

d. Psalm 107:21-22

e. 2 Corinthians 9:13-15

f. 2 Thessalonians 1:3

g. Hebrews 13:5

3. What can happen to our spiritual lives if we fail to give thanks?

4. Who does a lack of thanksgiving characterize? See Romans 1:21; Luke 6:35; 2 Timothy 3:2.

5. How can you grow in your thankfulness to God?

Heart-Check:

- How much of your prayer time is devoted to giving thanks to God?
- What other things can you give thanks to God for?
- Do you thank God in all seasons, especially those that are most difficult?
- What does thanking Him in difficult seasons show?

Day 2 Verse 12

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. --Colossians 1:12

1. "Father" emphasizes a personal relationship with God. How does this help you approach Him?
 - a. Could we call God our Father before salvation?
 - b. How are you able to call Him Father now?

2. Who has qualified us?

a. Before God qualified us, what was our condition? See Ephesians 2:1-3.

b. What implications does this have for our own efforts in salvation?

3. What has the Father qualified us for?

4. What is our inheritance?

- a. When do we receive this inheritance?

 - b. Read Ephesians 1:13-14. What does this verse teach us about our inheritance?

 - c. Can you lose your share of the inheritance? Why or why not? Use Scripture to support your answer.
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5. Who are the saints in light?
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6. What difference does it make in your life that you share in this inheritance?

5. Whose authority are we under now?

6. The authority of darkness has been broken over us. How does the domain of darkness still affect us, and should we fear it? See Ephesians 6:10-17 and 1 John 4:4.

Heart Check:

- Do you live as though you have been delivered from the domain of darkness?

Day 4 Verse 13

Who rescued us from the authority of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son of His love, --Colossians 1:13

(The theology of the Kingdom is a large study; please refer to the “What We Teach” on the last page of our lesson for help.)

1. How were we transferred to the kingdom of the Son?

2. What Kingdom is Paul speaking of here?

3. The Kingdom refers to more than the future millennial Kingdom when Jesus will reign on earth for a thousand years, nor does it merely speak to the general rule of God over His creation, the Kingdom is a spiritual reality right now. What are some of the spiritual realities from the verses below?
 - a. Ezekiel 36:25-27

 - b. Romans 6:22

 - c. Romans 8:28-32

 - d. Ephesians 1:3-14

e. James 1:2-5

4. As Kingdom Citizens, how are we to walk? Use Scripture to support your answer.

5. As we eagerly await the coming King, how does Hebrews 12:28 help you understand your mission?

Day 5 Verse 14

in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. --Colossians 1:14

1. In whom do we have redemption?

2. Define redemption (apolutrōsis).

3. How were our sins forgiven?

4. What does it mean that our sins are forgiven?

5. Read 1 John 1:8-10. How does this passage add to your understanding of God's forgiveness of sin?

6. What is the connection between our inheritance, our rescue, our transfer, our sins being forgiven, and our giving thanks to the Father?

7. List all the blessings that God gives to us that are listed in this passage.

Heart Check:

- Is it necessary to forgive yourself? Is it possible to forgive yourself?
- Why do you think the concept of forgiving yourself is so common in our culture? In many churches?
- Have you tried to forgive yourself? What do you need to do instead?

Dig Deeper

- Read Dr. Michael Vlach's article on an often-overlooked passage on the Kingdom: <https://www.bibleprophecyblog.com/2014/11/reexamining-often-overlooked-kingdom.html>
- For Further Study on the Kingdom of God, acquire the book *He Will Reign Forever* by Dr. Michael Vlach.
- Read GraceLife's "What We Teach" on the Kingdom below to have a better understanding of the coming Kingdom.

The Second Coming and the Millennial Reign

We teach that, after the tribulation period, Christ will come to earth to occupy the throne of David ([Matthew 25:31](#); [Luke 1:31-33](#); [Acts 1:10-11](#); [2:29-30](#)) and establish His messianic kingdom for 1,000 years on the earth ([Revelation 20:1-7](#)). During this time the resurrected saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth ([Ezekiel 37:21-28](#); [Daniel 7:17-22](#); [Revelation 19:11-16](#)). This reign will be preceded by the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet, and by the removal of Satan from the world ([Daniel 7:17-27](#); [Revelation 20:1-7](#)).

We teach that the kingdom itself will be the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel ([Isaiah 65:17-25](#); [Ezekiel 37:21-28](#); [Zechariah 8:1-17](#)) to restore them to the land that they forfeited through their disobedience ([Deuteronomy 28:15-68](#)). The result of their disobedience was that Israel was temporarily set aside ([Matthew 21:43](#); [Romans 11:1-26](#)), but will again be awakened through repentance to enter into the land of blessing ([Jeremiah 31:31-34](#); [Ezekiel 36:22-32](#); [Romans 11:25-29](#)).

We teach that this time of our Lord's reign will be characterized by harmony, justice, peace, righteousness, and long life ([Isaiah 11](#); [65:17-25](#); [Ezekiel 36:33-38](#)), and will be brought to an end with the release of Satan ([Revelation 20:7](#)).