

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
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Live audio streaming
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COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website
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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
Doug Loveday
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Alan Judd
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11 AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7 PM

POLISHING THE PULPIT

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library
available at:
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>
Username:
Crossville church of Christ
Password:
crossvilleptp2018

November 18, 2018



*In every
thing give
thanks:*

*for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus concerning you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18



WHEN WILL WE GIVE HIM THANKS ?

Alan Judd

Psalm 6 is a beautiful psalm penned by King David by inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The psalm reads like a prayer as David begs God for mercy, compassion, and deliverance from some unspecified difficulty. He was so fervent in his request that he described his longing with these words: "I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears" in verse six. As the psalm ends he expresses his confidence that the Lord has heard and received his prayer and that his enemies would be dispatched and trouble him no longer. I want to look at a remark made by David in verse five concerning his reason for asking God to act: "For in death there is no remembrance of You; in the grave who will give You thanks?"

In the Old Testament, God had not fully revealed the plans that await mankind after physical life is over. This information was not fully disclosed until Jesus completed the work the Father gave Him to do on this earth. Paul made this point when writing in 2 Timothy 1:9-10: "who (God) has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." Notice that it is through Jesus and His gospel that we have the assurance of victory over death and insight as to what awaits us after earthly life is over and Jesus returns in judgment. Other passages in the New Testament provide additional details that give us glimpses of the joys eternity will hold for those who make preparation in the way God has prescribed.

Back to the words of David in Psalm 6, he expresses an idea that can be overlooked. By way of implication, David is asserting that we should use our present lives and efforts to give God thanks. When? Now! Why? David, like other Old Testament characters, did not have the benefit of knowledge that comes from an understanding of the Gospel. Death was viewed as the end. Scattered rays of hope occasionally break through as when Job pondered in chapter 14 verse 14: "If a man dies, shall he live again?" For the most part death was considered the end and the grave was the place where all activity ceases as the wise man expressed in Ecclesiastes 9:10: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going."

It is true, all of us know by experience that graveyards are deathly quiet and cemetery vaults do not ring with songs. Damp, cold sod covers mortal mouths in the silent city of the dead. Yet, we recall the words of the Hebrew writer about Abel in chapter 11 verse 4: "he being dead still speaks." Nevertheless, David is still a pitiful petitioner asking God for additional life and strength in order that he might thank and praise Him during a brief earthly sojourn. Do we recognize our duty in doing the same? That is, do we understand that our duty and only duty in this life is to give God the glory He alone is due? Yes, there are other tasks that are necessary in order to carry on our day to day living, but none of these must be allowed to supersede or surpass the one purpose for which we are created to "do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31)

How little we grasp the significance of this privilege! David understood that we must express our thanks and devotion in this life, but do we? Moreover, with the aid of the Gospel, we see that those who give Him thanks and devotion now will also be blessed with an eternity to continually offer our thanks and devotion around His throne in glory? When will you give Him thanks? Start today!

HOW DO YOU TASTE ?

You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.” (Matthew 5:13)

Have you ever been out to a restaurant and ordered fries, but when they got there they didn't taste right? Then it hits you, there is no salt on these fries. Fries without salt are just greasy potatoes, but add salt and they are irresistible deliciousness, even if they are not the best for your health.

Today, it is no problem just to reach across the table for the salt shaker and put some on, but in the days when Jesus spoke these words recorded in Mathew 5 salt was a valued commodity. We eat salt every day, but in the first century, people were lucky to get salt once or twice a month. It was so highly valued that the Roman army paid their soldiers with it. This is where the expression “*worth your salt*” comes from. If a commander was happy with what he saw in battle, he would say that the soldier was “*worth his salt.*”

What did Jesus mean when He said we needed to be the salt of the world? Salt makes food taste good and we, as it were, make the world taste good. This means that we are to be a good influence to those around us. As Christians, we are instructed in the Bible to be kind, helpful, and do other things that show the glory of God to the world. This is one explanation about what Jesus meant when He commanded us to be the salt of the earth.

When you taste salt in food, you instantly know what it is; it stands out. This is how it should be with the world when they see us. They should instantly know that we are Christians by the way we act. Unfortunately, some Christians try to be camouflage and fit in with the world, but this is in direct contradiction of this verse. As Christians, we need to stand out and act different, even if everyone else is not.

Salt, to most people, tastes good, and we hope that most people still enjoy being around people who are trying to be salt like Jesus commanded. Sadly, some people claim to be Christians on Sunday, but the people that only see them the rest of the week would never know that they were Christians at all. We need to be the people that act differently than the world, and not just on Sunday, but every day.

In the verse we started with, Jesus said that salt without flavor is useless. It would be thrown out and men would walk on it. Christian, have you lost your saltiness? What do you taste like?

