Give Thanks For God's Gifts

If we take the time to consider what God has done, we have to admit that He continues to load us down with blessings. In Psalm 68:19 David said: "Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits!" God's love is so great and His mercy and grace are so awesome that He gives extravagantly. The Lord our God abundantly pours out His blessings.

In Malachi 3:10 The LORD of hosts said, "*I will open for you the windows of heaven and pour out such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."*

Don't try to measure God's blessings in your containers. God daily loads us down with so many blessings that we do not have enough room to receive them. He does this from the infinite depth of resources that are available at His command. Try to comprehend the vast bounty of God's storehouse of blessings. His blessings involve every good and perfect gift that comes down to us from the Father of lights, (James 1:17).

The Epistle to the Ephesians refers to the riches of His mercy and grace.

Ephesians 2:4-5 NKJV But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Ephesians 2:6-7 NKJV and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8 NKJV For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

Notice the eternal value of God's gifts. It is important to see how His gifts impact our daily life and also throughout eternally.

Listen to what David said about being blessed.

Psalm 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits!

You know what that is like. God has loaded you down with His blessings. You have been blessed with life and health. You have been blessed with family: mom and dad, brothers and sisters, children and grandchildren. You have a lovely wife or a handsome husband. You have been blessed with good friends. You have food on your table. You have been loaded down with blessings. He has blessed you with His grace and mercy. He has loaded you down with forgiveness. He has comforted and blessed you with His Spirit.

John 3:16 NKJV For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Say that first part again: *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son*…

You know this, but God wants you to get the most out of what He has to give. You can see the extent of His giving through Christ's ministry and life. While He walked the dusty roads of Judea, Jesus constantly reached out to the oppressed, afflicted, and hurting. He healed the sick, raised the dead, and released those who were captives. Each of those things are marvelous and wonderful.

Isaiah 61:3 NKJV says He wants to give us… "beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."

God is not satisfied with you being burdened, oppressed, and weary from the things you carry. He does not want you to remain overwhelmed and frustrated. God does not want you to remain heavy and defeated by oppressive powers of sin and darkness. He is ready to break the powers that have come against you to destroy. God wants to change the course of events in your life and give you beauty, joy, and praise.

There is an ulterior motive behind every gift that God gives.

God is not just interested in making your existence in this life better or more pleasing. His benefits and blessings have an eternal component that you cannot afford to miss. God has a plan behind every gift that He gives.

2 Peter 3:9 NKJV The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

There is a redemptive value in everything that God does for you.

Romans 8:29 NKJV For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son…

God is working to bring you into the blessing of His Son.

Give Thanks For God's Gifts…

You have many things to thank God for. We all should give God all of our thanks and praise.

Praise the LORD God Almighty for Who He is.

- If He never answers your prayer…

- If He never heals your disease…
- If He never solves your financial crisis…
- If He never reconciles your relationship…
- If He never lifts your burden…
- Just exert your will and praise Him for Who He is!

Psalm 42:5–6 NIV84 Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.

He repeated the same words in verse 11. **The Psalmist was saying:** *"Put your hope in God, for I will still praise Him, my Savior and my God... I will remember You."*

David said: *"God's countenance is my light."* If you are going through a dark valley, God's countenance will give you light.

When David needed help, he turned to the Lord.

Psalms 121:1-2 "I will lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

He refused to look down and be controlled by the oppressive situations that surrounded him. He lifted up his eyes to the Lord. When you turn your eyes toward the Lord in faith, He is still the God Who gives you help.

Something happens when we lift our expectation and face up to the Lord.

When Moses stood face to face with God, his countenance was changed. Everyone knew that Moses had been with God.

Think about this.

When you go out against the enemy, all the enemy sees is the light of God's countenance on you. You can say, *"My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth."* **Say it out loud:** *"My help comes from the Lord."*

You should exert your will and praise Him for Who He is!

Psalm 84:11 NKJV For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Give thanks for all of God's gifts.

Isaiah 60:20 NKJV Your sun shall no longer go down, Nor shall your moon withdraw itself; For the LORD will be your everlasting light, And the days of

your mourning shall be ended.

Give the LORD your God all your praise and thanksgiving.

- He deserves your praise!
- He is the sinner's Savior.
- He is your hope for eternal life.
- He is the Breath of Life.
- Since He is self-existent and self-efficient, we have a strong defense and help.
- Since He is unparalleled and He is unprecedented, He is greater than all of our troubles and enemies.
- Give Him all of your thanks!
- He is unsurpassed and He is unshakeable.
- He is the miracle of the ages.
- He is the doorway of deliverance.
- He is the pathway to peace.
- He is the roadway of righteousness.
- He is the gateway to glory and the highway to happiness.
- His goodness is limitless.
- His mercy is enough.
- His grace is sufficient.
- His yoke is easy and His burden is light.
- He is the Lion and the Lamb.
- He is God and He is Man.
- He is Alpha and He is Omega.
- He was the Beginning and He is the End.
- He is the First and He is the Last.
- He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Praise HIM and give HIM thanks!!

- His limitless love cannot be measured.
- The supply of His bounty is limitless.
- He was wounded for your transgressions.
- He was bruised for your iniquities.
- The chastisement for your peace was laid on Him.
- By His stripes you are healed.
- "His is the Kingdom... power…and the glory."
  All the power belongs to Him.

Take note of what Jesus has done for you.

- Has He given you new life?

- Has He forgiven your sin and removed your guilt?
- Has He healed your body?
- Has He answered your prayer?

Just keep giving thanks and praise to Him.

- Lift up your voice in thanksgiving and praise!
- He still cleanses the dirty.
- He raises the dead.
- He supplies strength to the weary.
- He sympathizes with the hurting.
- He saves the hopeless.
- He shields the helpless.
- He sustains the homeless.

Take note of what God has given you!