



Hallelujah!

GIVE THANKS *to THE LORD,* *for He is good ...* [Psalm 106:1]

AS I AM WRITING THIS, it is November 4th and every American is holding their breath. Over the past eight months we have watched the social fabric of our nation come unraveled. Many are worried and anxious about the result of what many are calling the most significant election of our lives.

I must confess, I get worried and anxious too. It is becoming more and more difficult to live with *faith* and *hope* in a culture that is in decline, captivated by every new conspiracy—“tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit” (Eph 4:14 HCSB). There are good reasons to be worried...

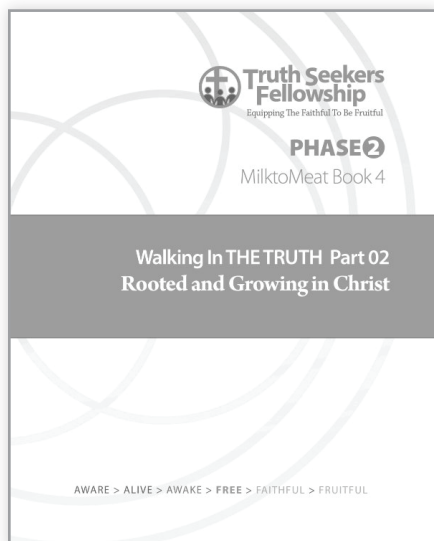
BUT, we know better ...

No matter who wins this election, Christ will still have “all authority in Heaven and **on Earth**” (Matt 28:18). In a

nation like ours, it is easy to lose sight of the reality that it is *not* our President, or Congress, or even the general populace that guides history. Father God is always working in Christ through the Holy Spirit toward the goal of “summing up” or “heading up” all things in Christ (Eph 1:10). *The Kingdom of God always stands over and above the “kingdoms of men.”*

In Daniel 4, King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream that worries him. He is told in the dream the purpose for his soon to come “humbling”:

“This word is by decree of the observers; the matter is a command from the holy ones. This is so the living will know that **the Most High is ruler over the kingdom of men. He gives it to anyone He wants and sets the lowliest of men over it.**” (Daniel 4:17 HCSB)



What Are We Working On?

Since we have not offered *live* classes this Fall, I have been focusing on writing and developing new classes and courses. In September, we published the 4th workbook in the MilktoMeat 2.0 series, *Rooted and Growing in Christ*. This workbook covers aspects of Spiritual Warfare and “putting on the New Person in Christ”—topics that we covered in the original Spiritual Warfare study.

When completed, MilktoMeat 2.0 will have a total of six workbooks. I am currently working hard to get the last two workbooks finished by the end of the year. My goal is to use these new workbooks for a video based MilktoMeat course that we will develop in the Spring of 2021. You can find links to these workbooks and all our other publications on our website at: www.tsfmemphis.org/publications. All of these are available on Amazon.

Give Thanks...

Take note of what is said there: “*so that the living will know...*” This section of Daniel was given to *show all people* that the LORD God is in control. The MOST HIGH is the ultimate ruler of this world.

Psalms 106 begins with *Hallelujah!* This is one of the most *radical* and *subversive* commands in Scripture. The English word is simply the transliteration of the Hebrew command, “Praise The LORD [YHWH]!” The command is an *invitation* to praise and give thanks to the One True God who is worthy of both because, as the Psalmist says, “He is GOOD!”

Giving thanks is *radical* in the sense of it being a core, fundamental activity as a person created in the image of God. It is *subversive* because it challenges and defies the deceptions and despairs of this world. By **giving thanks** in “all circumstances” (1 Thess 5:18) and for “all things” (Eph 5:10), we acknowledge the Lord God’s providential guidance and care of all things. In giving thanks, we unite our voices with all the praising voices of the past and the

future who affirm, “THE LORD is Good!”

As believers, as followers of Christ, *we can also be thankful* that this world is not our home. The fate of our nation in no way controls our destiny as the beloved Children of God because, “... our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Philippians 3:20). With each year that passes, I yearn more and more for Christ’s appearing.

As we think about Thanksgiving, **I am so thankful for each and everyone of you** who support us with your prayers, participation in classes, financial gifts, and all the other ways you graciously give to us. *We simply could not do what we do without all of you.* I am always humbled by all that you do for us.

As we pray for you, would you also continue to pray for us, asking the Lord to provide for all our needs. I pray that you all have a blessed and joyous Holy-Day season, rejoicing and giving thanks for all that we have **In Christ.**

What Are We working on...

We have also been working on the website to add some courses that have not been available for a while. In 2015-16, I taught a series on Church History and how the different denominations were formed. Those are now

available as *video based courses*. Church history is one of my favorite studies and if you have never explored this fascinating topic, these series will help you understand where we have come from and how we got to where we are today.

Over the Fall, I have also been developing a home-school course called **Shaping a Christ Focused Worldview** with a few “guinea pig” students online through Zoom. Understanding reality through the lens of worldview helps us sharpen what we believe and also understand the beliefs of others. It is a powerful tool that enables students to see what makes a Bible based, Christ focused worldview *truly different* from all the rest.

This course will not just be for home-schoolers. I am thinking of offering this course “live,” online at the first of year to anyone who is interested. If you would like to be part of this course, call the office at (901) 685-3385 or send an email to: connect@tsfmemphis.org

THAT IS ALL FOR NOW, hope you all have a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving. *Let’s all continue to pray for one another in these difficult times, keeping our eyes focused on Christ.* [ST]

