



# Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE  
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

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REVISED BY

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## Chapter Thirty Eight

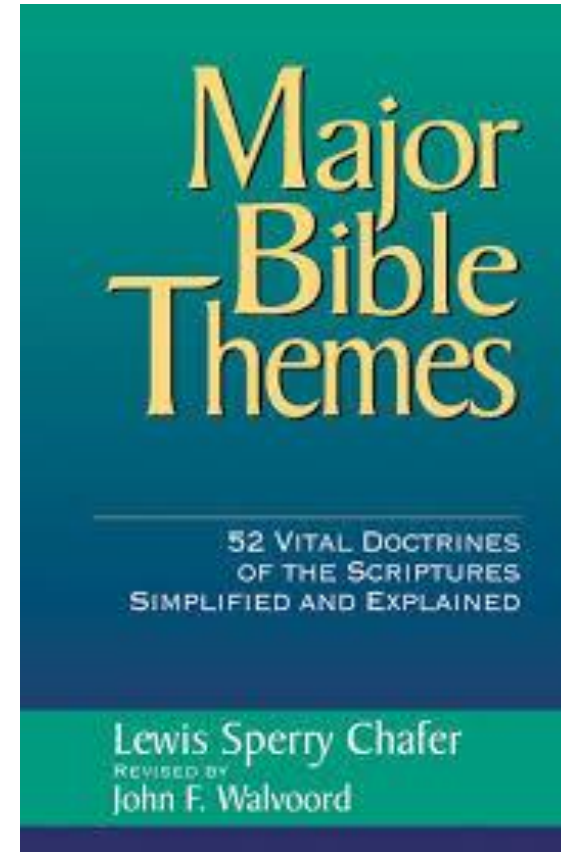
**The Church: Her Worship in Prayer  
and Thanksgiving**

# Step # One

## Find the Outline



## Chapter Thirty Eight The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving



# Chapter Thirty Eight

## The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving

A. Prayer before the first Advent

B. Prayer in Expectation of the Kingdom

C. Prayer of Christ

D. Prayer under Grace

E. Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Understand It



# MBT Chapter Thirty Eight Outline

## Introduction

The Christian as a believer-priest is occupied with four sacrifices:

(1) the sacrifice of his body (2) the sacrifice of praise (3) the sacrifice of good works and ( 4) the sacrifice of stewardship or sharing as brought out in the expression "to communicate forget not"). God is well pleased with such sacrifices. Having dealt with the sacrifice of good works and stewardship of material possessions in previous discussion, we may now consider the work of the believer-priest in his prayer and praise to God which forms the essential of worship

# Understand It

## A. Prayer before the first Advent



The study of the doctrine of prayer and praise in the Old and New Testaments reveals a progressive revelation and increasing privilege.

Though individual and private prayer was offered by godly men in all the ages, it is evident that prayer, in the main, was offered by the patriarch in behalf of his household and, during the period between Moses and Christ, by the priests and rulers in behalf of the people. Throughout these centuries the ground of prayer consisted in pleading the covenants of Jehovah and His holy character and it followed the shedding of sacrificial blood.

## Understand It



### B. Prayer in **Expectation of the Kingdom**

During the early days of Christ's preaching, and when the kingdom was being offered to Israel, He taught His disciples to pray for the kingdom to be set up in the earth. The familiar Lord's Prayer is stated in Matthew 6:9-13 and includes the petition "thy kingdom come" This prayer has primarily in view the realization of the kingdom on earth in the millennium when Christ would reign supreme on earth.

## Understand It



### C. Prayer of Christ

In John 17 the true "Lord's Prayer" is presented and reveals the utmost freedom in communion between the Father and the Son. In this chapter Christ is exercising His office as High Priest, and the theme of His prayer is the need of believers on earth in the coming age following Pentecost. While on earth prior to His death, Christ spent long seasons in prayer, even all night. The prayer of Christ does not seem to depend upon the promises or covenants, but rather rests in His own person and priestly work of sacrifice. The prayer of Christ especially in John 17 is, accordingly, a revelation of the intercessory work of Christ at the right hand of the Father which continues throughout the present dispensation.

## Understand It



### D. Prayer under Grace

Prayer is not the same throughout all ages, but it is adapted to the various dispensations. In the New Testament, prayer takes on the new status of prayer in the name of Christ in the full revelation of His sacrifice on the cross.

This form of prayer may be considered under four aspects.

