

Todah- L-Adonia! Thanks be to God!

There is no one left Jesus!

My God, My God... why have you forsaken me?

Father... into thy hands I commit my spirit!

Intro song: **Timothy R. Smith - "Somethings Gotta Go"**

● **Prayer:**

- Conversion of sinners
- Poor souls in purgatory
- For the repose of the souls of
 - Mary Lou Brown
 - John Medeiros
 - Marisa Sanchez
 - Kelly Virena
- For a clean heart o Lord!
 - *[10] Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.*
 - *[11] Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me.*
 - *[12] Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.*
 - *[13] Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee.*

My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?

- Have you ever wondered why Jesus would say such a thing?
 - Isn't he God?
 - How can God turn his back on himself?
 - Growing up... this really bothered me... how can he who

knew no sin, and became a sin offering for us... cry out in such despair... in weakness?

- Did Jesus truly think God had abandoned him?

- **The answer... believe it or not... is NOT found in despair!**

- **It is in THANKSGIVING to God!**

- **Thanksgiving in the USA is fast approaching**

- According to Wikipedia:

- **Thanksgiving Day** is a [harvest festival](#) celebrated primarily in the [United States](#) and [Canada](#).

Thanksgiving was a holiday to express thankfulness, gratitude, and appreciation to God, family and friends for which all have been blessed of material possessions and relationships.

Traditionally, it has been a time to give thanks for a bountiful harvest. This holiday has since moved away from its religious roots.^[1]

- Americans commonly believe that the first Thanksgiving happened in 1621, at [Plymouth Plantation](#), in [Massachusetts](#), there is strong evidence for earlier celebrations in [Canada](#) (1578) and by Spanish explorers in [Florida](#) (1565).

- **The Thanksgiving feasts are actually much older than that!**

- They were even celebrated by the ancient people of God...

- Israel - celebrated the feast of Pentecost for instance

- They also... offered up a real Thanksgiving to God...

- they Thank-Offering or the Todah (Hebrew)!

- **Prescribed Sacrifices Leviticus 1 -7:**

- Burnt Offerings

- Cereal Offerings
 - Peace Offerings
 - Sin Offerings
 - Guilt Offerings
- Sacrifice reconciles man to God & establishes a covenant!
 - Adam & Eve didn't offer up animal sacrifice
 - Everyone after them did!
 - Daily sacrifice NOT required until...
 - Worship of the Golden Calf at Mt. Sinai-**Exodus 32**
 - The people turned their hearts back to Egypt
 - God REQUIRED they sacrifice the so-called gods of Egypt at HIS alter... so THEY would know who the REAL God of all creation was... who led them out of Egypt & Delivered THEM from slavery & bondage!
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 - From that point on
 - 9 am & 3 pm - Daily sacrifice! the Tamid...
 - Yearly Sacrifice of the bull for Aaron & a lamb for the people
 - The Peace offerings however were MORE significant!
 - They too go back a ways!
 - Noah offering up a sacrifice to God for saving them! - **Genesis 8:20** & following
 - Abraham entering into covenant with the King of Salem (Peace) Melchizedek- with bread, & wine - **Genesis 14:18-20**
 - The MOST significant of the Peace offerings is the Todah... or the thank-offering:
 - **Leviticus 7:12-15**
 - *[12] If he offers it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the thank offering unleavened cakes mixed with oil, unleavened wafers spread with oil, and*

cakes of fine flour well mixed with oil. [13] With the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving he shall bring his offering with cakes of leavened bread. [14] And of such he shall offer one cake from each offering, as an offering to the LORD; it shall belong to the priest who throws the blood of the peace offerings. [15] And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten on the day of his offering; he shall not leave any of it until the morning.

- **This was a sacrifice offered by anyone who had been saved from death, peril, sickness, etc.**
 - He would bring the lamb, and bread to the temple for the Priests to sacrifice the lamb & to consecrate the bread.
 - The Priest took the shoulder and the neck to eat
 - & the entrails & fat were burnt as an offering.
 - Bread was "WAVED" - some say in a cross like pattern to the 4 quarters of the earth!
 - The remainder was taken back to the home & friends & family were invited over for the sacrificial feast!
 - Psalms were sung & the mighty works of God were proclaimed
 - This was the ONLY sacrifice where the lay person could eat of it!
 - The cup of Consummation/Salvation was then raised to God! - **Psalm 116:13**
- **King David kicks it up a notch!**
 - In 1 Chronicles 15 we read how David moved the Ark

- of the Covenant to Jerusalem (used to be Salem - under King Melchizedek).
- He calls out the clans of the Levites - Priests & Liturgical ministers
 - Has them clean & consecrate themselves
 - They take up the Ark on their shoulder to carry it to Jerusalem
 - David dons the linen ephod - the vestments of the High priest!
 - A new Priest King?
 - David DANCES - leaps for joy - in front of the Ark while its being brought up
 - Music is played
 - Psalms are sung
 - Then... David offers up a peace offering for the people to the Lord
 - Then distributes to ALL - Bread, wine, & meat
 - **1 Chronicles 16:1-4**
 - *[1] And they brought the ark of God, and set it inside the tent which David had pitched for it; and they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before God. [2] And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD, [3] and distributed to all Israel, both men and women, to each a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. [4] Moreover he appointed certain of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the LORD, to invoke, to thank, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel.*
 - David institutes PERPETUAL Todah (Thanksgiving) to

the Lord - everyday in the Tabernacle.

