

I. INTRODUCTION: FORM & FUNCTION

A. SUM: JOYFUL *THANKSGIVING* (1f) → BOLD ACTION (3b,7f) → CONFIDENT PRAYER (8c)

B. THEME: *THANKSGIVING* (thank offering; 1,2; 4 /Jer33:11; 17:26 /see Lev7:12f; Ps.107:22; 116:17f; Hb.13:15)

C. STRUCTURE: FORMER ← FINAL → FUTURE (1-3 & 4-6 & 7,8)

D. SETTING: A GREAT PROMISE TO DAVID? (2,6,8; see 2Sam.7; Ps.89,132)

II. INSTRUCTION FOR RIGHT UNDERSTANDING: BOLDNESS OF THANKSGIVING

(Ps.138:1-8)

A. FOR FORMER HELP (1-3)

1. with all my heart; sing (1a,b; see 5; Eph.5:19,20; Col.3:16; Ps.84:2)
2. to You (1a,b; 2a,b; see Jms.1:17)
3. before the gods (1b; see 95:3; 96:3; 97:7; 135:5; Job 1:6; 2:1; 1Cor.8:5; Col.1:16; see Ps.138:4)
4. prostrate toward dwelling place (2a; 6b; see Dan.6:10; Gen.41:43; Phil.2:10)
5. reasons: covenant loyalty & faithfulness (2b, 8); attributes & promises (2c); in answered prayer (3a)
6. effect: shot of adrenaline (3b; see Judg.14:6; 1Sam.16:13; see 2Sam.7:27)

B. FOR FINAL HELP (4-6)

1. all the kings of the earth (4; see 72:10; Phil.2:10; Rev.21:24f)
2. hear His words; see His ways (4b,c; see Ps.110:3; Jn.3:1f; 19:39; Phil.3:1f)
3. give thanks; sing (4a, 5a; see 1a,b; Eph.5:19; Col.3:16; Ps.84:2)
4. summary: the glory of the Lord is great (5b; see 95:3; 96:3; 97:7; 135:5; Col.1:16)
5. irony: humble near; proud far (6; see Ps.34:18; 51:17; see Jms.4:6; 1Pt.5:5; see Mt.8:12,etc.)

C. FOR FUTURE HELP (7,8)

1. sustain life in midst of trouble (7a; see 23:4)
2. deliver from enemies (7b; see 139:10; Ex.15:6,12; see Acts 2:25f,33; Eph.1:20)
3. complete what begun (8a; see Phil.1:6)
4. covenant love, loyalty and faithfulness (8b; see 2; see 1Chr.16:34,41; Ps.107:1,etc.; 136:1-3,26; Jer.33:11)
5. confident petition (8c; see 119:94; see Dt.31:6,8; Josh.1:5; Heb.13:5; see Mt.28:20)

III. ENCOURAGEMENT FOR FAITHFUL ACTION: GIVE THANKS & BE BOLD!

A. LOOK TO CHRIST FOR THANKSGIVING AND FOR PETITION (4-6 w/1f, 7f; see 2Sam.7:11f; Ps.89; 132; Acts 2:25f,33; Eph.1:20f; Col.2:16; Rom.8:32)

B. THANK THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART BY SINGING (1; 4,5; see 147:7; 2Sam.22:50; Eph.5:19,20; Col.3:16; see Mt.22:37)

C. THANK THE LORD WITH A THANK OFFERING (1f; see Lev.7:11f, 3f; Ps.116:17; Jer.33:11; Heb.13:15f; 11/20/16 sermon)

D. THANK THE LORD PUBLICLY WITH TESTIMONY (1b; see 116:14,18; Phil.3:1f)

E. THANK THE LORD (1f) & CONFESS HIS POWER, GOODNESS & FAITHFULNESS (4f; yet 1-8) & ASK FOR HIS CONTINUING HELP (7f)

F. SEEK JOYFUL *THANKSGIVING* (1f) → BOLD ACTION (3b,7f) → CONFIDENT PRAYER (8c)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)