**“Thankful or Transgressing”!**

To be **Thankful** is to **expression** of gratitude we make; it is a **choice** **! It is about conduct NOT feelings!**

**CD#1213 7/15/18 A.M.**

**Thanksgiving and Praise is the Protocol for Presence (Psa. 100:4, 95:2 & 22:3)!**

**Illustration: Where is our mindset; on what we have or have not?** **Helen Keller** said this about being **THANKFUL** : “**So much has been given to me that I have no time to ponder that which I don't have.**” **Perplexity or Praise – you choose**!

**Text: \*1 Thess.5:16-18** –{**V.18** note “**THIS”: no periods at end of verses only commas** - **THESE 3 MAKE A CHRISTIAN ALL THEY CAN BE**} in everything give “**THANKS**” = **to express gratitude**! We don’t have to feel **Thankful** to be **Thankful**!

**#1 God’s WILL**

**\*Reread 1 Thess.5:16-18** – note in “**EVERYTHING**” = the whole! So if we are not being thankful we are in disobedience and disobedience is transgressing – SIN! **Note the second you stop being Thankful you step out of the will of God**! You can be doing all other things BUT if your not thankful you are in sin! (See Christ’s example: **Mat\_15:36; Mat\_26:27; Luk\_10:21; Joh\_11:41)**

Tell How I had to repent for **fear** instead of gratitude concerning Sis. Mary’s and VWC.

**#2 God’s WAY**

**\*Read Col. 3:15-17** – **What’s the option besides God’s peace?{The opposite of peace is not war, it’s fear.}** note **V.15** **BE** means to cause to be – **to generate thankfulness**! **Once again by prayer and thanksgiving** – see **Phil. 4:6-7**! See **Isa. 43:21** – we are CREATED to show forth God’s praise by an **attitude of gratitude**! **FEAR brings bondage not FREEDOM**!

**#3 God’s WEIGHT**

**\*Read Eph. 5:18-21** – note **V.20** giving **THANKS ALWAYS** = at all times for all – see **1 Tim. 2:1**! **God’s** **WORD is His WAY**. **\*Read John 14:13** – note Jesus’ name is His character, let God’s weight influence and increase in your life .

A man had a habit of grumbling at the food his wife placed before him at family meals. Then he would ask the blessing. One day after his usual combination complaint-prayer, his little girl asked, “Daddy, does God hear us when we pray?”

“Why, of course,” he replied. “He hears us every time we pray.”

She paused on this a moment, and asked, “Does He hear everything we say the rest of the time?”

“Yes, dear, every word,” he replied, encouraged that he had inspired his daughter to be curious about spiritual matters. However, his pride was quickly turned to humility at his daughter’s next question.

“Then, which does God believe?”