

Thanksgiving Bible Hour, Firm Foundation Christian Church, 2023

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:11-12, in action by the Pilgrims
https://www.firmfoundationri.com/images/Sermon_111923.mp3
2. Drawing from our Heritage: The First American Thanksgiving
 - a. The Debate rages on- Some, 1565, St. Augustine FL (Spaniards, consisting of a mass and coarse meal), Others, 1619, Jamestown VA (a simple prayer service)
 - b. But the Feast of Thanksgiving most salient (explain why) to our national heritage of celebration of the Thanksgiving Holiday (I would argue) was that of the Puritans (Pilgrims) after harvest time in the Autumn of 1621 at Plymouth
 - c. History in process of sanitization by progressives who wish to remove God from the holiday, disparage the religion of these faithful folks, and see the actual history as somehow “Anti-Native-American”, but events remain on record
 - d. Source Documents- “Of Plimouth Plantation” (general historical account loaded with reference to Divine Providence and Bible Principles) by William Bradford, and “The Letter of Edward Winslow” (which gives us specific details of the 1621 Thanksgiving Celebration)
 - e. Pastor John Robinson, “Mr. Jeremiah 20:9”, men of such influence lead to a legacy (Cf. Roger Williams, RI Charter of 1663, the founding of the nearby colony rightly ordered according to “gospel principles”, with plain living and evangelical fervor)
 - f. 66 days on the Mayflower, with 102 passengers, only 53 would live another full year due to great privations and suffering in New England, yet they would fulfill their mission according to divine providence (Cf. Isaiah 58:11-12; Psalm 30:5, 90:17)
 - g. God’s provision through Squanto, the only survivor of the Patuxet Indian tribe, who had been exposed to and probably converted to Christianity, and later returned and joined himself to the Wampanoag Indian tribe, in March 1621 God used him and this tribe to teach the settlers how to grow a successful harvest in the new land (Cf. 1 Corinthians 1:28)
 - h. Excerpts from the Letter of Edward Winslow, noting various details
 - i. If you want to learn more, at seminary level, Firm Foundation Bible Institute offers the course “The Bible and US History.”