

Thank You Jesus!

KJV 1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled (empowered) me, for that he (considered) counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry (His service)!

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

The apostle Paul **Thanks Jesus!** He thanks The LORD!

Paul says he has an obligation to Christ that's what **thanksgiving is!**

When someone does something for us especially if what they've done is extraordinary we have an obligation to thank them!

God did a miracle in Paul's life changing him from being such a horrible sinner who persecuted the church into an awesome man-of God!

You have got to see what **Christ** has done in your life as **extraordinary!**

Something amazing, supernatural **thank Him** and **give God the glory!**

Thank you is an acknowledgement of something good!

We don't thank people for doing bad things to us!

❖ **If we don't see God's grace and goodness in our lives we won't be thankful!**

If you see your life as hard, tiresome and always burdened down you won't be thankful!

There are people under the sound of my voice who are secretly mad at God for where they are in life and it's robbing you of joy and strength!

People thank others for doing what we could not have done for ourselves—this takes humility!

Some folk are holding back on their thanks to Jesus because He hasn't done something yet!

The apostle Paul teaches us how to be thankful to Jesus!

After the apostle Paul tells Timothy to watch out for false teachers and blasphemers he stops and says he was once a sinner a blasphemer and Jesus had mercy on him—**Paul was thankful.**

This is what begins Paul's reflection of his past life—he looks back and sees how far God has brought him and basically says thank you Jesus!

Jesus had called him into the ministry after all the horrible sinful things he had done.

After hunting Christians down to be put in prison or executed Jesus still used Paul for His glory—Paul was thankful!

After Paul had lied about God, the things of God and God's people Jesus still chose to use him—Paul was thankful!

After agreeing that Stephen should get stoned for loving Jesus and doing nothing to stop it—Paul was thankful!

Paul says Jesus **enabled him** (gave him the strength) to do ministry!

I think for many of us instead of complaining about how draining ministry is: how much time, energy and patience ministry form us—we should be thankful Jesus called us and gives us the strength to do it!

NIV 2 Corinthians 11:23-28 Paul gives his resume'!

- *I have worked much harder,*
- *Been in prison more frequently,*
- *Been flogged more severely, and exposed to death again and again.*
- *Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.*
- *Three times I was beaten with rods,*
- *Once I was stoned,*
- *Three times I was shipwrecked,*
- *I spent a night and a day in the open sea,*
- *I have been constantly on the move,*
- *I have been in danger from rivers,*
- *In danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen,*
- *In danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city,*

- *In danger in the country, In danger at sea,*
- *In danger from false brothers.*
- *I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep,*
- *I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food,*
- *I have been cold and naked.*

28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

Paul wrote **2 Corinthians** in **A.D. 57** but he wrote **1 Timothy** **10 years later** in **A.D. 67**.

Paul says after 10 years in ministry laboring through tests, trails and heartaches—I still thank Jesus for calling me into the ministry!

- It's an honor to be a part of The Body of Christ!
- It's an honor to be in The Kingdom of God!
- It's an honor to be a servant of The Most High God!
- It's an honor to be saved!

Jesus didn't have to save us!

We ought to thank God for Jesus and then we ought to thank Jesus!

KJV Psalm 50:14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

KJV Leviticus 22:29 And when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, offer it at your own will.

Thank Offerings along with **Vows and Freewill** offerings were a part of what is known as **Fellowship Offerings!**

The **Thank Offering** is given as an acknowledgment of God's continuous favor in our lives and our fellowship with Him!

KJV 1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry.

Lastly Paul says Jesus considered him **faithful, steadfast and totally persuaded**. **Our thank offering says we're totally persuaded!**

