



Happy
Thanksgiving

The Origins of Thanksgiving



What can you tell us of the origins of Thanksgiving?

The Big Questions

- Despite its roots as a religious observance, Thanksgiving is a national holiday, not an established day on liturgical calendars. Nonetheless, both Washington's and Lincoln's Thanksgiving proclamations tied the day to the providence of almighty God. When Thanksgiving is divorced from worship of God, to whom is the thanks directed?

The Big Questions

- What is the meaning of “providence” and why is it an important word to consider on Thanksgiving?



The Big Questions

- We occasionally hear claims that faithfulness to God will bring health, wealth and happiness, but that is not the promise of the Bible. What the Bible does promise is God himself, His presence will be with us. Is that sufficient reason to give thanks? Why or why not?

The Big Questions

- What are the theological reasons for helping those in need to receive a Thanksgiving meal?
- What should be our attitude about their needs throughout the rest of the year?



The Big Questions

- Is it appropriate to observe Thanksgiving in times of terrible loss? Why or why not?



Confronting Scripture

- I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 69:30

In what ways do you seek to magnify the Lord?



Confronting Scripture

- When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Isaiah 43:2-3

In what circumstances of your life could these verses be your testimony?

Confronting Scripture

- But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you...?

Matthew 6:30

Where are you aware of providence working in your life?

Confronting Scripture

- Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

Luke 17:17-19

How does thankfulness enlarge your spirit?

Confronting Scripture

- For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by God's word and by prayer.

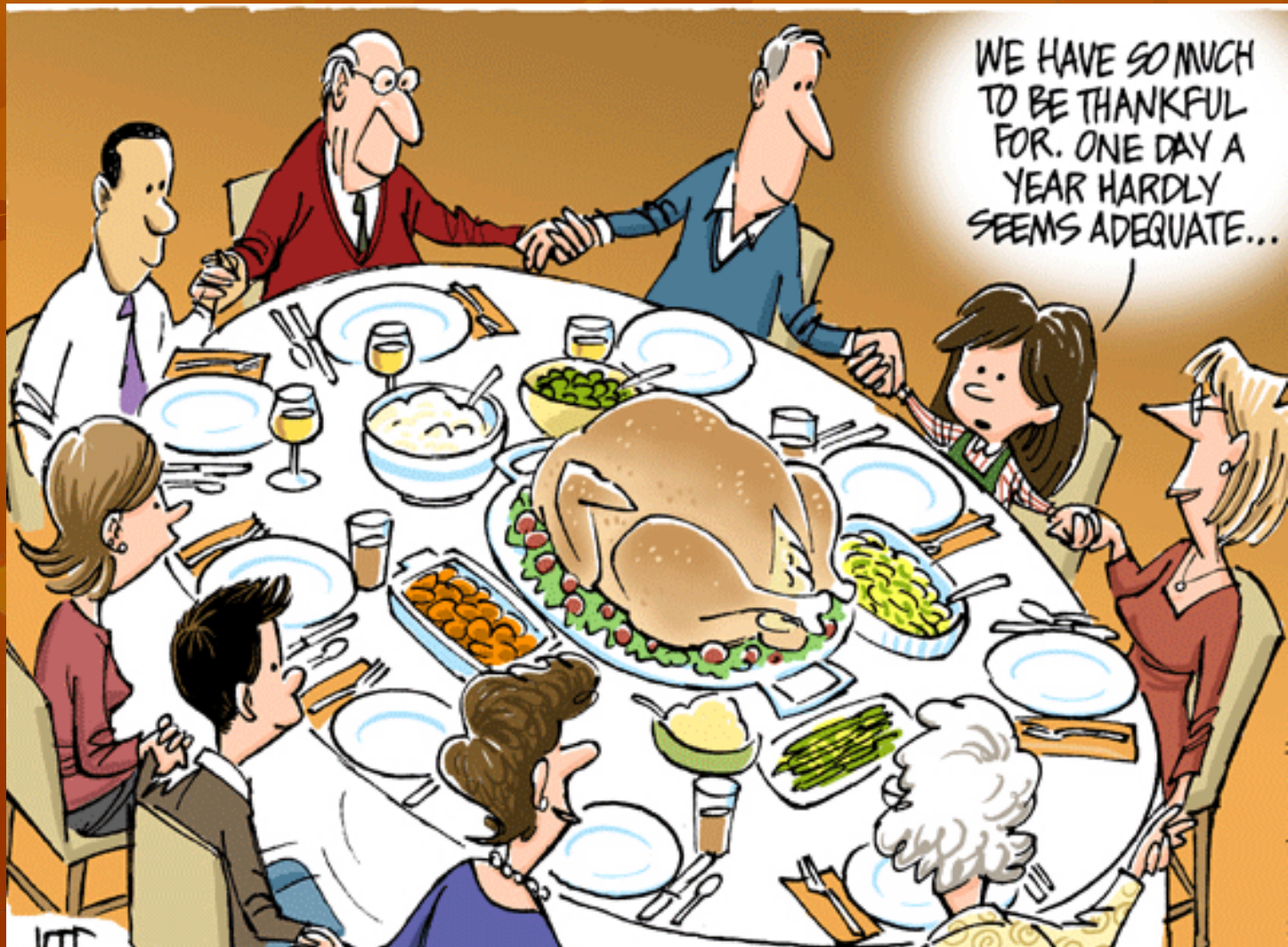
1 Timothy 4:4-5

To what things do you need to add thanksgiving so as to receive the spiritual nourishment God has made available through them?

