



# The Voice Of Truth

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## Hillcrest church of Christ

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### “I Will Give Thanks unto Thee For Ever”

By Jimmy Pettigrew

*“To the end that (my) glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O Jehovah my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever,” (Psalm 30:12).*

*“O give thanks unto Jehovah, call upon his name; Make known his doings among the peoples,” (1 Chronicles 16:8).*

*“That I may make the voice of thanksgiving to be heard, and tell of all thy wondrous works,” (Psalm 26:7).*

*“So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will show forth thy praise to all generations,” (Psalm 79:13).*

*“Praise ye Jehovah. Oh give thanks unto Jehovah; for he is good; for his lovingkindness (endureth) forever,” (Psalm 106:1).*

*“Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence,” (Psalm 140:13).*

As a child of God, a saint, one that is separated, set apart and sanctified, one that has been called out of darkness and into His marvelous light, ours is that of giving of thanks. Surely we do give thanks to God for all the good things He has given to us in such abundance!

The word thanks means give freely. It simply means that we offer gratitude, thankfulness.

*“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” (Ephesians 5:20).*

*“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you,” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).*

This is something that the child of God is to abound in as long as he lives! One characteristic of the unbelieving world is ingratitude (**Romans 1:21**). Paul urged the Philippian saints to give thanks in everything (**Philippians 4:6**). For what should we be grateful?

**(1) God’s Love (John 3:16).** We love God because we are loved of God (**1 John 4:10, 19**).

*“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, (Romans 5:8).*

*“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift,” (2 Corinthians 9:15).*

God loved, and God gave. God gave to the world the priceless gift of His only begotten Son (**1 John 4:9**). We thank you God for your love for it never faileth!

(2) **Jesus Left Heaven (John 3:13; 6:51)**. He left a place whose builder and maker is God (**Hebrews 11:10**). He left a place of glory and honor (**John 17:5**). He left a place of equality (**Philippians 2:6-7**). He left a place with no death, sorrow, crying or pain (**Revelation 21:4**). A far better place (**Philippians 1:23**). A place of security, joy, peace, where no darkness exists; a place void of sin and sinners. He left all for us! He left heaven for me, as worthless, sinful and undeserving as I am. We thank Jesus Christ for leaving heaven for us!

(3) **For the Word of God (2 Peter 1:3)**. God has been so gracious toward us in revealing His will to us in the scriptures. We have an opportunity to study, learn and live in harmony with divine precepts (**2 Timothy 2:15**). We are saved by the word (**James 1:21**). We, today, live by every word proceeding from God and we are made clean thereby (**John 15:3**). God's word is man's hope against sin (**Psalms 119:11**). God's word is the truth whereby man may be freed from sin (**John 8:32**). The truth of God's word is the means whereby we obtain the purification of the soul (**1 Peter 1:22-23**). God's word has the power to produce new life (**James 1:18**). It is able to build us up and give us an inheritance (**Acts 20:32**). We thank God for His living and powerful word (**Hebrews 4:12**).

We can truly think of many other things for which we should be grateful. Let us always give thanks and praise God for all He does for us!

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## **“In The Sight of the Lord”**

Jimmy Pettigrew

James wrote, *“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up,”* (**James 4:10**). This verse tells us that one is always in the sight of the Lord. *“For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil,”* (**1 Peter 3:12**). We are prone to accept only that which is visible; and since we cannot see God watching, we are unmindful of

His constant surveillance! So, it is difficult for any of us to remember always that there is an all seeing eye watching our every act at all times. Yet, we're told, *“The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth,”* (**Psalms 33:13-14**). God sees and knows all that takes place in the world. *“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good,”* (**Proverbs 15:3**). There is no possible way to escape this all seeing eye of God! *“For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings,”* (**Job. 34:21**).

Since God knows all our goings, we should be aware of this, and live accordingly! We should have the same conviction as Hagar in saying, *“Thou God seest me,”* (**Genesis 16:13**). Are we conscious of this as we plan and proceed in our daily affairs? God sees and reads us constantly! Should we marvel that He watches and knows of our thoughts and deeds? *“Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?”* (**Proverbs 15:11**).

Man becomes utterly foolish in thinking that he can fool God and hide his sinful behavior! *“Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?”* (**Isaiah 29:15**). *“Be sure your sin will find you out,”* (**Numbers 32:23**). *“The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for he looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart,”* (**1 Samuel 16:7**). Are we conscious throughout every day that God is very near, regardless of where we may be, and that He is silently observing our deeds and hearing our speech? Man cannot escape from Him! When the saints of God realize they are never alone, but forever in the presence of God (**Hebrews 4:13**), they will act more like children of God!