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During this fall season, we are privileged to bear witness to the handiwork of God as we see the colors of leaves change, the strength of the wind, the coolness of the air, the sun's rising and setting, and so much more. As we travel through life, our journey may seem long and uncertain at times, making it is so easy to take our blessings for granted. We sing, "He's got the power in His hands", but often times we are quick to forget that undeniable security that we have in our Father and Savior.

With Thanksgiving Day drawing nigh, I turned to the Word of God to gain an understanding of what it means to "give thanks." Immediately, my mind was drawn to a scripture that we, as sons and daughters of Prophet Crowdy, know verbatim and "should" recite on a daily basis: "Revelation 7:12-- Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, [be] unto our God for ever and ever. Amen." I took the time to read the entire seventh (7th) chapter of Revelation and found that the angels stood around, while the elders and beasts fell down at the feet of the Lord as He sat at the throne, to worship Him and the Lamb. What a site to behold - a numberless sea robed in white robes which had been washed in the blood of the Lamb worshipping God in all of His magnificent glory. The scripture goes on to share that even in the midst of receiving thanks, God still blesses those that hasten to His throne to thirst and hunger no more. He provided us with a Lamb that shall forever feed us and lead us to fountains of living waters. And when all is said and done, the Word says God shall wipe all tears from our eyes.

As we reflect and ponder the Word of God, we should take time to ask ourselves the questions, "Am I thankful? Do I appreciate the presence of the Lord in my midst through guidance and comfort of His Holy Spirit? Do I recognize His protection from all hurt, harm and danger? Do I acknowledge His wisdom over my life and future? Do I accept His love and saving power through the gift of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ?" After considering these things, we then need to determine how we can show that we are thankful. There is an old proverb that says, "actions speak louder than words." We should use our lives as representation of our gratitude. We can show our thanks not only through our worship and praise, but through our obedience and sacrifice. We can show our appreciation through our kindness to our fellowman and our respect for ourselves as both temples and vessels of God. We can glorify our Father by letting the light of Jesus shine from the inside out, daily.

Thanksgiving Day falls the fourth (4th) Thursday of the month of November (Bul) every year. While we can use this time to think on heavenly things and draw closer to God, let us remember and challenge ourselves to "GIVE THANKS" everyday of our lives, not just in word, but in deed as well.