



## THANKSGIVING - NOT A COMMON TRAIT!

November 2016

One of the most pathetic cases of ingratitude is seen in Jesus' healing of the ten lepers - only one of them came back to thank Him for such a tremendous blessing. He obviously was disappointed for he said, **"Where are the nine?"** It hardly seems possible that they could be so hard hearted and self-centered, but over the years, we have seen some things to rival it. I was just a youngster during the Great Depression years. I can remember the long "bread lines" and the WPA workers standing on the street corners doing very little work. During those desperate times, there was a radio personality who had a program called "Job Center of the Air." He did his best to find jobs for those in need and in fact, he did find jobs for 2,500 people in days when jobs were as "scarce as hen's teeth." He reported that out of that large number who received assistance, only ten ever took the time to thank him. Can you believe that? What base ingratitude! I also read of a man who remembered a school teacher who had been very helpful to him when he was a child. So, he sat down and wrote her a letter expressing his thankfulness to her. She was now in her eighties and living all alone. Upon receiving his letter she wrote to him: "I can't tell you how much your letter meant to me. You will be interested to know that I taught school for fifty years, and yours is the first note of appreciation that I have ever received. It came on a blue, cold morning and it filled me with cheer."

Ingratitude is indeed a base sin. God says, **"Be ye thankful!"** The Bible says that in the last days, **"...men shall be lovers of their own selves."** Now, that has always been true, for man is basically selfish...self is the essence of sin. But it is increasing and intensifying like all other sins in these last days. Unfortunately, this sin like many others is becoming more and more evident in professing Christians. Thanksgiving Day for most professed believers in Jesus Christ is nothing more than a holiday, a time of feasting, ballgames, etc. They hardly even think about God and they certainly do not have time to go to Church. We don't expect anything of the world, but God's people ought to take this time to express their thanksgiving to God for His salvation and provision. The first Thanksgiving, held in 1621 at Plymouth, Mass. was a time of gratitude to God after a very tough voyage, a hard winter, and the death of exactly half of those who had set out. How grateful are you for God's blessing and bounty? How grateful for that **"unspeakable gift."** Are you thankful enough to surrender your all to **"Him who loved us and gave himself for us."**? In spite of the sad condition of our land today, how blessed of God we are! In his Thanksgiving Proclamation, in the midst of that horrible war, Abraham Lincoln said: "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven...But we have forgotten God..." If we are true believers in Jesus Christ, our gratitude ought to be abundantly evident. **"Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men."** ~Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31. Those words appear four times in one Psalm. I think God expects us to be thankful! Lord, forgive us for our ingratitude after all that you have done for us.. (Reprint from 2003 Challenge)

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

This is always one of the most inspiring services we have all year. *Join us and make it a real Thanksgiving to God.* After all, that's what it was in the beginning! Just how grateful are we to God for His salvation and multiplied blessings? **"Be ye thankful."** The truth is few Americans are grateful to God for all His blessings. How sad to see even Christians who think more of a ballgame than they do of God! Let us **"Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good."**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 26<sup>TH</sup> - 8 P.M.**

**Gospel Song Service**, a time for **Testimonies** and a **Special Message**. Having guests for dinner? Invite them to come along. **Let's put the Lord first!**



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**HE LOVED THE CHURCH**

A large gathering of distinguished scientists had been listening spellbound to the masterly expositions of Michael Faraday. For an hour he held his brilliant audience enthralled as he demonstrated the nature and properties of the magnet. He had brought his lecture to a close with an experiment so novel, so bewildering, so triumphant, that for sometime after he resumed his seat, the house rocked with enthusiastic applause. And then, the Prince of Wales - afterwards King Edward VII - rose to propose a motion of congratulation. The resolution, having been duly seconded, was carried with renewed thunderous applause. The assembly waited for Faraday's reply. But he did not appear. Only his most intimate friends knew what had become of him. He was an elder in a little church - a church that never boasted more than 20 members. The hour at which Faraday ended his lecture was the hour of the weekly prayer meeting. *What does the Church mean to you?*

It is sad to see many Fundamental Baptist Churches closing their doors on Wednesday and Sunday nights. Shame on the Pastors who do this, largely I believe because the people don't want to come. They have other things to do. So what is the Pastor to do? It is clear - be faithful and keep the doors open!

