

O GIVE THANKS!

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE

Psalm 40:1-5

ADDITIONAL STUDY

Psalm 107:1-16 and I Thessalonians
5:18

TO DO

- + Take time out just to reflect on the many benefits of God in your life, and genuinely thank Him for each of them.
- + Thank God for bringing you into a new year and a better season of life.

Many, O Lord my God, are Your wonderful works which You have done; and Your thoughts toward us cannot be recounted to You in order; if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. **Psalm 40:5**

David captured in an inadequate way, the essence of God's goodness towards us when He said, "Many." He must have been overwhelmed by God's dealings with him while attempting to number them, and came to the conclusion that His mighty works were innumerable, several and diverse - great in quality and in quantity. Still reflecting upon God's goodness, David in Psalm 116:12 asked rhetorically, "What shall I RENDER to the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" Then went on to answer in the seventh verse that he would offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

It is a new year! God has brought you to a new season; if you can read this, it means you have breath (life) and because you have breath, it means God is not done with you and you have hope. For these facts, you have every reason to thank God in this New Year. Thanksgiving is more than a polite "thank you" you say when someone does something good for you, it must be your heartfelt response to the benefits of God in your life.

Probably, not much changed for you last year and you are unsure of how this year will turn out to be, but you must not forget that, 'the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day' (Proverbs 4:18). Therefore, in anticipation of the better future which the Word of God promises you, you should render thanks to God. You say 'Why should I?' Because it says that you have hope, that you trust the character of God, that you are assured that God has your good at heart and He is working all things in your favor. Thank Him because you know that this year, He will not allow the enemy to gain an upper hand over your life. How would you thank God when He finally does what you have faith for Him to do? Then, thank God like that now.

Don't start the year reflecting on what didn't work for you last year; rather, like David, reflect on the many benefits of God in your life and thank Him for them. As Christians and descendants of Christ, we are spiritually from the tribe of Judah – Praise. Thus, we must reflect and maintain the lifestyle of praise and thanksgiving all year long. No dull moments! Happy New Year!

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