

Thank God!: 4 Things God Has Done for You Lately

Colossians 1:2-14

- BGT** ¹² εὐχαριστοῦντες τῷ πατρὶ τῷ ἱκανώσαντι ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν μερίδα τοῦ κλήρου τῶν ἁγίων ἐν τῷ φωτί· ¹³ ὃς ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς ἐκ τῆς ἐξουσίας τοῦ σκούτου καὶ μετέστησεν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ υἱοῦ τῆς ἀγάπης αὐτοῦ, ¹⁴ ἐν ᾧ ἔχομεν τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, τὴν ἄφεσιν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν·
- NKJ** ¹² giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed [us] into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

My Identity as an INDIVIDUAL (Colossians 1:1)

My Identity as Part of a GROUP (Colossians 1:2)

Three Realms of a Believer's Walk (Colossians 1:3-8) – Ongoing Belief, Active Care, Forward Focus

Three Areas of Prayer for Spiritual Growth (Colossians 1:9-11) – Worthy Walking, Fruitful Working, Empowered Doing

We are giving thanks to the Father, (*ongoing thankfulness*) – We are to be thanking the Father for:

1. (12) For Our _____ – Restoration – We can be thanking God because He has made us _____.

who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

τῷ ἱκανώσαντι ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν μερίδα τοῦ κλήρου τῶν ἁγίων ἐν τῷ φωτί·

the one who qualified us unto the portion of the allotment of the saints in the light.

A. Qualified

- **Used one other time in NT: 2 Cor 3:6a** “who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant”
- **Opposite would be disqualified, unfit, since the fall in the Garden of Eden (Rom 3:23; 5:12)**
- **Not our doing but God's – He has to qualify – Are you trying to qualify yourself?**

B. Partakers – lit. “unto the portion” (or “part” or “share”)

C. Inheritance – allotment

D. Of the Saints – “holy ones”

E. In the Light (access to, understanding of, living by THE TRUTH)

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 12:46 "I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

Eph 5:13 But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Eph 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

2. (13a) For Our _____ – Rescue – We can be thanking God because He has made us _____.

He has delivered us from the power of darkness

ὃς ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς ἐκ τῆς ἐξουσίας τοῦ σκούτου

A. Delivered – past tense – God is able to deliver us (!) from:

From The Power of Darkness

The Evil One – Matt 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Our Sinful Body – Rom 7:24-25 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God -- through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. (Rom 6:6)

The Wrath to Come – 1 Thes 1:10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Difficulties – 2 Tim 3:11 persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra -- what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

Temptations – 2 Pet 2:9 *then* the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

B. From The Power (exousia – ἐξουσία – authority)

Eph 2:2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, (authorities: Eph 6:12)

How can He do this? (Matt 28:18; Col 2:10)

Rom 6:7-9 ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, ⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion {kurieo} over Him.

C. Of the Darkness

1 Pet 2:9 But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Luke 11:35 "Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness."

Our Response to Darkness

Rom 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

1 Pet 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. (cp 1 Pet 2:9 above)

1 John 1:5-7 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and *yet* walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

3. (13b) For Our _____ – We can be thanking God because He has made us _____ of His Son.

and conveyed [us] into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

καὶ μετέστησεν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ υἱοῦ τῆς ἀγάπης αὐτοῦ,

A. Not just liberation but relocation! We have been assigned to another Authority, a new kingdom.

B. From darkness to light; from one rule to another

C. Our Ruler, Jesus, Who gave Himself for us! (Rom 8:33-34 – from accuser to accusation bearer!)

4. (14) For Our _____ – Release – We can be thanking God because He has brought us _____.

in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

ἐν ᾧ ἔχομεν τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, τὴν ἄφεσιν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν.

A. Have – present tense

B. Redemption (setting free, deliverance, release)

Rom 3:24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Eph 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

Rom 8:23 Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Eph 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

C. Through His blood – not in Greek, but concept is in Bible (see next point, Eph 1:7; Heb 9:22)

Heb 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission [forgiveness].

D. The forgiveness of sins (_____ through Christ's payment of them)

Summary Verse from Acts 26:18

Acts 26:18 ¹⁸ 'to open their eyes, *in order* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'

ἀνοίξαι ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, τοῦ ἐπιστρέψαι ἀπὸ σκοτόους εἰς φῶς καὶ τῆς ἐξουσίας τοῦ σατανᾶ ἐπὶ τὸν θεόν, τοῦ λαβεῖν αὐτοὺς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν καὶ κληροῦν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πίστει τῇ εἰς ἐμέ.