

Thanksgiving With Paul – 2 Corinthians 9:15

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Introduction

1. There are so many wonderful passages in the bible of thanksgiving...
 - a. Exodus 15 Song of praise and thanksgiving by Moses and Israel
 - b. Psalm 100 David's song of thanksgiving
2. We have so many things to be thankful for! Salvation, our life with Christ, our blessings and gifts from God, etc.
3. I would like for us to spend this thanksgiving with Paul looking at what he was most thankful...

I. Paul Thankful For Christ

- a. 1 Corinthians 15:53-57
 - i. In salvation found in Christ Paul was thankful for two great things...
 1. The empty grave!
 2. The eternal gift!
- b. Paul's life that led to being thankful for Christ...
 - i. Paul's hatred of Christ before the cross – Php 3:5-6; Matthew 12:14
 - ii. Paul's friends had crucified Jesus – John 18:3
 - iii. Then Jesus came back to life – Matthew 28:11-14
 - iv. Paul guards the coats of those who stone Stephen – Acts 8:1
 - v. Paul seeks to put many to death – Acts 8:3; 9:1-2
 - vi. Paul meets Jesus on the road to Damascus – Acts 9:3-9
 - vii. Paul now knew Christ was alive and it changed him forever – Php 3:1-11
- c. 2 Corinthians 9:15
 - i. The Eternal Gift! – Paul had tried so hard before, so religious
 - ii. Paul found that salvation was a gift to receive – Eph 2:4-9

II. Paul Thankful For Christians

- a. Philippians 1:3-4
 - i. Paul had a great love for the saints – Rom 1:8
 - ii. Jesus taught that when we love each other we prove to be His disciples – John 13:35
- b. Philippians 4:1
 - i. Love longs for fellowship – 1 John 4:7-12

III. Paul Thankful Constantly

- a. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
 - i. In everything Paul gave thanks. The secret to being thankful and content in all circumstances is found in the theme of the letter...
 - ii. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 – Christ will return
 - iii. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 – Every day the Lord is expected

Are you as thankful as Paul? If not, why not? Let us be thankful by accepting the gift of grace and salvation offered through Jesus Christ!