

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

Supernatural Thanksgiving

FOUNDATION STATEMENT: Supernatural thanksgiving is above natural & therefore thanks God prior to the victory manifesting and in doing so it will access the supernatural power of God.

I. Thanksgiving that takes place prior to the victory is supernatural thanksgiving

- A. 1 Corinthians 15:57-This does not say "who has given," but "who gives"
 - 1. If you wait to see it before you give thanks, that's walking by sight, not by faith
 - 2. "Giveth" refers to now and the future (He gives me his rent check every month)
- B. 2 Corinthians 2:14-"Who causes" not "who has caused"
 - 1. "Always causes" is now and perpetually causes
- C. People have understood thanking God after something happens, but most have not seen the power in thanking God for something that hasn't happened yet
 - 1. Isaiah 55:11-God's thoughts and ways are higher (above) ours
 - 2. It's natural to thank someone for something they've done; it's supernatural to thank somebody for something that's not done yet

II. There's a connection between thanksgiving and faith b/c thanksgiving pleases God and if it pleases God there must be faith in it

- A. You can't please God without faith-Hebrews 11:6
 - 1. If thanksgiving were without faith it wouldn't please God (Heb 13:16, Psalm 69:30)
 - 2. This sacrifice of praise pleases him b/c this is faith
- B. Hebrews 11:1-Faith is seeing something as real fact that's not revealed to the senses
 - 1. It takes little to no faith to thank God for the victory that just showed up-that's no sacrifice of thanksgiving
 - 2. It takes faith to thank God for the victory that looks like it's never going to show up; that's a sacrifice of thanks that pleases God b/c there's faith in that
 - 3. One of the highest levels of faith and thanksgiving is not thanking God for what has happened, but thanking God for the victory that hasn't manifested yet
 - a. Faith thanks God because it believes it has the victory, when it doesn't see it
- C. Thanksgiving is the voice of faith-Mark 11:24
 - 1. If you believe you have it as your present possession then there's no need to ask anymore; the only thing left to do is say thank you Lord
 - 2. The voice of faith isn't a crying begging voice, but it's one that says thank you Lord because it believes it has received

- D. Real faith has thanksgiving with it-Col 2:7-If ur faith is real thanksgiving will b overflowing
 - 1. Faith that doesn't have thanksgiving with it, it's not really faith
- E. Philippians 4:6-7-Let your requests be made known to God with thanksgiving
 - 1. You make your requests known to God in every thing by 1) Prayer-Believing you received 2) Supplication-Passionate 3) Thanksgiving-Thank you I have it

III. Faith (with thanksgiving) is the way we access supernatural power/grace

- A. Faith is how we access supernatural power (Gal 5:6, Rom 1:16, Eph 1:19, Mt 14:24)
- B. Grace is not just unmerited favor, but it is divine empowerment
 - 1. 1 Corinthians 15:15, Hebrews 12:28
- C. Romans 5:2-We access that grace by faith (with thanksgiving)
 - 1. Hebrews 4:14-16-Hold fast to our confession (giving thanks, saying the same thing) and come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain grace
 - 2. In a time of need you need grace to help
- D. Faith w/o thanksgiving with it is incomplete and will not access this supernatural power
 - 1. When you are not thankful you are resisting the very grace you need to win
 - 2. Thanksgiving 4 the victory b4 the victory is a grace connector b/c it's an act of faith
 - 3. One of the main reasons defeat lingers is b/c you have yet to give God thanks in that area for the victory that you can't see

IV. Supernatural power to do the "impossible" is tapped when people thank God for the victory before the victory

- A. Joshua 6:16-They thanked God before their victory for the victory
 - 1. There two walls one at the bottom of the hill and one at the top; approximately 40 feet high 6 to 12 feet thick (Deuteronomy 9:1)
 - 2. Joshua 2:15-Rahab lived in the wall and she was to be spared
 - 3. 6:2-I have given you Jericho
 - 4. 6:16-They shouted because they believed the Lord had given them the city
 - 5. Hebrews 11:30-By faith (with thanksgiving) the walls fell
- B. It's interesting that one of the things we Jesus do in the midst of an impossible situation is he engages thanksgiving to access the supernatural power of God; he didn't beg or cry out to God
 - 1. Matthew 14:15
 - a. 15-It's not possible 4 us 2 feed them out here, that's not even a place to get food
 - b. 17,21-They got two pieces of faith, five loaves of bread and approx 15,000 people
 - c. 19-John 6:11-He thanked God not just for what he had, but for the victory
 - 2. John 11:39-44-He's been dead four days; this is impossible
 - a. 4-Jesus believes & speaks & it's supposed to come to pass

- b. 41-This is the voice of faith because it doesn't look like God heard him in verse 4
 - 1) He's thanking him for the victory that he, can't see & isn't manifested yet
 - 2) He's not complaining about what hasn't changed, what hasn't manifested,
 - 3) He speaks to a man who is dead like he's a live b/c that's what he believes
- 3. Jesus responded to impossible situations with thanksgiving faith

C. Romans 4:16-21

- 1. 16-Inheriting the promise is through faith-Faith has thanksgiving with it
 - a. If ur going 2 receive the promise you're going 2 have 2 say thank u beforehand
 - b. The end of the promise proceeds your faith; faith precedes manifestation and therefore so to does thanksgiving
 - c. Thanksgiving should not only proceed your victory, it should precede it
- 2. 16-Inheriting the promise is by grace
 - a. You didn't earn it and you don't deserve and God doesn't owe it to you
 - b. Romans 4:4-If you worked for it, then it's not grace, but it's owed to you
 - 1) If it's owed to you there's no need for thanksgiving b/c you earned/deserve it
 - 2) Get out of this mentality that I did what the Word said b/c I did you owe me
- 3. All things that pertain 2 life and godliness are being offered 2 us by grace and we must receive/take them by faith (2 Pet 1:4)
 - a. 17-Abraham took the promise by faith by calling things that be not
- 4. 20-He's not staggering through unbelief, but his faith had thanksgiving with it
 - a. He's thanking God 23 years in 4 a victory that looks like it's never going to happen
 - 1) He had thanksgiving w/ is faith b/c he believes he's the Father of many nations
 - b. Thanksgiving faith accessed the supernatural power of God that supersedes time, space and matter and went inside a 90 year old woman and a 100 year old man and supernaturally accomplished something that never should have been able to happen

V. 1 John 5:4-Faith is the victory that overcomes the world & thanksgiving is voice of faith