

An American National Prayer of Thanksgiving

With President Abraham Lincoln

A Thanksgiving Proclamation - President Abraham Lincoln - October 3, 1863

“No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things [of national blessings]. They are the gracious Gifts of The Most High GOD, Who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered Mercy...

I do, therefore, invite my fellow Citizens in every part of the United States, and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our Beneficent Father Who dwelleth in The Heavens..., announced in The Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose GOD is The Lord...¹

It has seemed to me fit and proper that GOD should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people.”²

PSALM 100:1-5

- 1 Make a joyful noise unto The LORD, all ye lands.
- 2 Serve The LORD with gladness: come before His Presence with singing.
- 3 Know ye that The LORD He is GOD: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
- 4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His Name.
- 5 For The LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations.³

MATTHEW 5:14-16

- 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
- 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
- 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Which is in Heaven.⁴

¹ King James Version, PSALM 33:12, “Blessed is the nation whose GOD is The LORD: and the people whom He hath chosen for His Own inheritance.”

² “The First Annual National Day of Thanksgiving” on October 3, 1863. President Abraham Lincoln. America’s GOD and Country Encyclopedia of Quotations, p 385. William J. Federer. Amerisearch, Inc. St. Louis, MO. 2000.

³ King James Version, PSALM 100:1-5.

⁴ King James Version, MATTHEW 5:14-16.