**SPIRITUAL DWARFS!** Spurgeon wrote the following: "There was once in London a club of small men, whose qualifications for membership lay in their not exceeding five feet in height; these dwarfs held, or pretended to hold the opinion that they were nearer to the perfection of manhood than others and when the human race has perfected itself all men will be as they. Such a club of Christians might be established in most cities and without any difficulty might attain to an enormously numerous membership; for the common notion is that our dwarfish Christianity is, after all, the standard..." It is sad but true that many Christians are stunted and not full grown. They do not read or study their Bibles and earnest prayer is unknown to them. They are casual attenders and cannot be counted upon for any serious Church work. The Word of God admonishes us: **"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."**

**THE PERFECT CHURCH!**

I think that I shall never see  
A Church that's all it ought to be:  
A Church whose members never stray  
Beyond the straight and narrow way;  
A Church that has no empty pews,  
Whose Pastor never has the blues,  
A Church whose deacons always deak,  
And none is proud but all is meek;  
Where gossips never peddle lies,  
Or make complaints nor criticize;  
Where all are always sweet and kind,  
And all to others faults are blind.  
Such perfect churches there may be,  
But none of them are known to me.  
But still we'll work and pray and plan  
To make our own the best we can. -Copied

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!**

Someone has said concerning the early Church:  
"The prayers went up and the power came down,  
The people went out and the prospects came in,  
The preaching went on and the persecution came."  
I wonder how many of us would really like to have that power? How many of us are willing to pay the price?

**TRUTH ABOUT BIBLE VERSIONS**  
**All bibles are not the inspired Word of God!**  
**Pastor Starr's book: "Is Your Bible Really The Word Of God?" will help you understand the truth. \$3.00 each plus 1.50 postage. Three for \$9.00 pp. (U.S. \$)**

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

to do is quit. But quitting is only easy for the moment, in the long run it is hard. When you are down or defeated remember Abraham Lincoln. When Abraham Lincoln was a young man, he ran for the legislature in Illinois, and was badly beaten. Then, he entered business which failed and he spent the next seventeen years paying off debts due to a worthless partner. He was engaged to a beautiful young lady but she died before they could be married. Later, he married a woman who was a constant burden to him. Entering politics again, he ran for Congress and was defeated. He tried to get an appointment to the United States Land Office, but failed. He became a candidate for the U.S. Senate and was badly defeated again. In 1856 he was a candidate for Vice-President and was defeated. Troubles, disappointments, defeats but as you know he went on to become President - perhaps the best one this land ever had. Someone has said, "When things get tough, the tough get going." Life is like running a race and sometimes the race course is uphill, rough and otherwise difficult. Don't quit - keep on keeping on! God's Word says, **"Let us run with patience (perseverance) the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus..."** ~Hebrews 12:1,2.

### MICROCHIPPING COMING OF AGE!

Microchipping of animals for medical and tracking experiments has gradually become acceptable, but humans? Whoa, not so fast! Privacy proponents, conspiracy theorists and faith-based groups have consistently warned of the dangers from their various viewpoints. And yet, those nagging concerns are slowly fading, as people become conditioned to embracing the attendant security and convenience while shrugging off the risks. This transition has been made easier by a subtle but powerful change in strategy that fights the psychological barriers: microchip implants for human beings are now being marketed as enhancements to the human body; the creation of a 'superman', of sorts.

And this change in approach seems to be working. In a recent report, [organicanhealthy.org](http://organicanhealthy.org) described Australia as the first country to begin microchipping its population. As recounted in the report, back in 2010 CBS news reported that the Australian government had a potential RFID microchipping plan in the works related to the health care system. Now, as this plan begins to unfold, the push is not a result of mandated health care reforms, but rather a clever propaganda campaign that equates RFID microchipping with becoming super-human, and people are begging for it.

