

## TIS THE SEASON ... TO BE THANKFUL

*O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever (Psalm 30:12b NIV).*

Sandwiched into every line of the Christmas story is the message of thankfulness. Ultimately we are thankful to God for the precious gift of His Son. Would you consider the words of the 30<sup>th</sup> Psalm as we direct our hearts to realize tis the season to be thankful.

1 I will exalt you, O LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. 2 O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me. 3 O LORD, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit. 4 Sing to the LORD, you saints of his; praise his holy name. 5 For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. 6 When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken." 7 O LORD, when you favored me, you made my mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed. 8 To you, O LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy: 9 "What gain is there in my destruction, in my going down into the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness? 10 Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me; O LORD, be my help." 11 You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, 12 that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever (Psalm 30:1-12 NIV).

Notice the encouragement from the Psalmist.

- I. I AM THANKFUL THAT EVEN IN THE MIDST OF ENEMIES, YOU HEAR MY CALL (verses 1 – 3).
- II. I THANKFUL THAT EVEN IN TIMES OF TROUBLE, YOU ARE WORKING GOOD (verses 4 – 5).
- III. I AM THANKFUL THAT EVEN WHEN I'M ARROGANT, YOU ARE FAITHFUL (verses 6 – 7).
- IV. I AM THANKFUL THAT EVEN WHEN I DESERVED JUDGMENT, YOU SHOWED MERCY (verses 8 – 10).
- V. I AM THANKFUL THAT EVEN WHEN I FEEL DEPRESSED, YOU TURN MY HEART TO JOY (verses 11 – 12)