**1. The function of prayer** includes not only praise but the believer presenting his own needs to the Lord and interceding on behalf of others. In John 14:13-14 Christ promised to do whatever they would ask in His name. Accordingly, God has elevated the importance of prayer to the point where to a large degree **God has conditioned His own action** on the faithful prayer of the believer.



## Understand It



**2. The privilege of praying** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ lends to prayer a characteristic which lifts it above every other form of prayer that ever was or will be. The present form of prayer supersedes all preceding privileges; for when Christ said, "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name" (John 16:24). We may be sure that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ commands the attention of the Father and that the Father will not only listen when that name is used, but will be inclined to do whatsoever is asked to be done for the sake of His beloved Son. Since prayer in the name of Christ is like signing His name to our petition, it is reasonable that prayer in His name should be brought under the favor of God

## Understand It



**3. The scope of prayer** under grace is stated in the one word "whatsoever"; but not without its reasonable limitations. It is whatsoever ye ask in the name, according to the purposes and glory, of Christ. Before true prayer can be offered, the heart must be conformed to the mind of Christ. Thus it is said, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will" (John 15:7).

To the Spirit-filled believer it is said that the Holy Spirit helps us in prayer even when we don't know what to pray for.

## Understand It



**4. The practice of prayer should be given careful attention by every faithful believer.**

The prayers of the NT saints should follow the divine order prescribed for prayer under grace. This order is not arbitrarily imposed. However, to pray to Christ is to abandon His mediation by praying to Him, rather than through Him, thereby sacrificing the most vital feature of prayer under grace - prayer in His name. To pray to the Spirit of God is to pray to Him, rather than by Him, and implies that we are to that degree depending on our own sufficiency. It may be concluded then, that prayer under grace is to be offered to the Father, in the name of the Son, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

# MBT Chapter Thirty Eight Outline

## Understand It



### E. Prayer of Thanksgiving

True thanksgiving is the voluntary expression of heartfelt gratitude for benefit received. Its effectiveness depends upon its sincerity, as its intensity depends upon the value which is placed upon the benefit received

Thanksgiving is peculiarly personal. There are obligations belonging to us which may be assumed by another; but no one can offer for us our word of thanksgiving (Lev. 22:29).

## Understand It



Under the old order, the spiritual relationships to God were expressed in material ways. Among these, provision was made for the offering, or sacrifice, of thanksgiving. Similarly, in this age it is the privilege of the believer to make sacrificial offerings of thanksgiving to God. However, if while offering the sacrificial gift of thanksgiving the motive should include the thought of compensation, the essential value of thanksgiving is destroyed.

## Understand It



Thanksgiving can be traced throughout the Bible. Prayer is mentioned many times in the Old Testament and frequently in the Psalms. In the Old Testament explicit direction is given for the thanksgiving offerings and praise and thanksgiving were especially emphasized in the revival under Nehemiah. Thanksgiving is a special feature of worship in the coming kingdom. So also, there is ceaseless thanks giving in heaven.

An important feature of Old Testament thanksgiving is the appreciation of the Person of God apart from all His benefits. Though so constantly neglected, this theme of thanksgiving is important.

## Understand It



In the New Testament the theme of thanksgiving is mentioned about forty-five times, and this form of praise is offered for both temporal and spiritual blessings. Christ's unflinching practice of giving thanks for food should prove an effectual example to all believers. The Apostle Paul was also faithful in giving thanks.

The Apostle Paul is an example of Thanksgiving. He worships Christ as the "unspeakable gift" through Thanksgiving. He gives Thanksgiving for the victory over the grave which is secured by the resurrection and for the present triumph which is ours through Christ. He gives thanksgiving to God for believers, for Titus in particular and exhorts that thanks be given for all men.

# Understand It



Two important features of thanksgiving according to the New Testament should be noted.

