

THANKSGIVING

We are approaching the American holiday of Thanksgiving. In this highly confused and obviously lost world, what better time could there be for those of us who are not lost to express our thanks for our hope and future to the Creator.

All of us who truly know Jesus Christ, who have asked him into our hearts, can rest and focus on all we have to be thankful about. Oh surely, there are material things to be thankful for - a home, a car, food, favorite sports teams to watch. But these are temporary things. They are not the great things to be thankful for.

Reflect a moment. What did Jesus do for you? Well, he earned a way for you into the Kingdom of God, did he not? He earned your forgiveness for all your sins. You never deserved to be in God's Kingdom. None of us do. But Jesus paid the price for us to be there.

And then, he took upon himself and overcame all our sicknesses and diseases and pains. He earned our healing. By his wounds, we have been healed and made whole.

There's more. We are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Yes, he took our unrighteousness so we could be righteousness.

He also took the death due us and exchanged it for life, eternal life with the Father and the Son. We now have that.

He also became a curse for us so we would not have to suffer curses. We are freed from curses by Jesus.

There's so much more, but that's enough to focus on for now. "It is finished," Jesus said on the cross. He had done all that was necessary to restore lost human beings to God. Now it is up to us. Each person has to realize who Jesus is and what he has done for them. And then each person has to make that life-changing decision of whether to accept Jesus for who He is and to ask him to come into their lives. That's all there is to get started on the Christian journey.

There's much more to being a follower of Christ than that, but that's enough to make us bubble over with Thanksgiving on Thursday.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day, and remember to whom and for what you are truly and really thankful.

IT REALLY IS ALL ABOUT JESUS!

(first sent Nov 14, 2006)