

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for March 15-16, 1997

"In Everything Give Thanks"

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The command (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

This means that no matter what happens to us we are to express thanks. We are to express thanks in good times and we are to express thanks in bad times. Whatever happens to us in this life we are to be thankful.

We are to give thanks to God (Ephesians 5:20)

The significance of the Command

A person who is devoid of this practice would be at least in his behavior more closely identified with the world than with the Church of Jesus Christ (Romans 1:18-21)

Those who are saved are typically characterized by thanksgiving to God (1 Corinthians 14:16,17; 2 Corinthians 4:15)

The explanation of the difference

How does the world think?

They think that events are determined by luck

They think that events are determined by fate

They think that events are determined by them

How should the church think?

They should think that events are determined by God

(Ephesians 1:11)

They should think that those events that are determined will be worked together for good in our lives (Romans 8:28)

The resources to fulfill the command

The resources to fulfill this command are totally made available to us through the indwelling spirit (Ephesians 5:18-20)

Just because we may be able to intellectualize the fact that God is sovereign. Just because we may be able to give mental accent to the fact that God is working all things together for good. None of this will produce thanksgiving to God in everything unless we are spirit filled.