

## TRUE THANKFULNESS

Intro-- If this nearer Labor Day would call this Union of Thankless Believers, Galilee Local no. 1. Want to turn attention to familiar story in life of X on way to Jerus from Galilee which happened on Gal side of frontier of Gal and Samaria. Familiar yet want to look at some features of true thanksgv.

## I. The Cause of True Thanksgiving, 12-14.

Most of us first think of physical blessings. That's what most people think of today and next election going to be decided on basis of material prosperity, not communism. Xn is thankful for these too. It is imp't basis but not all-sufficient basis. Life wonderful; so death in will of God, Phil 1:21. Health, but sickness, 2 Cor 12:7,8.

Strength, but weakness 2 Cor 12:9.

Food, but P said thankful for hunger, Phil 4:12.

Shelter, but would we be just as thankful if God

allowed us to follow X who had none, Mt 8:20.

Freedom, but imprisonment, Acts 5:41.

Ease, comfort, but persecution might come, 2Tim3:12

Real cause is as lepers, corrupt conditn is cured.

A. Condition. Unclean, Lev 13:46. Cast out of society. Rabbis prescribed 4 paces. Voices not yet affected b'c cry, Mercy us. No known cure.

B. Cure. Healed 10 lepers with 5 words. Faith evinced in going. Imagine consternation as they debated what to do. If knew that X healed others by touching more doubtful. Only one way to find out--go. Can't put Xnty in test tube. We have found out.

Real basis is what X has done. Cf P's use of Thanks be to God, for present victory, 2 Cor 2:14 for promised victory in future over death, 1 Cor 15:55-57.

## II. The Character of True Thanksgiving, 15-18.

A. Right attitude. As went healed. 1 detoured to thank. Stood against majorities. All owed thanks, but only 1 gave bec heart right. No matter what others do, let us not forget to be thankful. And he was a Samaritan, not a fundamentalist who went to Xn college and DTS. Be on guard against thanklessness.

B. Right action. Prostrated self before X. <sup>= god</sup> The Person became all impt not the thing done. So with P. 2 Cor 9:15--gift not able to be told thruout. 1 thing to be thankful for what He has done; another for Him. Rom 12:1-2. Result--gave glory to God. That's also the essence of true thanksgiving. Demonstrating His character.

### III. The Consequences of True Thanksgiving, 19.

A. It was pleasing to our Lord. Note pathetic ques in 17-18. We appreciate being thanked. Don't you think Lord is pleased to hear it once in a while. Heb 13:15f.

B. It procured added blessing for the man. Faith made him whole. Prob refers to spiritual salvation. For us it results in (1) increasing understanding of how dependent we are on Him. (2) This results in humility for dependent person can't be proud. (3) It results in proper emphasis for if basis is things eternal then that's where we put our attention, 2 Cor 4:16,18.

Concl. Characteristic of unsaved man is thanklessness, Rom 1:21. Char of last days for the church is same, 2 Tim 3:2. Let us not be guilty of that. For temporal things, but more than any other peoples can even know, for things eternal. Thanks be to God.