

Thanksgiving – 2023

by

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As we sit down today for our Thanksgiving dinner, the world is in chaos. Every nation and every land is experiencing turbulence and rife. The future appears uncertain and we tremble for what is happening before us. There is no question that evil is at work, causing many of us to question our hope for peace and our faith in God. It appears that the prophecies in the Book of Revelation are coming to fruition. And that scares us!

Imagine what the Pilgrims were experiencing when they left port in England for America. Imagine what they felt during the storms at sea. And imagine their trepidation as they set foot on a new continent, not knowing what laid ahead.

The Pilgrims would never have started their journey into the unknown if it wasn't for faith and belief in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

John 11:40

Today, we celebrate the festival of thanks that our forefathers held that first year after landing in the New World. But we have lost its meaning. We rarely reflect on the trials and tribulations of the past year, and think of the holiday as one of feast and entertainment.

While Thanksgiving Day is a day of celebration, it should also be a day of reflection of what we have to be thankful for. It should be a day where we look back and give thanks for the riches, freedoms, and rights that many others do not have. It is also a time to give thanks to those who provided what we have today. And it is also a time to give thanks to our Lord who loves and protects us, who has faith in his children, and who has given his only son for us.

But giving thanks is not the only thing we should be doing today. We should be asking for protection, food, shelter, and love for those who are less fortunate than us. We should be asking for peace and the opening of our enemies' eyes and hearts that their lives and future is in accepting Christ as their Lord.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding
in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6