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*“Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.”  
Psalm 106:1*

**The First Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamation**

On April 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office to become our country’s first President of the United States. Later that same year, he issued a [Thanksgiving Proclamation](#). The Proclamation reflected a deep gratitude for God’s protection in the efforts for independence, for His mercy in granting victory and freedom, and for His wisdom and guidance as the people formed the new nation. It is noteworthy that the proclamation recognized not just the blessings enjoyed, but also who provided the blessings – “Almighty God.” This first Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamation is below in its entirety for your enjoyment.

*New York, 3 October 1789*

*By the President of the United States of America. a Proclamation.*

*Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me “to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.”*

*Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation—for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war—for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted—for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.*

*and also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions—to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually—to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed—to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord—To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science*

*among them and us—and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.*

*Given under my hand at the City of New-York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.  
Go: Washington*

### **Happy Thanksgiving!**

We want to wish all our readers a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. We pray this week brings you many joyful moments as we pause to reflect on our blessings and our great God and loving Savior who grants us “every good and perfect gift.”

### **Next Week: Giving Tuesday!**

Next Tuesday, **December 3, is Giving Tuesday!** We will be hosting an opportunity to support our [AACSYouth Legislative Training Conference](#) through our social media accounts ([Facebook @AACSEducat](#)es and [Instagram \(@yltc\\_aacs\)](#)). As you participate in Giving Tuesday this year, we appreciate your consideration of supporting this great program. A gift now is an [investment](#) in the leaders of our future!

### **In Case You Missed It:**

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

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

[Promise to America’s Children](#)

[AACSToday: George Washington vs the Texas AFT President](#)