

“The Precious Jewel of Thanksgiving”

Luke 17:11–19

November 19, 2023

Grateful Worship Is the Right and Rare Response to Salvation

“He set his face to go to Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51)

“The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, ‘Unclean, unclean.’ He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp.” (Leviticus 13:45–46)

“It is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean?’” (2 Kings 5:13)

“Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.” (John 4:9)

“Let no foreigner enter.” (Jerusalem Temple Inscription)

“Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.” (Acts 10:34–35)

Why Is It Right?

“The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me.” (Psalm 50:23)

Why Is It Rare?

“Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table?’ Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink?’ Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’” (Luke 17:7–10)

Because Grateful Worship Is the Right and Rare Response to Salvation, We Must Unearth It

“Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!” (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Because Grateful Worship Is the Right and Rare Response to Salvation, We Must Accept It From Unexpected Sources

“‘And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.’ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath.” (Luke 4:27–28)

Notes

Discuss

- What is an example of how you've seen grateful worship as right, beautiful, or precious in the life of another person?
- Why do you think thankful praise is so rare?
- Is there a way that you're guilty of ungrateful forgetfulness or entitlement?
- Why is it so hard to accept everyone who gives grateful worship to God?

Read

Leviticus 13:1–14:57; Numbers 5:1–4; 2 Kings 5:1–27; Luke 4:14–30

Pray

- That the Holy Spirit will form grateful worship in your heart.
- That the Holy Spirit will further form our church family into a community that welcomes people on Jesus' terms.

Bulletin

- Women's Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am
- Youth Ministry (6th–12th Graders): First and Third Wednesdays at 6:30pm
- Men's Breakfast: December 2 at 8:00am
- Women's Winter Tea: December 9 at 10:00am
- Members' Meeting: December 10 at 5:00pm
- Christmas Eve Service: December 24 at 5:00pm