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*O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

*Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy; . . .*

*Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!*

*For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. . . .*

*Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!*

*And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.*

***Psalms 107:1–2, 8–9, 21–22***

**Special Thanksgiving Message from Jamison Coppola, AACCS Government Relations Director**

Longtime readers of the *Washington Flyer* know that our Thanksgiving edition usually contains a reprint of various Thanksgiving Day Proclamations issued by national leaders. This year, our staff discussed using one of the original proclamations from the Massachusetts Bay Colony or the Jamestown settlement; and so, thinking I had recently seen a post about a Massachusetts proclamation, I volunteered to find a reliable source for a community declaration of Thanksgiving from our country’s early years. This internet inquiry invariably led me into the realm of our society’s new, critical interpretations of our “irredeemably corrupt” founding. To say the least, it was disheartening to read about how much our society’s fundamental understanding of our culture and traditions has been relitigated and reinterpreted using a set of cynical academic philosophies commonly known as Critical Theory.

Critical Theory sees all human structures, relationships, institutions, and interactions in terms of constructed group identity while attempting to measure the supposed power each group holds in a society with intersecting identities. This calculation is done to assign “oppressor” or “victim” status to each group and to advance a political ideology that works to transfer power from the evil “oppressors” to the virtuous “victims.” There are many ways this false philosophy is damaging to individuals and divisive to society, not the least of which is that it foregoes considerations of objective truth—the absolute, sovereign power of a Creator God and His loving, unmerited mercy.

Depressing, right? Yes and no! Our office search for something meaningful to share with *Flyer* readers was not hopeless, because it ultimately led to the discovery that, early on, Thanksgiving proclamations were actually tied to calls for communitywide thanksgiving and FASTING!

Now, I know what you’re thinking: “More depressing news!” But it’s really not, because it’s a reminder that through both fasts and feasts, we show serious attention to God by means of an immediate reminder of His manifold provision.

- In fasts, we remind ourselves to seek God through deprivation; and in feasts, we are reminded of how much God seeks us through material provision.
- In fasts, we cry out for deliverance and mercy; in feasts, we celebrate His unearned favor and manifold grace.

- In fasts, we abnegate ourselves by the personal deprivation of food; and in feasts, we forget ourselves through the communal sharing of God’s bountiful provisions while serving the family, friends, and neighbors gathered in our homes and around our table.

So, no matter your plans for this Thanksgiving holiday, we pray you enjoy many reminders of our good God and His bountiful provision for you and yours, His Church, and our Country. While we work and hope and pray for a renewed sense in our countrymen of humble awe of God and service to our fellow citizens, remember the truth recorded in Proverbs 10:22, “The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.”

Happy Thanksgiving!

**In Case You Missed It:**

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Promise to America’s Children](#)