I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart;
I will tell of all Your marvelous works.
I will be glad and rejoice in You;
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.
Psalm 9:1-2

Some facts...

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Thanksgiving has been celebrated, on and off, since 1789.





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The Proclamation reads in part...

It being the indispensable duty of all nations, not only to offer up their supplications to Almighty God, the giver of all good, for His gracious assistance in a time of distress, but also in a solemn and public manner, to give Him praise for His goodness in general, and especially for great and signal interpositions of His Providence in their behalf...

Do hereby recommend it to the inhabitants of these States in general, to observe and request the several states to interpose their authority, in appointing and commanding the observation of Thursday the Twenty-eighth day of November as a day of SOLEMN THANKSGIVING to GOD for all His mercies;

and they do further recommend to all ranks to testify their gratitude to God for His goodness by a cheerful obedience to His laws and by promoting, each in his station, and by his influence, the practice of true and undefiled religion, which is the great foundation of public prosperity and national happiness.

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So what are you thankful to the Lord for on this day?

The early church and the Higher Christian Life.

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Watch how these Christians lived...

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One Accord – Acts 1:14; 2:1, 41-47; 4:24, 32

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Boldness – 2:36, 40; 3:12-20; 4:8-13, 18-31; 5:41-21

The early church and the Higher Christian Life.

Watch how these Christians lived...

One Accord – Acts 1:14; 2:1, 41-47; 4:24, 32 Boldness – 2:36, 40; 3:12-20; 4:8-13, 18-31; 5:41-21 Miracles – 2:41-47; 3:1-9; 5:12-16, 19-20

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Previously, we looked at 1 John 2:15-17.

Do not love (agapaō) the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves (agapaō) the world, (what) the love (agapaō) of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world— (described as) the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it;

but he who does the will of God abides forever.

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And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

# Back to Acts

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Previously, we looked at 1 John 2:15-17.

And we closed last week with Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (we are not alone), let us (our action) lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us,

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A "besetting sin" is one we continually struggle with and have a weakness towards.

Therefore, a "besetting sin" is one we commit over and over again seemingly without relief or victory.

But does God provide victory over "besetting sins"?

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But God has provided victory over besetting sins.

All we have to do is trust Him at His Word.

Let's do that together today.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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Note the if / then nature of this promise. And note also the word, all (pás).

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The forgiveness part we accept, but the cleansing from all unrighteousness (our victory over our besetting sins) is more difficult to accept.

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So do you believe this promise?

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So do you believe this promise?

Are you ready to step out in faith to prove it is true?

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Then let's test God in this (Mal. 3:10).