

## Introduction

1. The frequency of our thanksgiving must be always ([Eph. 5:20](#)).
2. It seems straightforward to be thankful when things are going well but we must also be thankful when they are not.

## I. One Out of Ten ([Lk. 17:11-19](#))

1. Leprosy is a horrible disease.
  - a. When Miriam became leprous Aaron described her “as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother’s womb” ([Num. 12:12](#)).
2. It was not uncommon to meet groups of lepers as one entered a village ([Lk. 17:12](#)).
  - a. By the Law of Moses lepers were required to be separated from the rest of the people (cf. [Lev. 13:45-46](#)).
3. The lepers got Jesus’ attention ([Lk. 17:13](#)).
4. Jesus commanded the lepers to go show themselves to the priests ([Lk. 17:14](#)).
  - a. This was necessary in order for them to be declared clean (cf. [Lev. 14](#)).
5. Only one out of the ten previous lepers thanked God for the miracle which had occurred ([Lk. 17:15-16](#)).
6. Where are the nine ([Lk. 17:17-18](#))?
  - a. Here was an opportunity to show gratitude for what Christ had done yet only ten percent did.
  - b. We were dead in sin until Christ healed us ([2 Cor. 5:14-17](#); [Gal. 3:26-27](#); [Eph. 2:1](#)).

## II. Thankful in Tribulation

1. Tribulation will come our way guaranteed ([2 Tim. 3:12](#); [Ac. 14:22](#)).
  - a. It happened to Jesus ([Jn. 15:19-20](#); cf. [Isa. 52:13-53:12](#)).
  - b. It happened to His apostles ([Ac. 12:1-5](#)).
  - c. It happened to the church ([Ac. 8:1-3](#)).
2. When the going gets tough the tough keep going ([Gal. 6:9](#); [2 Th. 3:13](#)).
  - a. No complaining ([Php. 2:14](#)).

- b. No walking away from Christ ([Jn. 6:66](#)).
- c. We press on ([Php. 3:14](#)).
- 3. We must stay a thankful people during tribulation.
  - a. Consider Paul and Silas ([Ac. 16:16-25](#)).
  - b. Paul wrote Ephesians in a Roman prison ([Eph. 6:18-20](#); cf. [Eph. 3:1](#), [4:1](#)).

### **III. Proper Perspective**

- 1. We can be thankful at all times as long as we have the proper perspective ([2 Cor. 4](#)).
  - a. This life is temporary and so too are the difficulties we go through in it ([2 Cor. 4:16-17](#)).
  - b. Eternity is forever ([2 Cor. 4:18](#)).
- 2. Paul noted difficulties but he saw the silver lining in each of them ([2 Cor. 4:8-11](#)).
  - a. The death and life of Christ was made manifest ([2 Cor. 4:10-11](#)).
- 3. Thanksgiving abounded to the glory of God ([2 Cor. 4:12-15](#)).
- 4. Paul fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith ([2 Tim. 4:6-8](#)).
  - a. Thanksgiving at all times helped him to do that and it will help us too!

### **Conclusion**

- 1. We must be a thankful people when the times are good and when the times are not good.
- 2. There is never a time when we should be unthankful to the God of Heaven.
- 3. Whatever we are going through now is temporary but eternity is forever.
- 4. Let us stay thankful!