

Resolved to Be Thankful

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, January 12, 2020; Tyler Clark

Sermon Theme: True and lasting thankfulness ushers forth from a heart that understands who God is, who man is, and how God has graciously acted to reconcile sinners to Himself. We are called to cultivate hearts of thankfulness as we continually submit ourselves to God in dependence, glory in the gospel, and generously give ourselves for the benefit of others.

I. Understand Who God Is – Read 1 Chronicles 29:10-13

- A. What is the greater context (historical and literary) of 1 Chronicles 29? What was the significance of the temple in Israel's life and worship?
- B. What does it mean for God to be *essentially* eternal and sovereign? Do you find comfort knowing that God eternally reigns over all the earth? Even the smallest details of your life?
- C. How do God's *essential* attributes, like His eternality and sovereignty, differ from attributes like His mercy, grace, and patience? Do you tend to treat these latter characteristics as something you feel is owed to you – as though God *needs* to be merciful, gracious, and patient with you?

II. Understand Who Man Is – Read 1 Chronicles 29:14-16

- A. The Bible teaches that man is *essentially* fleeting, needy, and sinful. Which of these characteristics is harder to swallow by the broader culture? Which is the most difficult to admit in your own life?
- B. Pride quickly extinguishes the flame of thankfulness. David confesses he can only offer that which has been given to him by God. How does pride manifest itself in your life? Be specific.

III. Glory in the Gospel – Read 1 Chronicles 29:17-19

- A. Do you tend to think of yourself as always preaching “a gospel” to yourself? Which gospel are you actively preaching to yourself? Which anti-gospels are you most tempted to believe?
- B. Spend some time beholding the beautiful beams of the gospel of grace. Which are particularly precious in your current season (i.e. reconciliation, justification, adoption, sanctification, etc.)?
- C. Once you behold the beauty of the gospel, you can learn to receive whatever God gives. What trials are you facing? How are you tempted to grumble? How can you respond with thankfulness?
- D. Thankful hearts are generous hearts. What can we learn from David's generosity (1 Chron. 29:3, 14)? In what areas of your life would you like to be more generous (time, talents, treasures)?