

Thankfulness and Internal Atmosphere

Personal Epiphany

“better at maintaining Internal Atmosphere” - because of what is coming

“we stand” - Eph 6 (Tim Franklin - spiritual warfare)

general - don't be moved by spirit of world

personal - individual breakthrough

Thankfulness Critical to Maintaining Internal Atmosphere

the Big Three: Worship, Prayer, Thanksgiving

(1Th 5:16-18) ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

maintain thankful attitude in all circumstances (Dan 6:10 - prayed, gave thanks)

(Phl 4:4-7) ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. ⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Peace vs Anxiety (Internal Atmosphere)

Perspective: **God is our Provider in all things**

(Jas 1:17) ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

context: temptation, deception because of our desires

focus shift from Provider to the provision

Israel (Exodus) complained against leaders, God took it personally

(Nu 14:26-30) ²⁶And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ²⁷“How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. ²⁸“Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: ²⁹“The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. ³⁰“Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.

Complaining Opposes Thankfulness - Destroys Faith (lost Promises)

“I deserve better” - Expectations

Current Culture - what are we modeling?

Understanding that God is our Provider in all things leads to...

Humble Appreciation

(1Co 4:6-8) ⁶that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other. ⁷For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it? ⁸You are already full! You are already rich!

Surrendered Expectations

(1Ti 6:6-8) ⁶Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

context: pride, arguments, temptations, love of money

Surrendered Expectations requires **Eternal Perspective**

(Job 1:21-22) ²¹And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." ²²In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

(Job 2:9-10) ⁹Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" ¹⁰But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

(Job 13:15) ¹⁵Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.

How did Job maintain this attitude in the midst of suffering?

(Job 19:25-27) ²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; ²⁶and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

(2 Cor 2:14) ex: Triumph of Christianity over Roman Empire

poverty and suffering aren't mandatory (blessing 1 Tim 2:1-2)

thankfulness is mandatory in all circumstances (grace)

140 ref - "give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endures forever"

dedication Solomon's temple, rebuilt temple, (Neh 12) thanksgiving choirs

Thankfulness is the Protocol coming before the King (Ps 100:4-5)

unthankfulness is a sign of an unrenowned mind (last days 2 Tim 3:2)

(Ro 1:21-25) ²¹because, 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.

²²Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

placed provision, benefactor over the Provider

We need to Stand in thankfulness against the onslaught of the spirit of the world