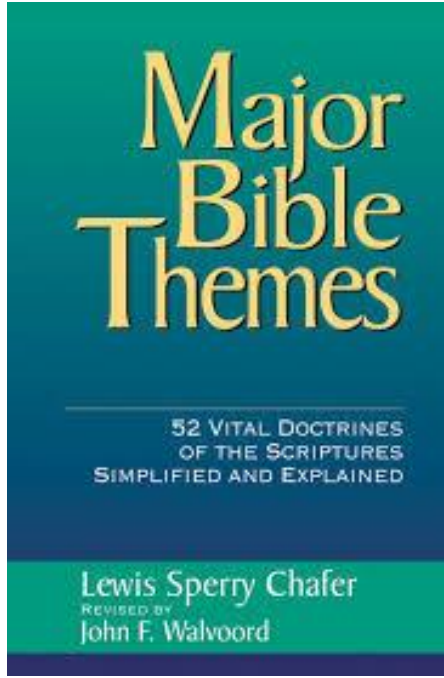
1. Thanksgiving should be prayer **without ceasing**.  
Since His benefits never cease

2. Thanksgiving should be offered **for all things**.

Daniel gave thanks to God in the fact of the sentence of death and Jonah gave thanks to God from the belly of the great fish and from the depths of the sea.. Showing the sin of ingratitude, ten lepers were cleansed, but only one returned to give thanks, and he was a Samaritan It should be noted here that ingratitude is a sin, being included as one of the sins of the "last days"



# The next principle is to build a physical file cabinet



Mike Borland

What does the Bible  
teach about the  
Church: Her  
Worship in prayer  
and Thanksgiving

**Chapter 38 : The Church:  
Her Worship in Prayer and  
Thanksgiving**

**Using Major Bible Themes  
write a study about the  
Church: Her Worship in  
Prayer and Thanksgiving**

# Chapter Thirty Eight

## The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving

**Memorize it**



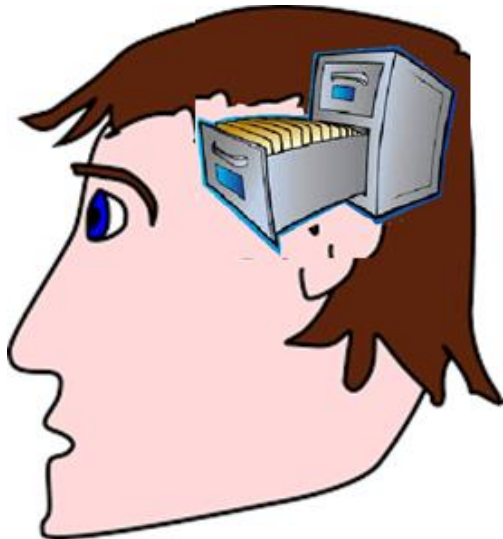
A. Prayer before the first Advent

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# Chapter Thirty Eight

## The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving

A. Prayer before the first Advent

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**Write it Down**



**Underline Main Words...**



# Step # Two

**Read the Section and look up the passages**



# Chapter Thirty Eight

## The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving

### Introduction

Christian as a believer-priest is occupied with four sacrifices found in:

**Rom 12:1** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies** a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

**Heb 13:15** *By him therefore let us offer the **sacrifice of praise** to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips **giving thanks** to his name.*

**Heb 13:16** *But to **do good** and to **communicate** forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*

Christian as a believer-priest is occupied with four sacrifices:

(1) the sacrifice of his body

**Rom 12:1** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies** a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

(2) the sacrifice of praise ( Heb. 13:15);

**Heb 13:15** *By him therefore let us offer the **sacrifice of praise** to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips **giving thanks** to his name.*

**Heb 13:16** *But to **do good** and to **communicate** forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*

(3) the sacrifice of good works ( Heb. 13:16);

( 4) the sacrifice of stewardship or sharing as brought out in the expression "to communicate forget not" ( Heb. 13:16)

God is well pleased with such sacrifices ( Heb, 13:16).

## A. Prayer before the first Advent

Prayer by the patriarch in behalf of his household

**Job 1:5** *And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all:*

Prayer in pleading the covenants of Jehovah

**Neh 9:32** *Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keeps covenant and mercy,*

Prayer on the basis of His holy character

**Gen 18:25** *That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: **Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?***

## B. Prayer in **Expectation of the Kingdom**

**Mat 6:9-10** *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*



## C. Prayer of Christ

His prayer in John 17:1-26

**Joh 17:1** *These words spoke Jesus, and **lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:***

Christ spent long seasons in prayer

**Mat 14:23** *And when he had sent the multitudes away, **he went up into a mountain apart to pray:** and when the evening was come, he was there alone.*

Christ spent all night in prayer

**Luk 6:12** *And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and **continued all night in prayer to God.***

## D. Prayer under Grace

The teaching of Christ about prayer under Grace is given in three passages

**Joh 14:12-14** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and **greater works** than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall **ask in my name, that will I do**, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask **any thing in my name**, I will do it.*