Thanksgiving Thoughts



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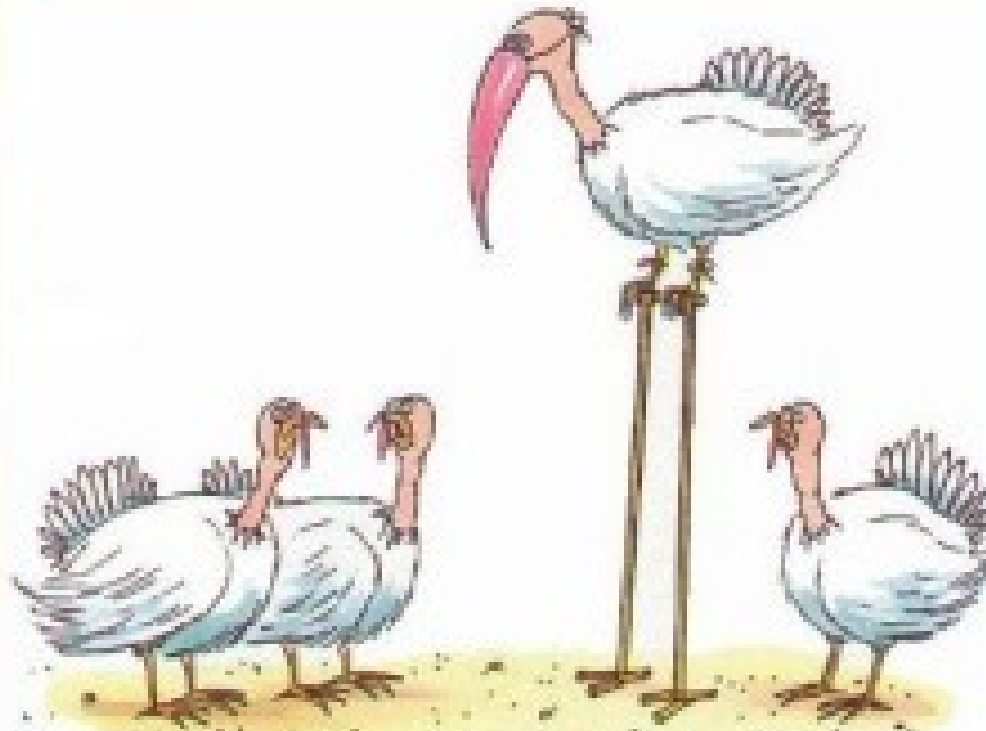
Thanksgiving Thoughts



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"He's got a point. Nobody eats a flamingo on Thanksgiving."

Thanksgiving Thoughts

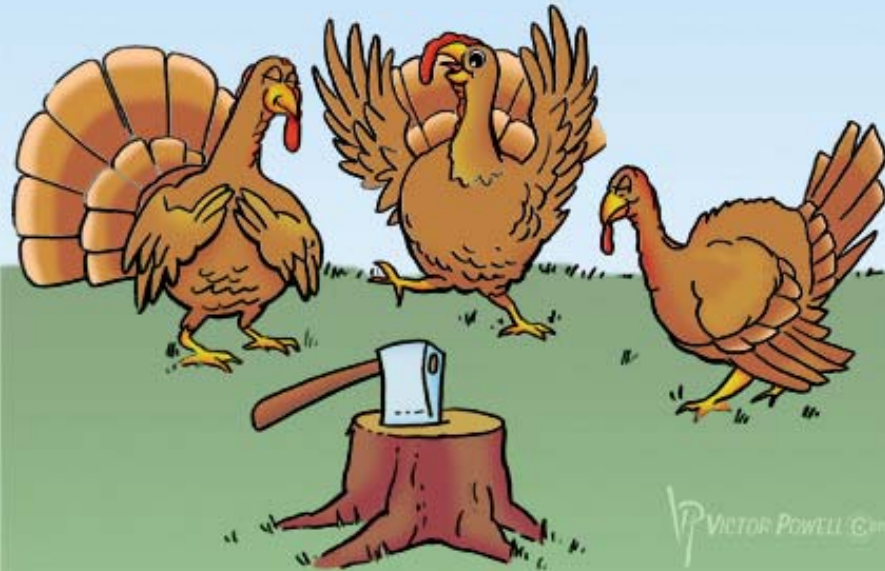


Thanksgiving Thoughts



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Giving Thanks...



VP VICTOR POWELL *COM*

*For Surviving through Another
Holiday with the family.*

Give Thanks to God

*"Praise God's name
in song and glorify
Him with
thanksgiving."*

Psalm 69:30 NIV