- From Dr. Scott Hahn's "Letter & Spirit: From Written Text to Living Word in the Liturgy"
 - *"David took a special interest in revitalizing the liturgy. Jewish tradition reveres him as a sort of second lawgiver; but his special law was dominated by liturgy. Says Midrash Tehillim, the oldest surviving commentary on the Psalms: 'Moses gave Israel the five book of the law, and David gave Israel the five books of the Psalms'"*
 - David is ALL about Liturgy!
- **King David reorganizes the Levites & reinvigorates the liturgy of the people... giving them the Psalms that are designed specifically for Todah... thanksgiving.**
- The form:
 - Starting with Lament...
 - I'm surrounded... Im drowning... they come to kill me!
 - Turing to trust in God even in despair
 - But you are my salvation & my Rock
 - Then ending on Praise of God
 - I will proclaim in the Congregation of your Mighty deeds!
 - David gives us the insight into the heart of God with the Todah...
 - **Psalm 51:16-19**
 - *[16] For thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased. [17] The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. [18] Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure;*

rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, [19] then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

- It is a CLEAN heart an ear towards obedience... not the blood of bulls and goats that God desires...
 - Its what he desired from the very beginning!
- The ONE day a year when the Todah could NOT be offered was on Passover...
 - It was the Corporate Todah for ALL the people
 - The sacrifice...
 - Lamb... bread... wine!
 - The Hymns sung in the Passover... 113-118 - Todah psalms!
 - These Psalms were movements of salvation
 - from despair, to hope... to praise of God & giving of thanks!
- **The Todah will last forever...**
 - The ancient Rabbias believed the Todah sacrifice would be the ONLY sacrifice to live on beyond the sacrifice of animals!
 - *"In the coming Messianic age all sacrifices will cease, but the thank offering [todah] will never cease."*
- **The Upper room to the Cross - a Todah!**
 - It was a Passover meal Jesus enjoyed in the upper room... a Todah sacrifice! **Luke 22:14-22**
 - The Greek word for Todah... Eucharista...
 - The Cup Jesus Blesses -
 - the Cup of Blessing - **1 Cor. 10:16**
 - The Cup Jesus Consumes on the Cross-
 - The Cup of Consummation/Salvation - **John**

19:28-30

- *[28] After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the scripture), "I thirst." [29] A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. [30] When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

- There are 4 cups in the Passover Liturgy... this was the 4th cup consumed from the Cross.

• To be sure... Psalm 22

- It starts out in despair...

- *[1] My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? [2] O my God, I cry by day, but thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest.*

- But then turns to hope even though it looks bad...

- *[3] Yet thou art holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. ...*
- *[16] Yea, dogs are round about me; a company of evildoers encircle me; they have pierced my hands and feet [17] I can count all my bones they stare and gloat over me; [18] they divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.*

- *But ends in Praise of God for HIS mighty deeds!*

- 1. *[23] You who fear the LORD, praise him!*

- *all you sons of Jacob, glorify him,*

- *and stand in awe of him, all you sons of Israel!*

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- *[24] For he has not despised or abhorred*

- *the affliction of the afflicted;*

- *and he has not hid his face from him,*

- *but has heard, when he cried to him.*

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- *[25] From thee comes my praise in the great congregation;*

- *my vows I will pay before those who fear him.*

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- *[26] The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;*

- *those who seek him shall praise the LORD!*

- *May your hearts live for ever!*

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- *[27] All the ends of the earth shall remember*

- *and turn to the LORD;*

- *and all the families of the nations*

- *shall worship before him.*

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- *[28] For dominion belongs to the LORD,*

- *and he rules over the nations.*

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- *[29] Yea, to him shall all the proud of the earth bow down;*

- *before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,*

- *and he who cannot keep himself alive.*

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- *[30] Posterity shall serve him;*

- *men shall tell of the Lord to the coming generation,*

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- *[31] and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,*
- *that he has wrought it.*

- **Jesus was NOT crying out in weakness... but in strength!**
 - *The Temple was destroyed in 70 AD*
 - *40 years from his sacrifice - same Generation*
 - *From then on... only the Todah Sacrifice - the Eucharist of Christ has survived!*
 - Like King Melchizedek & King David...
 - He too is both High Priest & King
 - offering HIMSELF as the Lamb
 - turning the bread & wine into HIS Body and HIS Blood
 - & giving it ALL as the supreme THANKSGIVING -
 - Fruit of the Womb that hung on the TREE of LIFE
 - that IF we eat & drink... we would have LIFE within us
 - and HE would raise us up on the LAST day
 - **John 6:54**