**Joh 15:7** *If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, **ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.***

**Joh 16:23-24** *And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.** Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.*

## Things we can learn about prayer from John:

1. Prayer glorifies the Father: *the Father may be glorified in the Son*
2. Prayer brings greater works than Christ's Miracles: *greater works than these shall he do*
3. Prayer under grace supersedes all preceding privileges "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name"
4. Prayer must be conformed to the mind of Christ. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will

Holy Spirit helps us in prayer

**Rom. 8:26-27** *Likewise the **Spirit also helps** our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the **Spirit itself makes intercession for us** with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searches the hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because he makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God*

In our prayers we follow the divine order prescribed for prayer under grace

**"John 16:23** *In that day ye shall **ask me nothing**. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall **ask the Father** in my name, he will give it you",*

Prayer is to be "in the Holy Spirit" (Jude 20).

**Jud 1:20** *But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Spirit,***

## E. Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer's sincerity, and intensity depends upon the value which is placed upon the benefit received

**2Co 9:11** *Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causes through us thanksgiving to God.*

No one can offer Thanksgiving for us

**Lev 22:29** *And when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving unto the LORD, offer it at **your own will**.*

In the OT thanksgiving was expressed in material ways with explicit directions

**Lev 7:12-13** *If he offer it for a thanksgiving, then he shall offer with the sacrifice of thanksgiving **unleavened cakes** mingled with oil, and **unleavened wafers** anointed with oil, and cakes mingled with oil, of fine flour, fried. Besides the cakes, he shall offer for his offering **leavened bread** with the sacrifice of thanksgiving of his peace offerings.*

Prayer of thanksgiving emphasized in the revival under Nehemiah

**Neh 12:40** *So stood the two companies of them that **gave thanks** in the house of God, and I, and the half of the rulers with me:*

Thanksgiving is a special feature of worship in the coming kingdom

**Isa 51:3** *For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, **thanksgiving**, and the voice of melody.*

Ceaseless thanks giving in heaven

**Rev 4:9** *And when those beasts give glory and honor **and thanks** to him that sat on the throne, who lives for ever and ever,*

Appreciation of the Person of God apart from all His benefits

**Psa 30:4** *Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.*

**Psalm 116:12-13** *What shall I render unto the LORD for **all his benefits** toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.*

**Psalm 116:17** *I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.*

**2Co 9:15** *Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.*

Christ's unflinching practice of giving thanks for food

**Mat 15:36** *And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, **and gave thanks**, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.*



The Apostle Paul was also faithful in thanksgiving

**Act 27:35** *And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and **gave thanks** to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat.*

Paul's thanks for victory over the grave which is secured by the resurrection

**1Co 15:57** *But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Paul's thanksgiving to God for believers

**1Th 1:2** *We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;*

## Paul's thanks for Titus

**2Co 8:16** *But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of **Titus** for you.*

## Paul's thanks be given for all men

**1Ti 2:1-2** *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, **be made for all men**; For kings, and for all that are in authority...*

Thanksgiving causes others to give thanks

**2Co 4:15** *For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the **thanksgiving of many** redound to the glory of God.*

Thanksgiving causing others to give thanks is also emphasized in the Old Testament

**Psalm 116:17-18** *I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows unto the LORD now **in the presence of all his people,***

Thanksgiving should be offered for all things

**1 Thessalonians 5:18:** *"**In every thing** give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"*

**Ephesians 5:20:** *"Giving thanks always for **all things** unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*

Daniel gave thanks to God in the fact of the sentence of death

**Dan 6:10** *Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and **gave thanks** before his God, as he did aforetime.*

Jonah gave thanks to God from the belly of the great fish

**Jonah 2:9** *But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice **of thanksgiving**; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.*

Ten lepers were cleansed, but only one returned to give thanks, and he was a Samaritan

**Luke 17:15-17** *And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, **giving him thanks**: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?*

Ingratitude is a sin of the "last days"

**2Ti 3:2** *For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, **unthankful**, unholy,*

# Step # Three

## Memorize one Passage per section

Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning



Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



# **Step # Four      Take the Test at the end of the chapter**

## **Chapter Thirty Eight**

### **The Church: Her Worship in Prayer and Thanksgiving**

1. What are the four sacrifices of the believer-priest?

(1) the sacrifice of his body (2) the sacrifice of praise (3) the sacrifice of good works and ( 4) the sacrifice of stewardship

2. What importance would you attach to the fact that praise is one of these four sacrifices?

Prayer and praise are the principal elements of worship and are acts of direct communion of men with God.

