

For He is Kind to the Ungrateful

Luke 6:35

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- Luke 6:35 - “But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.”
- It is difficult to be kind to ungrateful and discourteous folk.

For He is Kind to the Ungrateful

- As humans, our interdependence puts us in one another's debt to be courteous. As Christians, we are indebted further to our Savior. But as in the parable of the sheep and goats, we do not repay our Savior except through our good works to our fellow man.
- Your Savior commanded you to thank, praise, and encourage others when they do well.
- If you can't or won't, you are either proud or jealous, both of which are attitudes that will cost you your home in heaven. You can be sound in all other areas, and if you fail in this one, you will be lost.

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- William Ward wrote about discouragement called the Eeyore Syndrome. “Discouragement is dissatisfaction with the past, distaste for the present, and distrust of the future. It is ingratitude for the blessings of yesterday, indifference to the opportunities of today, and insecurity regarding strength for tomorrow. It is unawareness of the presence of beauty, unconcern for the needs of our fellowman, and unbelief in the promises of old. It is impatience with time, immaturity of thought, and impoliteness to God.”

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- Ingratitude denotes spiritual immaturity. Infants do not always appreciate what parents do for them. They have short memories. Their concern is not what you did for them yesterday, but what are you doing for them today.
- Those who are mature are appreciative of those who labored for them in the past

For He is Kind to the Ungrateful

- What obligations do those who receive blessings owe to the givers?
- How likely would someone be to continue to give if gratitude was not expressed for the giving?
- How likely would someone continue to give his best if his efforts were repaid with silence or indifference?

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- Webster's Dictionary defines "Ingratitude" as: "Forgetfulness of, or poor return for, kindness received."
- It can also be defined as not appreciating or valuing what you have, or have been given. Unexpressed gratitude is also a form of ingratitude

Be Thankful

- Psalm 92:1-2 - “It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; 2 To declare Your loving kindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night”
- Col. 3:15 - “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.”

Be Thankful

- Luke 17:15-19 - “And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, 16 and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. 17 So Jesus answered and said, Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? 18 Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? 19 And He said to him, Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

Be Thankful

- Jesus didn't give His life for the grateful only.
- Gal. 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."
 - Paul fought against Christ

Be Thankful

- Jesus didn't give His life for the grateful only.
- Eph. 5:1-2 - "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma."
 - The Ephesians worshiped Diana

Be Thankful

- Titus 2:11-14 - “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.”
- The gift, given while we are ungrateful and undeserving, is designed to move us to gratitude that moves us to respond and transform.

Be Thankful

- Jonah 2:7-9 - “When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; And my prayer went up to You, Into Your holy temple. 8 Those who regard worthless idols Forsake their own Mercy. 9 But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- “An ungrateful man is like a hog under a tree eating acorns, but never looking up to see where they come from.”
- “We seldom find people ungrateful as long as they think we can serve them or have something to give them.”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- Ingratitude led to idolatry
 - Rom. 1:20-21 - “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- Ingratitude is one of the characteristics of the evil in the last days
 - 2Tim. 3:1-2 - “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- Ingratitude cost Nabal:
 - Friendship with the king,
 - His home,
 - His wife,
 - And his life.
- 1Sam. 25

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- Psalm 78:25-32 - “Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full. 26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heavens; And by His power He brought in the south wind. 27 He also rained meat on them like the dust, Feathered fowl like the sand of the seas; 28 And He let them fall in the midst of their camp, All around their dwellings. 29 So they ate and were well filled, For He gave them their own desire. 30 They were not deprived of their craving; But while their food was still in their mouths, 31 The wrath of God came against them, And slew the stoutest of them, And struck down the choice men of Israel. 32 In spite of this they still sinned, And did not believe in His wondrous works.”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- Hosea 2:8-9 - “For she did not know That I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, And multiplied her silver and gold-Which they prepared for Baal. 9 Therefore I will return and take away My grain in its time And My new wine in its season, And will take back My wool and My linen.”
- Hosea 13:6 - “When they had pasture, they were filled; They were filled and their heart was exalted; Therefore they forgot Me.”

Ingratitude Earns Wrath

- God does not appreciate it when His children treat Him ungratefully.
- How do you think He feels when we treat His children ungratefully?
- How should we respond to the generous gift of His Son?
 - 2Cor. 5:14-15 - “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again”