

Psalm 104:14,15
THANKS FOR THE BREAD, THE WINE AND OIL

- I. Gifted with necessities.
 - A. Thanksgiving Day must not be just a general attitude of thanks, but gratitude to the God Who gives the harvest.
 - 1. The sincere, godly Christian knows that the bountiful harvest is from the Creator God.
 - 2. When we look at the Creator's gift of the physical harvest, then we see it as a picture of the spiritual blessings of salvation.
 - B. Our text declares that God "causeth the grass to grow."
 - 1. For all the things man is able to do, he cannot make anything alive and grow.
 - 2. God's purpose for the grass is so He "may bring forth food out of the earth."
 - C. The devout eye sees God's hand in every field blade of grass.
- II. God not only produces in abundance for our basic needs but also for our unneeded, luxurious desires.
 - A. "Bread which strengtheth man's heart."
 - 1. God brings forth bread, the staff of life, the most indispensable and necessary means for man's nourishment.
 - 2. Man has strength and courage after eating.
 - B. Besides the necessary bread, God also gives us the pleasant and unnecessary luxuries: wine and oil.
 - 1. God also furnishes us with a feast, including wine.
 - 2. And God gives us "oil to make his face to shine." (cf. Ps. 23:5; Eccl. 9:7,8; Ruth 3:3).
- III. God is to be blessed for all He gives. "Bless Jehovah, O my soul. O Jehovah my God, Thou art very great" (1).
 - A. That God has to call us to praise Him, and especially in harvest time, points out the fact that our natural proneness is to forget.
 - B. It is especially with the wine and oil that we are to rejoice in our God.
 - C. While the ungodly world wallows in pleasures without discerning the Giver, may we use the necessities and the luxuries gifted to us with joyful and grateful moderation.