

Make God Feel Good  
(By Rev. Anthony Menzel, November 21, 2021)

\*\*\*This week we celebrate Thanksgiving in the US.

I think that having a special day to thank God is a wonderful idea...  
Having such a day can serve to re-set our thinking if we have fallen into negativity...

At the same time, we should realize that we should constantly be thanking the Holy Trinity...

Psalm 34:1

**A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.**

**34**

I will bless the Lord at all times;  
His praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.

When the Holy Spirit used David to write these words, things were not going well for him...

1 Samuel 21:10-15

**10** Then David arose and fled that day from before Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. **11** And the servants of Achish said to him, “*Is this not David the king of the land? Did they not sing of him to one another in dances, saying:*

‘Saul has slain his thousands,  
And David his ten thousands?’”

**12** Now David took these words [d]to heart, and was very much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. **13** So he changed his behavior before them, pretended [e]madness in their hands, [f]scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard. **14** Then Achish said to his servants, “Look, you see the man is insane. Why have you brought him to me? **15** Have I need of madmen, that you have brought this *fellow* to play the madman in my presence? Shall this *fellow* come into my house?”

As we mentioned last week, praising the Lord Jesus in the midst of our trials is a very powerful way to make the Holy Trinity feel loved...

It’s easy to praise Him when things are going well, but it’s not as easy to praise the Lord Jesus for giving us the strength to get through the hard times.

Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree may not blossom,

Nor fruit be on the vines;  
Though the labor of the olive may fail,  
And the fields yield no food;  
Though the flock may be cut off from the fold,  
And there be no herd in the stalls—

**18**

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord,  
I will joy in the God of my salvation.

**19**

[d]The Lord God is my strength;  
He will make my feet like deer's *feet*,  
And He will make me walk on my high hills.

\*\*\*One of the best ways to show that we are thankful is by trying to live right.

James 1:21-27

**21** Therefore lay aside all filthiness and [d]overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

**22** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; **24** for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. **25** But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

**26** If anyone [e]among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless. **27** Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

\*\*\*We need to spend time with the Holy Trinity in prayer and Bible study in order to make God feel appreciated.

Jeremiah 2:31-37

“O generation, see the word of the Lord!  
Have I been a wilderness to Israel,  
Or a land of darkness?  
Why do My people say, ‘We [n]are lords;  
We will come no more to You’?”

**32**

Can a virgin forget her ornaments,  
*Or* a bride her attire?

Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.

**33**

“Why do you beautify your way to seek love?

Therefore you have also taught

The wicked women your ways.

**34**

Also on your skirts is found

The blood of the lives of the poor innocents.

I have not found it by [o]secret search,

But plainly on all these things.

**35**

Yet you say, ‘Because I am innocent,

Surely His anger shall turn from me.’

Behold, I will plead My case against you,

Because you say, ‘I have not sinned.’

**36**

Why do you gad about so much to change your way?

Also you shall be ashamed of Egypt as you were ashamed of Assyria.

**37**

Indeed you will go forth from him

With your hands on your head;

For the Lord has rejected your trusted allies,

And you will not prosper by them.

\*\*\*But our lives have to reflect that we have spent time with God.

Matthew 23:1-36

Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, **2** saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. **3** Therefore whatever they tell you [a]to observe, *that* observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. **4** For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay *them* on men’s shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers. **5** But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. **6** They love the [b]best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, **7** greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’ **8** But you, do not be called ‘Rabbi’; for One is your [c]Teacher, [d]the Christ, and you are all brethren. **9** Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. **10** And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. **11** But he who is greatest among you shall be your

servant. **12** And whoever exalts himself will be [e]humbled, and he who humbles himself will be [f]exalted.

**13** “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in *yourselves*, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. **14** [g]Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.

**15** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of [h]hell as yourselves.

**16** “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged *to perform it.*’ **17** Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that [i]sanctifies the gold? **18** And, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged *to perform it.*’ **19** Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? **20** Therefore he who [j]swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it. **21** He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who [k]dwells in it. **22** And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits on it.

**23** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. **24** Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

**25** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and [l]self-indulgence. **26** Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.

**27** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men’s* bones and all uncleanness. **28** Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

**29** “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and [m]adorn the monuments of the righteous, **30** and say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.’

**31** “Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. **32** Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers’ *guilt*. **33** Serpents, brood[n] of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? **34** Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: *some* of

them you will kill and crucify, and *some* of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, **35** that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. **36** Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

\*\*\*\*\*What do you do when you realize that there are areas in your life that do not reflect the experiences that you have had with God in church, your personal study of the God's Word, and your personal prayer time?

1)Realize that it's ok to be imperfect.

**Romans 12.3**

**3** For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

2)Admit that you are facing a problem...

**John 8:31-32**

**31** Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. **32** And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

3)When you have fallen, get back up by repenting.

Proverbs 24:16

For a righteous *man* may fall seven times  
And rise again,  
But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

1 John 1:8-9

**8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4)If you are still struggling after taking these steps of self-deliverance, seek help at church, therapists, and doctors, as the Holy Spirit leads...

Proverbs 11:14

Where *there is* no counsel, the people fall;  
But in the multitude of counselors *there is* safety.

\*\*\*Don't grieve the Holy Spirit...

Ephesians 4:25-32

**25** Therefore, putting away lying, “*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*” for we are members of one another. **26** “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, **27** nor give [g]place to the devil. **28** Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. **29** Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary [h]edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, [i]clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. **32** And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.