

## ATTITUDE of GRATITUDE

### A. Attitude of Gratitude Definitions

(from Webster's New World Dictionary):

#### 1. Attitude.

- a) A bodily posture showing or meant to show a mental state, emotion, or mood.
- b) A manner of acting, feeling, or thinking that shows one's disposition, opinion, etc.

#### 2. Gratitude.

- a) A feeling of thankful appreciation for favors or benefits received; warm, appreciative response to kindness; thankfulness.

### B. Biblical Examples

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|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Hannah (from barren to bounty).           | 1 Sam 1:1-28<br>1 Sam 2:1-5 |
| 2. Naaman (healed through humble obedience). | 2 Kings 5:1-19              |
| 3. Mary (mother of Jesus).                   | Lk 1:26-38, 46-55           |
| 4. Elizabeth (mother of John the Baptist).   | Lk 1:39-45                  |
| 5. Simeon (alive to see the Lord's Christ).  | Lk 2:25-32                  |
| 6. Anna (beheld the Redemption of God).      | Lk 2:36-38                  |
| 7. Paul (from shipwrecked to sailing).       | Acts 28:1-11                |
| 8. 10 Lepers (10 healed, 1 whole)            | Lk 17:11-19                 |

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## **THANKSGIVING DAY PROCLAMATION**

Whereas, It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor;

Whereas, Both the houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me “to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness”!

Now, therefore, I do recommend next, to be devoted by the people of the states to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be, that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country.

**PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON --- 1789**

### **PROCLAMATION of THANKSGIVING by the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA**

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful years and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict, while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the field of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than theretofore.

Population has steadily increased notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, Who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea 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. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

**By the PRESIDENT:**

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**