

Ingratitude

Introduction

1. Ingratitude can be seen in the attitudes and actions of many people with whom we come into daily contact.
 - a. Many children fail to be thankful for the blessings provided for them by their parents.
 - b. Parents often fail to show gratitude for their children and the good things they accomplish.
 - c. Many husbands and wives do not show proper appreciation for each other.
 - d. Employers and employees are not thankful enough, in many cases, for each other and they fail to manifest proper attitudes toward one another.
2. As Christians:
 - a. We may not be thankful enough for each other.
 - b. We may not be as appreciative as we should be for the blessings God provides us out of His grace, goodness and love.
 - c. We may be guilty of the sin of ingratitude.

I. Ingratitude Illustrated (Luke 17:11-19)

- A. As Jesus entered into a certain village, ten lepers met Him and cried out for mercy from Him.
- B. Though ten lepers were shown mercy and cleansed of their leprosy, only one was grateful enough to return and thank the Lord for his cleansing.
- C. I wonder what the percentage is of people in the world today who are ungrateful to God for their blessings.

II. Christians Should Have the Spirit of Gratitude

- A. The spirit of gratitude is the spirit of thankfulness.
 1. Ingratitude denotes unthankfulness.
 2. One who is not thankful is ungrateful and without thanksgiving in his heart.
- B. Ingratitude characterizes the wicked. (2 Tim. 3:1-5)
 1. The Gentiles, as a whole, were guilty of ingratitude. (Rom. 1:18-23)
 2. Many today are as the Gentiles—they profess to be wise but they are fools. (Rom. 1:22)

III. Christians Should Be Grateful to God

- A. Christians should be grateful to God because He is the creator.
 - 1. In Him we live, move and have our very being. (Acts 17:22b-28)
 - 2. He created and gave us life. (Job 33:4)
 - 3. We should be thankful "always for all things." (Eph. 5:20)
 - a. We are to give thanks to God the Father through Jesus Christ. (Col. 3:17)
 - b. "In everything give thanks." (1 Thes. 5:18)
- B. Christians should be grateful to God because He is the giver of every good and perfect gift. (Jas. 1:17)
 - 1. He has blessed us with all spiritual blessings. (Eph. 1:3)
 - 2. Out of love He sent His Son. (1 John 4:9)
 - 3. He made us fit to be citizens in His kingdom. (Col. 1:12-14)
 - 4. He has reserved an inheritance for us in heaven. (1 Pet. 1:3-4)

Conclusion

- 1. Every one of us should endeavor daily to be thankful to God for the many blessings we receive.
- 2. Every one of us should daily express our gratitude and appreciation to God for who He is and what He has done.