Introduction

- 1. One of the most tragic things on Earth is being ungrateful
 - a. It has led and continues to lead to all types of wickedness (Rm. 1:18-32)
- 2. Being thankful for everything is the will of God (1 Th. 5:18)
 - a. He has commanded it (Col. 3:17)

Thankful People

- 1. Thankful for God Himself as He is worthy (Rev. 7:12, 4:8-11; cf. Jm. 1:17)
 - a. Thankful for our existence (Acts 17:28)
 - b. Thankful for the many blessings God bestows on us each day (Mt. 5:45, 6:11; Acts 14:17; 1 Tim. 4:4)
- 2. Thankful for each other and the mutual faith, hope, and love we share (<u>Acts 28:15; Rm. 1:8, 16:3-4; 1 Cor. 1:4; Phil. 1:3; Col. 1:3-5; 1 Th. 1:2-4; 2 Th. 1:3-4</u>)
- 3. Thankful to serve (1 Tim. 1:12)
- 4. Thankful for Christ and the victory through and in Him (<u>1 Cor. 15:57</u>; <u>2 Cor. 2:14</u>, <u>9:15</u>)
- 5. Thankful for the reception of God's Word (1 Th. 2:13)
- 6. Thankful when one obeys the Gospel (Rm. 6:17-18)
 - a. This causes more thanksgiving for the one who obeys (Col. 1:12-13)
- 7. Thankful for all things at all times (Eph. 5:20; 1 Th. 5:18)
 - a. Yes, even during trials and suffering (Acts 16:22-25; Jm. 5:13)

Thankful Prayers

- 1. For all people including government (1 Tim. 2:1-4)
 - a. A.C.T.S. way of praying
 - i. A = Adoration
 - ii. C = Confession
 - iii. T = Thanksgiving
 - iv. S = Supplication
- 2. Keep prayer and thanksgiving regular (Col. 4:2)
- 3. Interrupt anxiety with thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6)
- 4. Abound in thanksgiving (Col. 2:7)

Thankful Pattern

- 1. Jesus in thanking the Father for hearing His prayers (Jn. 11:41-42)
- 2. Jesus in thanking God for physical provisions (Mt. 15:36)
- 3. Jesus in establishing the pattern for the Lord's Supper (Mt. 26:26-29)

Thankful Protection

- 1. Only wrath awaits the unthankful (Rm. 1:18-21)
 - a. Death is the final result (Rm. 1:32; cf. Rm. 6:23)
- 2. If our mouths are full of thanksgiving, they will not be full of sin (Eph. 5:1-4)

Conclusion

1. Let us always be a thankful people (Col. 3:15)