

True Thanksgiving!

*KJV Psalm 50:14 Offer unto God (Tadah, confession, praise &) thanksgiving; **and** pay thy vows unto the Most High:
15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.*

I have always loved Thanksgiving, it's one of my favorite holidays!

Thanksgiving is a time set aside to remember to be thankful, to be grateful and appreciate all God has done for us!

KJV Psalm 50:1 <A Psalm of Asaph.> The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.

The Sovereign God, Jehovah has spoken!

He sent His Spirit to convince men of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

He sent His Word to live among us and reveal His grace and truth!

God calls all of creation as an audience to witness His judgment!

KJV Psalm 50:4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.

6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.

God gathers the **saints**, His holy covenant people!

8 I am not criticizing you for your sacrifices or burnt offerings, which are always in front of me.

God says you have faithfully given the offerings I require from you.

9 I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

But haven't given them with the proper **love, honor, and respect!**

10 For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

God was judging the attitude of the saints (those in covenant) with Him.

When we give to God, we're not giving Him anything He needs!
He owns it all, every man, woman, boy, girl, beast & creature.

God says, in verse 11 *"I know every bird in the mountains. Everything that moves in the fields is mine."*

God goes on to say in verse 12 *"If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine."*

God says, *"if I were hungry, I wouldn't tell you because everything is mine and I can get it myself."*

You're NOT doing Me any favors when you bring me offerings!

The offerings you bring are so I can bless your faithfulness & devotion!

But when they become **just another** thing you do in life, they no longer honor me!

ESV Psalm 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God."

The **Thank Offering** was an offering given to God acknowledging His sovereignty whenever a saint wanted to bless and thank their God.

It's a **freewill offering** not commanded but given out of freewill because it went beyond the legal demands of what's required!

The people were **faithfully giving the offerings** God commanded, but their hearts weren't in it, they were giving God out of **obligation**.

But the **thank offering** is a **freewill offering** given from the heart in **loving** praise and thanksgiving to God.

They were going about their daily lives taking God for granted, not recognizing His goodness, kindness, and mercy every day!

There were probably **not many freewill offerings** being given!

Their prayer lives, worship lives, and serving lives became were **weak, stagnate, and ritualistic**, they weren't **thankful!**

- **Thanksgiving** is an **attitude of gratitude** those who love God **maintain** because they value their relationship with Him, and they won't let themselves forget why they worship God!

This is "True Thanksgiving"!

It's **not just words** we say over our food or when a blessing comes!

The **Thank offering** was **personal and private**, between God and the giver, it was an indication of what's in the heart of the giver.

Psalm 100:1 A Psalm of **Praise, Confession, and Thanksgiving.**

This is a song of **praise** because praise thanks God!

This is a song of **confession**, because we agree with God, He's been good!

Confession is **public admittance**, the word is made up of two words, "**con**" meaning "**with**", and "**fess**" means "**to say.**"

When we **confess**, we are **saying the same thing** about something, we are literally **agreeing** with them, in are case it's **God!**

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

3 Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

*4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be **thankful** unto him, and bless his name.*

True Thanksgiving is first knowing and understanding what God has done in our lives and agreeing with it!

Agreeing with the facts of His Goodness!

Lastly, responding to His goodness in the most personal way!

Once again *Billy Preston* sang this song:

You can't beat God's giving, no matter how you try
And just as sure as you are living
And the Lord is in heaven on high
The more you give, the more He give to you
But keep on giving because it's really true
That you can't beat God's giving, no matter how you try

Should we receive and never give
The Savior died that we might live
His life on Calvary, He gladly gave
Our sinful souls to save

He gives me health, He keeps me strong
He guides me when I would go wrong
He gives me everything that I need
My ever hunger feeds

He gave me peace, He made me whole
And when in sin He saved my soul
And what I gave would never be compared
With the blessing that I share.

*GWN **Philippians 4:6** Never worry about anything. But in every situation let God know what you need in prayers and requests while giving thanks.*