

A SHOWER OF THANKSGIVING: A SCRIPTURE DUET

INTRODUCTION:

My recent idea of gathering Bible verses on a particular subject and calling them showers comes from the great doxology that Moses gave at the end of his life, which said, in part – *Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.* I, too, would like to have my teaching fall like rain, a necessary ingredient for growth on the earth.

As for me, I have learned so much in preparing these Scripture showers! In assembling the verses about this subject, for example, I noticed that when we are told to give thanks to the Lord, it is usually in connection with a characteristic of God that we can't deny, or with something wonderful that God has done, deserving our thanks. The most common call to thanksgiving, found in various places, but especially in the Psalms, is this: *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.* Here are 2 simple (yet profound!) truths for which we can give thanks, no matter what is happening to us or around us: 1. God is good, and 2. His love is permanent. Meditate on these things, and see if it changes your outlook!

In Psalm 118, I found a great response to this call to thanksgiving. Listen: *You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.*

Leader – Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

All – You are my God, and I will give thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Enjoy reading the shower of thanksgiving, and let your heart be drawn Heavenward.

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1 – Psalm 7 – I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

2 – Psalm 30 – You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

1 – Psalm 95 – Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

2 – Psalm 147 – Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp. He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.

1 & 2 – Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

1 – Romans 6 – Thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

2 – 1 Corinthians 15 – “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 – 2 Corinthians 2 – Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

1 – 2 Corinthians 9 –

1 & 2 – Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2 – Ephesians 5 – Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 – Philippians 4 – Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2 – Colossians 2 – So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

1 – Colossians 3 – Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. And whatever you do, whether in word or in deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2 – 1 Thessalonians 5 – Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 – Hebrews 12 – Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

1 & 2 – You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

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CONCLUDING COMMENTS:

Did you notice the happy words that accompany thanksgiving? Among them are joy, singing, dancing, praise, strength, anticipation, and peace. It seems to me that it would be almost impossible to keep down for long anyone who is truly thankful!