

## **A GRATEFUL SAMARITAN LEPER**

**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@ (Luke 17:15-16).**

In the cleansing of the ten lepers, Jesus commanded that they go show themselves to the priest, and as they responded by faith in obedience to His command, they were healed (**Luke 17:14**). What joy they must have felt as they were cleansed from the deplorable disease that had for so longed defiled them! But the Bible says that only one returned to thank the Lord, and he was a Samaritan. But why did only this one lowly Samaritan return to thank Jesus? I believe he returned because he was thankful that, despite his deplorable condition, the Lord had taken an interest in him. He was grateful that the Lord had cleansed him of his leprosy. He too was grateful that the Lord had not showed partiality. And I believe that he was appreciative of the fact that now cleansed, he could enjoy fellowship with Him.

Are we thankful for what the Lord has done for us? Do we, by word and deed, express to Him our thanksgiving for what He has done? Are we thankful that, despite plagued with sin, He cared enough to die in our stead (**Rom. 5:8-9; Heb. 2:9**)? Are we thankful that He shed His blood so that we might be cleansed from sin (**Isa. 53:5; Eph. 2:1; 1 John 1:7**)? Are we grateful that He is not a respecter of persons, that cleansing is available to all who would believe (**Jam. 3:17; Acts 10:34**)? Are we thankful for the fellowship we are now able to enjoy with Him (**Heb.**

**4:16)**? May we, like this lone Samaritan, be ever grateful for what the Lord has done for us! *Aln*  
*everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you@ (1 The. 5:18).*

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