

“Giving Credit to God in All Things”
By Chris Ulrich
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This message had three parts:

- 1. What does it mean to give credit to God?**
- 2. Why don't people want to give credit to God?**
- 3. It doesn't cost anything to give credit to God, but, what's in it for me?**

What does it mean to give credit to God?

Luke 17:12-18 Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one returned to give thanks.

In Jesus' day, there were some that came for the fishes and the loaves, but there were some that sought Him with a whole heart. Granted, there are people with physical needs, and we shouldn't ignore those needs. To give credit to God for meeting our needs means being thankful and keeping His commandments.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

The world is getting worse, but Jesus warned us about that.

Titus 2:11-14 ...grace...hath appeared to all men...

There are some people who have suffered a lot in this world; they have endured the worst tragedies imaginable. Some of those people are the most generous and loving people. I didn't have a lot of difficult situations, but God dealt with me to get right. The grace of God is the promise of eternal life. That is open to everyone.

Ecclesiastes 11:8 ...remember the days of darkness; for they shall be many...

Nobody goes through this life unscathed.

Why don't people want to give credit to God?

Jeremiah 2:32 ...My people have forgotten Me days without number.

This was an admonition to Israel, but it should be an admonition to us as well. Sometimes this passage is very convicting; for example, at 10:30 AM when it occurs to me that I haven't thought about God at all yet that day. There's no point in comparing to those who don't know Christ, because most of them don't praise or thank God at all.

Psalms 10:1-4 ...God is not in all his thoughts...the pride of his countenance...

No matter what anybody else does, I'm still going to live *this* life. Wickedness will still be here, but I'm going to strive to be the man that God wants me to be. Some examples of people not giving God credit:

Acts 12:21-23 Herod gave not God the glory and was eaten of worms.

In Ecclesiastes 8:11, it says that God's judgment is not executed speedily, but this would be the exception. We should thank God for the good and the bad.

Daniel 4:18, 22, 27-37 ...Babylon, that I have built ... by the might of my power...

Daniel (whose Babylonian name was Belteshazzar) warned Nebuchadnezzar, and the king was able to avoid judgment for one year, but eventually his pride got the better of him, and God showed Nebuchadnezzar His power, and the king gave God the credit at the end. The point is that the Word of God is not some fairytale, it is real.

Micah 6:6-8 ...do justly, ... love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

There are too few churches that really preach the Truth. It's not wrong to thank people or to pay compliments; in fact, we Christians probably say thanks and offer compliments to other people much more than they do to us (but we don't keep score).

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 ... God shall bring every work into judgment...

Matthew 12:36 ...every idle word will be considered in judgment.

It is important that we thank God for what He has done for us, praise God for who He is, and give credit to God for His grace and mercy.

It doesn't cost anything to give credit to God, but, what's in it for me?

Luke 6:35 ...He is kind unto the unthankful...

Although He will not be particularly kind at judgment, in this life, He will give them every chance to repent. I tried to read the Bible before I came to know God, but it just didn't make sense to me. It wasn't until I had a desire to truly understand, and, even then, I had to accept that I wasn't going to understand every little thing. You don't have to understand the whole Bible. God values us as human beings.

Matthew 10:27-32 ...ye are of more value than many sparrows.

God knows that we have busy lives, but, there is a reward for giving Him credit.

1 Corinthians 2:9 ...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard... the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

Proverbs 4:18 We make progress...