

# THINGS I AM THANKFUL FOR

## Introduction

- 1) **Colossians 3:12-15** – “...and be thankful” (v. 15)
- 2) God’s people are to be *thankful* people (Psa. 100:4; Phil. 4:6; Col. 4:2; 1 Tim. 4:4)
- 3) A lack of thankfulness is a sign of ungodliness and unrighteousness (Rom. 1:18, 21)
- 4) I want to be a thankful person – consider some things we all should be thankful for...

## I) **THE BIBLE**

A) I am thankful for *the Bible* because:

- 1) It is the word of God (1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16)
- 2) It can be defended against attacks and error (Phil. 1:17; Jude 3)
- 3) It is a perfect standard in a confused world (Isa. 5:20; 8:20; Jn. 8:31-32; 17:17)
- 4) It will stand until the end (Matt. 24:35; Jn. 12:48; 1 Pet. 1:23)

## II) **THE LOVE OF GOD**

A) I am thankful for *the love of God* because:

- 1) There is much hatred in the world directed at good people and good things (Jn. 15:18; Lk. 6:22; Amos 5:10; 1 Jn. 3:15; 4:20)
- 2) I learn about true love from God and I can possess this love (1 Jn. 4:7-8)
- 3) True love puts truth and righteousness ahead of everything else in life (1 Jn. 5:3)
- 4) True love is defined and demonstrated by actions, not words (1 Jn. 4:9-11; 3:16-18)

## III) **DIVINE FORGIVENESS**

A) I am thankful for *divine forgiveness* because:

- 1) I have sinned and would be lost without forgiveness (Rom. 3:23)
- 2) When I am forgiven, I am enjoying the riches of God’s grace (Eph. 1:7)
- 3) It teaches me why I should forgive others (Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13)

## IV) **TRUE FRIENDS AND BRETHREN**

A) I am thankful for *true friends and brethren* because:

- 1) They will love me “at all times” like God does (Prov. 17:17; 18:24; Heb. 13:1; 1 Pet. 1:22)
- 2) They are not looking to see what they can selfishly get out of me (Prov. 19:4, 6)
- 3) They are not afraid to “wound,” “counsel,” & “sharpen” me (Prov. 27:6, 9, 17; Heb. 10:24)

## V) **HEAVEN**

A) I am thankful for *heaven* because:

- 1) The hope of heaven brings joy in a world of sadness and pain (1 Pet. 1:6-9)
- 2) It will be a beautiful eternal home with God (Rev. 21:1-22:5)
- 3) It will be worth it all (2 Cor. 4:16-18; Rom. 8:18)

## Conclusion

“As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, *abounding in it with thanksgiving*” (Col. 2:6-7). Let us be thankful to God for everything that we have and understand in Christ Jesus our Lord. Are you thankful? Are you saved in Jesus today?