



Pastor's Comments

In large print at:
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Grateful to Whom?

Harriet Martineau was an atheist. One morning she and a Christian friend stepped out into the glories of a beautiful fall morning. As Harriet saw the brilliant sun peaking through the haze, the frost on the meadow, and the brightly colored leaves making their way lazily to the ground, she was overwhelmed with the beauty and burst forth with "I am so thankful. I'm just so grateful for it all." Her believing friend asked, "**Grateful to Whom, my dear?**"

Jesus told of a wealthy farmer who was making plans to enlarge his barns, but failed to acknowledge God Who said to him, "***Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?***" (Luke 12:20). A "self-made man" does not feel the need to express gratitude to anyone other than himself since in his foolish conceit and pride he is blinded to the truth that his achievements and accumulated riches are directly attributable to God. This man was a fool to think he alone was responsible for his success. Who made the seeds that he planted? **God**. Who made the ground that "brought forth plentifully?" **God**. Who gave the rain and sunshine? **God**.

An old miser once grumbled, "I do not have to thank anyone for anything I have! Everything I have I got the hard way – by the sweat of my own brow!" His neighbor responded, "**But who gave you the sweat?**" The old miser hung his head in guilty silence. He could not ignore the fact that God had given the "sweat," the strength to work hard and gain material wealth.

What about you, reader? **Are you grateful and thankful to God** for all He has given you and done for you? "***Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine... therefore, our God, we thank thee... for all things come of thee***" (1 Chronicles 29:11-14).

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