan is an adversary who seeks to consume my life with evil (1 Pet. 5:8)
 - 3) If I follow him, I will be punished with him in hell fire (Matt. 25:41, 46; Rev. 20:10, 15)
 - 4) Hell is a place necessary for the eternal punishment of evil (2 Thess. 1:9)
 - 5) There is no joy in error nor in the death of the wicked (Ezek. 33:11; Phil 3:18)

Conclusion

I am to be thankful for those things that are good and righteous. ***I should not be thankful for*** those things that are evil, or that result in evil. Let's always be thankful for the salvation that God has provided in Christ Jesus. Are you saved from your sins?