

DON'T BE A NO-SHOW!

(Luke 17:11-19)

It is common in any football game to have people who own tickets for the event not to attend. Often this is for a variety of reasons. They are called the “no-shows.” It is one thing to miss a game, it is a whole different matter and much more serious to be a “no-show” in the daily giving of thanks to our wonderful Lord.

This week we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is a wonderful holiday given to remembering all of God’s goodness to us...so that we might express our deepest heartfelt thanks to Him.

The Lord Jesus, on His last journey, was pleased to receive thanksgiving from one, and grieved that the vast majority did not bother to express gratitude to God.

TWO WAYS THAT YOU CAN RESPOND TO GOD'S BLESSINGS IN YOUR LIFE.

Make no mistake about it, God welcomes our gratitude, and grieves over our ingratitude.

I. We Often, Like These 10 Desperate Men, Cry Out To Jesus For His Help.

(vv.11-14) ...And if you haven’t, you will in the days ahead.

- A. The occasion: Jesus is on His last journey to His death in Jerusalem. (v. 11) Jericho?
 - 1. He knew what lay ahead of Him...His ordained appointment with death. Yet, He went courageously forward. (So should we in life as we serve our Lord)
 - 2. As He approached Jericho, 10 lepers stood outside the town crying out for His help.
- B. Leprosy was a death sentence. Much like we may think of HIV. (v.12)
 - 1. This disease was horrible and the terrible social consequences in ancient Israel only added to the misery. They were treated as the living dead. They were cut-off from the community, including their family. Live outside...shout to all “unclean, unclean!!!”
 - 2. Often this terrible disease is figuratively used to picture the effect of sin in us.
...It cuts us off from God, it causes us to be the “living dead,” and results in “no hope.”
...See Romans 3: 10-20. “The anatomy of depravity.”
- C. As “dead men” they cry out to Jesus...“Mercy us.” They knew they could not help themselves.

