



Giving Thanks for Their New-Found Savior

"Signs of Faith in a Non-Judeo-Christian Society"

By Ron Myers

Thanksgiving Greetings in Jesus' Name,

"Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name" (Psalm 103:1)

Thanksgiving time is now upon us. Its sad how, as Christians, our focus is so easily drawn away from thanking God to being caught up in things that beg our attention—not bad things, just things. Then, there's the superficial "Turkey Day" mentality of the ungodly; enraptured by this world's materialistic system—anything and everything except for God and His Goodness, personified in the free Gift of Eternal Life and Salvation from sin and eternal judgement through His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you recollect that wonderful time in your life when you realized your totally helpless lost condition; and, upon placing your personal trust in Christ's provision, God mercifully forgave your sin and saved you eternally? I vividly recall when, upon my stark realization of my lost condition, in my terror of eternal judgement I cried out from my heart for mercy. At that moment, the wind and waves of panic were replaced by a perfect peace that flooded my whole being as God lifted me out of the miry pit of sin and death and set my feet upon *The Solid Rock*: The Lord Jesus Christ. (*Psalm 40:2*)

This meaningful chorus from Don Moen's well-known hymn comes to mind:

*Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul; Thank you, Lord, for making me whole
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me; Thy great salvation so rich and free*

Speaking of exhibiting thankfulness, I want to share a wonderful story with you. One morning, while I was busy studying the *Nyaw* language, a husband and wife couple from an adjoining village called out to me from my front lawn, *"Foreign Doctor, Foreign Doctor, please come out and give us some of your good foreign medicine."* I kept a supply of over-the-counter things on hand, as well as some wide-spectrum antibiotics, available in Thailand without a prescription. Upon supplying their needs, I told them I had some medicine that could make them pure so they could go to Heaven. *"Let's see it,"* they said.



Church Elder Samer's Dad and Mom

I then shared the Gospel with them, starting with the Genesis creation account, adding that the true Name of the *Messiah* their legends called *The Merciful One* was actually Jesus Christ. Upon inviting them to receive Christ, they simultaneously clasped their hands in prayer, crying out for His help. They later told me that at that moment, it was like a tight chain had been unwound from around their chests. Within a day or two, their whole family believed. Their oldest son, Samer, now a church elder, told me they had given up on Buddhism unannounced and had been seeking for *The Merciful One*, of which their legends spoke. Upon my identifying Jesus as being that One they were searching for, and upon my invitation, they immediately believed.

I visited their home regularly to teach and ground them in the Word, noting that Samer's mom would often repeat *"Thank the Lord."* It was done worshipfully, not in a flippant manner, but from deep down within her being. Samer filled me in on the details as to his mom's deep gratitude. At an early age, demons had chosen her to be a special spirit medium where inquirers go for answers when regular witch doctors couldn't help. Each time she was called on, an all-night seance was conducted for her to channel messages. She was highly regarded, had many disciples and many relied on her expertise. However, she did not want to be involved, but was enslaved by powerful dark forces. She had exhausted every known avenue of escape, but to no avail. Demon possession continued.

They then heard about an old *Sage* in Northern Laos who was expounding on the legend of *The Merciful One*, so they packed up and went there. Returning home, they called out continually to *that One*, their only hope, whomever and wherever He was.

By God's Grace and for His Glory,

Ron & Cheryl Myers

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That was, until they came to visit the *Foreign Doctor* (me) to get some medicine. At that time, they met the *One* of whom their legends spoke and were instantly set free upon receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. Samer's mom and dad are now with their Lord and Savior, yet their testimony of grateful thanks to God lives on.

In closing, Cheryl and I want to thank you for your faithful prayers and sacrificial support. We trust that you will have a blessed and memorable Thanksgiving.