

Growing One Another

Spiritual growth best happens within **relationships**.




Grace Bible Church
On Blue Ridge

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What are the
benefits?
Psalm 103



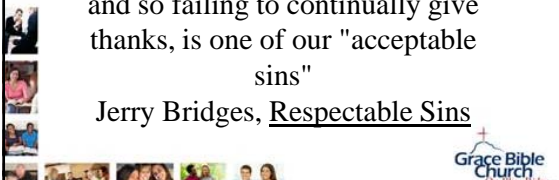
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"Taking for granted all the temporal provisions and spiritual blessings that God has so richly bestowed on us, and so failing to continually give thanks, is one of our "acceptable sins"


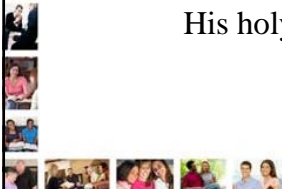
Jerry Bridges, Respectable Sins



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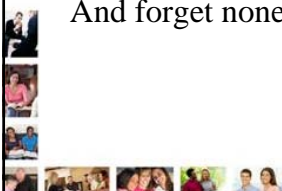
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1 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And all that is within me, *bles*
His holy name.




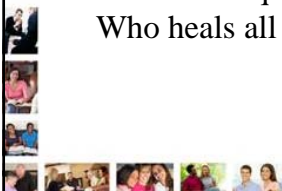
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2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And forget none of His benefits;



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3 Who pardons all your
iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases;



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Benefit of Forgiveness

- **Forgiveness of Sin**
 - Promise of the Father
 - Provision of the Son
 - Proclaimed in the Word




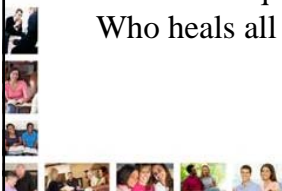
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Thanksgiving is the enemy
of discontentment and
dissatisfaction.



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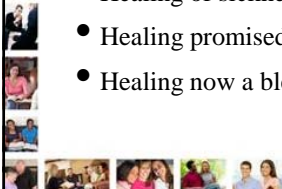
3 Who pardons all your
iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases;



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Benefit of Healing

- Healing of the soul
- Healing of sickness by curing the cause
- Healing promised - one day!
- Healing now a blessing, then a promise




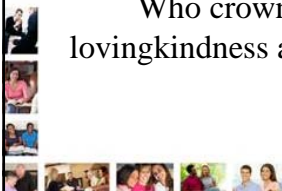
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Praise God even when you don't understand what He is doing.



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4 Who redeems your life from the pit,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;



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Benefit of Redemption

- Value of redemption shown in price paid
- Psalm 40:2,3
- Who will see this?
- Who will trust this?




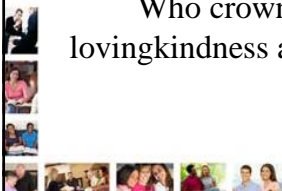
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Gratitude is the least of the virtues, but ingratitude is the worst of vices.



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4 Who redeems your life from the pit,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;



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Benefit of love & mercy

- Covenantal love
- Unilateral, Unconditional, Sacrificial
- Mercy - withholding judgment NOT justice




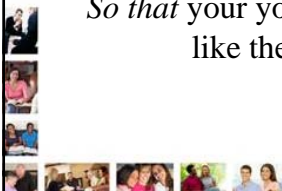
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Gratitude is born in hearts
that take time to count up
past mercies.



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5 Who satisfies your years with
good things,
So that your youth is renewed
like the eagle.



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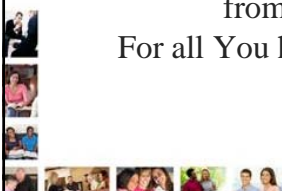
Benefit of satisfaction

- World's satisfaction - must repeat
- God's satisfaction - once for all!
- Godly contentment
- "I have never met a saint right with God, who was unsatisfied!"





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Thank you, dear God
For all You have given me,
For all You have taken away
from me,
For all You have left me.



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"That all the People may with united
Hearts on that Day express a just
sense of His unmerited Favors."
Samuel Adams November 3, 1778
Thanksgiving Proclamation



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Celebrate these benefits


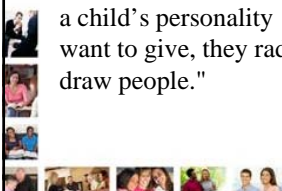
- Forgiveness - right with God
- Redemption - so great salvation
- Healing - glory of heaven
- Love - undeserved and unimaginable
- Satisfaction - genuine contentment!



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"How wonderful it would be if we could help our children and grandchildren to learn thanksgiving at an early age. Thanksgiving opens the doors. It changes a child's personality ... thankful children want to give, they radiate happiness, they draw people."

John Templeton



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Different Thanksgiving

- Take time to reflect
- Commit to an act of generosity
- Pick a theme for conversation
- Ask everyone to name a specific blessing
- Listen to the past - hope for the future!



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