Under the headline 'Australians embracing super-human microchip technology', Australia's premier media outlet [news.com.au](http://news.com.au) (News Corp Australia) reports: "It may sound like sci-fi, but hundreds of Australians are turning themselves into super-humans who can unlock doors, turn on lights and log into computers with a wave of the hand". Shanti Korporaal from Sydney, is at the centre of the phenomenon after having two implants inserted under her skin. Now she can get into work and her car without carrying a card or keys, and says her ultimate goal is to do away with her wallet and cards completely. The microchips, which are the size of a grain of rice, can act like a business card, transfer contact details to smartphones and hold complex medical data. In her interview with the Australian news outlet, Shanti claims that her friends and family are envious of her microchip lifestyle: "My nana wants one. I've had more opposition to my tattoos than I've ever had to the chip. My friends are jealous". In fact, the 27-year-old has noticed a business opportunity and set up a distribution service called Chip My Life with her husband, Skeeve Stevens where for just \$80 to \$140, people can become so called "super-humans." Shanti has bought into the culture that dominates her society today, dominated by the fantasy of super heroes that mesmerizes the population at theaters all across the globe. "Ever since watching movies like the Terminator, Matrix and Minority Report I wondered if we could actually live like that. I always wondered why we all weren't living as 'super-humans'".

On the same day this news story broke, Shanti appeared at Australia's launch of the much-anticipated cyborg-themed video game *Deus Ex Mankind Divided*, alongside American implantable technology pioneer Amal Graafstra. Graafstra, who became one of the world first RFID implantees back in 2005, just made headlines recently in the US with a prototype of the world's first implant-activated smart gun and is a huge proponent for this new technology. In an interview with the Australian media outlet, he explained that the technology he has implanted into his body has "given me the ability to communicate with machines. It's literally integrated into who I am." The price for that could very well be: whose do you then become? The report goes on to warn: "...but clearly if you become part machine/computer that means there will be someone who can control that technology. If you think the elites wouldn't capitalize on such an exceptional opportunity to control the population you obviously don't know history very well". -NFW (11/7/16)

Ed. In the hands of sinful man, the potential for evil is unthinkable. **"Woe unto them that call evil good..."**

## ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

I believe pride is the greatest reason we see few Christians who endeavor consistently to win souls. Many, yes, most Christians do not faithfully go after lost souls. The apostle Paul could say, **“I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ...”** Few Christians today could say that. They are afraid of what people will think. If we are ashamed of the Gospel of Christ then, the plain truth is we are ashamed of Jesus the Son of God. I have heard many excuses, but I am giving you the true reason! Why are we afraid to speak up for the Savior? After all, we have the only message that will save our loved ones and others from hell. Is it not cruel to withhold this wonderful message of salvation? If someone was in a burning building, would we not cry, “Fire!” Would it not be heartless to just pass by and let him perish? No, we wouldn’t do that, but we will pass by perishing multitudes day after day without a word of warning. If we have been silent in the time of trouble like the watchman described in Ezekiel 3 and 33 will it not go hard with us in the day of judgment? The apostle Paul said, **“I am free from the blood of all men.”** Can we say that? Or, would we have to say, “Yes, I am guilty of holding back the saving message of Jesus Christ from my loved ones, friends and strangers.” What will it take to move us from our complacency in this greatest of all callings of the child of God? Let’s get over love of self and get on with the command of God to **“Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”** Christian, **“The night cometh when no man can work.”** Let’s give ourselves to reaching the lost with the Gospel!

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## ASLEEP IN THE BOAT

Many years ago at Niagara Falls, a young man was employed as a guide. Having nothing to do one day, he moored his boat well above the falls and lay down in it to rest. Rocked by the current, he fell asleep. Swayed by the current, the boat worked loose and began to drift downstream. Spectators along the shore, seeing his great danger, shouted loudly but he slept on drifting toward the falls. At one point the boat came to rest upon a rock that protruded midstream. The people on the shore cried all the louder, “Get on the Rock! Get on the rock!” But he could not be awakened. Soon the boat slipped away from the rock and headed for the falls. At last the young man awakened by the roaring sound of the water going over the falls. But it was too late and he plunged to his death. How terrible - asleep in the boat and despite the cries of those on the shore, he perished. How many people today are doing the same thing! They go along, asleep to their eternal danger, asleep in their sins. Many are lulled to sleep by the pleasures of this world; others by their supposed good works, etc. If you are not a true born again child of God through faith in Jesus Christ who died for your sins, we plead with you - “Get on the Rock.” In Ephesians 5:14 it says, **“Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead and Christ will give thee light.”** Wake up to your peril! There is a judgment for sin. But thank God, Jesus Christ paid the price of your sin and if you will trust Him, He will save you. “Get on the Rock!” There is only One - Jesus Christ! **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.”** ~Acts 16:31.