

GRATITUDE

30.11.2025

OLD TESTAMENT **Isaiah 2: 1-5**

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!



Isaiah 2: 1-5

Gratitude for God's Vision and Peace

- ✦ Gratitude for the promise of unity: “all nations shall stream to it” – we are called to see a vision of a future of shared worship.
- ✦ We give thanks for God's instruction that leads us to walk in His paths.
- ✦ The transformation of weapons into tools of cultivation – gratitude for peace over conflict.
- ✦ God's judgment brings healing, not harm – we have a reason to be thankful for divine justice.
- ✦ “Let us walk in the light of the Lord” – we express gratitude for the invitation to live in God's light.



PSALM 122

I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'
Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.
To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
For there the thrones for judgement were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
'May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers.'
For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, 'Peace be within you.'
For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.



Gratitude for Belonging and Blessing

- ✦ "I was glad when they said to me..." — gratitude begins with joy in worship and community.
- ✦ Standing within Jerusalem's gates — thankfulness for spiritual home and sacred space.
- ✦ Gratitude for the unity and strength of God's people: "a city bound firmly together."
- ✦ Giving thanks to the name of the Lord — worship as an act of gratitude.
- ✦ Praying for peace and prosperity — gratitude that seeks the good of others and 'the city'.

NEW TESTAMENT **Romans 13: 11-14**

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



Romans 13: 11-14

Gratitude for the Nearness of Salvation

- ✦ “Salvation is nearer now” – gratitude for the unfolding of God’s redemptive plan.
- ✦ Thankfulness for the call to wake up and live in the light.
- ✦ Gratitude for the power to lay aside darkness and live honourably.
- ✦ “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ” a daily act of thanksgiving through discipleship.
- ✦ Living with purpose and clarity is itself a form of gratitude for God’s grace.



THE GOSPEL **MATTHEW 24: 36-44**

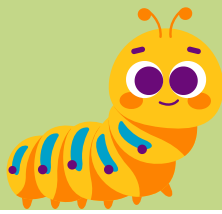
‘But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Matthew 24: 36-44

Generosity in Readiness and Response

- ✦ Though the hour is unknown, we are grateful that God is always working towards redemption.
- ✦ Gratitude for the warning and the wisdom to stay awake and alert.
- ✦ The story of Noah reminds us to be thankful for divine protection and preparation.
- ✦ “Be ready” – gratitude is expressed in readiness, trust, and hope.
- ✦ We give thanks that the Son of Man comes not to condemn, but to save.





Sermon Thread

Gratitude as Response to God's Presence and Promise

- ✦ Gratitude is rooted in trust — in God's timing, justice, peace, and nearness.
- ✦ We are thankful for the invitation to walk in the light, to live awake, and to seek peace.
- ✦ Gratitude is not passive — it's a way of living that reflects joy, hope, and readiness.
- ✦ In a world of uncertainty, gratitude anchors us in God's enduring promises.