### 3. How is worship related to form and circumstances?

Accordingly, worship is not confined to sacred services in great cathedrals, but is the adoration of the heart of the Christian as he expresses his praise and intercession to his Heavenly Father in the name of Christ.

### 4. What characterized prayer before the first coming of Christ?

Though individual and private prayer was offered by godly men in all the ages, it is evident that prayer, in the main, was offered by the patriarch in behalf of his household (Job 1:5) and, during the period between Moses and Christ, by the priests and rulers in behalf of the people.



5. What was the purpose of the Lord's Prayer as stated in Matthew 6:9-13?

It was primarily for the Kingdom but because the Lord's Prayer also includes other items that are suitable for all ages and circumstances - such as the adoration of the Father, petition for daily bread, and for deliverance from temptation - it has often been taken as a model prayer. It is doubtful, however, whether this was the intention of Christ

6. In what sense is it proper for us to pray for the kingdom to come?

It is not improper for those living today to anticipate in prayer the coming of the millennial kingdom.

7. Why should John 17 be regarded as the true "Lord's Prayer"?

It was a prayer He actually prayed

8. What do we learn in Scripture concerning the prayer life of Christ, and how does John 17 indicate the form of His petitions?

In John 17 the true "Lord's Prayer" is presented and reveals the utmost freedom in communion between the Father and the Son. In this chapter Christ is exercising His office as High Priest, and the theme of His prayer is the need of believers on earth in the coming age following Pentecost. Christ spent long seasons in prayer sometimes all night.

9. Why under the present dispensation of grace does the function of prayer include intercession, in view of God's omniscience

Rationalism teaches that prayer is unreasonable because an omniscient God would already know what is required better than the man who prays. God, nevertheless, has sovereignly ordained prayer as a means to accomplishing His will in the world and has instructed those who believe in Him to present their petitions.

10. What assurance does the believer have that God will undertake in answer to prayer?

We may be sure that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ commands the attention of the Father and that the Father will not only listen when that name is used, but will be inclined to do whatsoever is asked to be done for the sake of His beloved Son.

11. What is meant by praying in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and how does this give us assurance?

The name of Christ is equivalent to the person of Christ, and the name is not given to believers merely as something with which to conjure. Praying in the name of Christ means recognition of oneself as a living part of Christ in the New Creation and therefore limits the subjects of prayer to those projects which are in direct line with the purposes and glory of Christ.

12. What are the twin dangers pointed out by James in relation to prayer?

Not praying and praying amiss

13. What is the unlimited scope of prayer under grace?

The scope of prayer under grace is stated in the one word "whatsoever"; but not without its reasonable limitations. It is whatsoever ye ask in the name, according to the purposes and glory, of Christ.

14. How does the Spirit relate to our petitions?

He helps us know what to pray for

15. What are the dangers on the one hand of irregular prayer time and on the other hand of useless repetitions?

It is most important that believers observe regular times of prayer. They should avoid any irreverent use of prayer or useless repetitions as characterize the heathen world and follow the divine order prescribed for prayer under grace

16. Why should prayer under grace be offered to the Father in the name of the Son and in the power of the Holy Spirit

To pray to the Father is the prescribed method. To pray to Christ is to abandon His mediation by praying to Him, rather than through Him, thereby sacrificing the most vital feature of prayer under grace - prayer in His name. To pray to the Spirit of God is to pray to Him, rather than by Him, and implies that we are to that degree depending on our own sufficiency.

17. Why is thanksgiving to God a personal matter?

Only you can appreciate the benefits and give thanks

18. In what sense is thanksgiving a sacrifice?

Thanksgiving is the appreciation of the Person of God apart from all His benefits. It is worship and therefore a sacrifice well pleasing to God

19. How does thanksgiving relate to the person of God as in contrast with His works?

We can be thankful for who He is or what He has done

20. What are some of the outstanding illustrations of thanksgiving in the New Testament?

Christ and Paul's consistency in giving thanks

21. What two important features of thanksgiving are noted in the New Testament

Thanksgiving should be prayer without ceasing and Thanksgiving should be offered for all things

22. Why is failure to give thanksgiving a sin?

We are commanded to be thankful so to be unthankful is disobedience and sin

23. Why is thanksgiving properly offered only by believers?

Only believers are priests authorized to present acceptable sacrifices like thanksgiving