



Pastor Scott Velain

## Should Christians Celebrate Thanksgiving Day?

As most of you are already well aware of... as of this teaching, today is November 10th, 2018. And as most of you already know, Thanksgiving Day is right around the corner. Many of us who have decided to read the Bible from the beginning of the book to the end of the book, instead of just reading it from the middle of the book to the end, have discovered that the majority of today's man-made festivals, rituals, traditions, and holidays are not only not found anywhere within the confines of the 66 books of our Bibles... but we're actually commanded in most cases, not to keep today's man-made festivals, rituals, traditions and holidays because they were predicated upon the worship and adoration of other pagan gods.

James, the very brother of our Messiah, who was the head of the Jerusalem Council tells us very clearly in James chapter 4 verse four that whoever makes himself a friend of the world, makes himself an enemy of God. And I would submit to you my friends that almost all of us have at one time or another made ourselves a friend of this world by keeping many of these man-made festivals, rituals, traditions and holidays.

However... there are a few man-made holidays that a Christian is well within their God-given rights to keep. And I'll even go farther than that... there are a few man-made holidays that a true Christian actually should be keeping because it goes hand-in-hand with what our Father's Torah commands us to do.

As a pastor I am acutely aware of what I've been called to do here on this earth. And just to be clear, I want you to be acutely aware of what all pastors are called to do here on this earth. Let's turn to Ephesians chapter 4 verses 11 through 14: **(scrn 1)**

**Eph 4:11** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

**Eph 4:12** to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

**Eph 4:13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

**Eph 4:14** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

As we can clearly see here in the book of Ephesians, our father gave us apostles, and prophets, and evangelists, and pastors, and teachers to equip the Saints for the work of ministry number one... and to protect them from being tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning... and by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

These are the two reasons why the world has been introduced to our Father's apostles, and prophets, and evangelists, and pastors, and teachers. If your pastor is not equipping you for the work of ministry... and your pastor is not protecting you from every man-made wind of doctrine, and human cunning, and deceitful scheme... then your pastor has been found wanting. Our Scripture tells us that we will know them by their fruits. What kind of fruit is your pastor producing? Is your pastor producing conspiracy theories? Is your pastor producing legends and myths? Is your pastor kowtowing to every wind of doctrine? Because if your pastor is not able to protect you from human cunning, and craftiness, and the deceitful schemes of darkness... then you need a new pastor.

With that being said... it has come to my attention that Thanksgiving Day has been pointed to by many of us who should be seeking the truth... as a pagan holiday. I can't tell you how many videos that there are on YouTube right now proclaiming Thanksgiving Day to be a pagan holiday that Christians should not be observing.

The problem with these newfound videos, and those who are creating those videos, is that they are not basing their information on true documented historical evidence. The picture that they paint is an evil one because all that they ever look for is evil.

I cannot tell you how many videos that I have seen over the years spring up on YouTube in particular, that were started by one misguided and unstudied person, who then fed another misguided and unstudied person, who then fed another misguided and unstudied person, to make another video, and another video, and another video. And what happens, is what most of us know as the snowball effect. One little itty-bitty snowball is rolled down the hill from the top of a mountain, and it just keeps on picking up more snow, and more snow, and more snow until it becomes a huge mammoth snowball that rolls down the hill and destroys somebody's house.

And I would submit to you my friends that this is exactly what's going on here within the false information that has been wrongly gathered, and then distributed to so many people. And when we allow ourselves to be misled by these kinds of inaccurate proclamations, because we haven't done our own homework, and because we've allowed ourselves to be convinced of something simply because we saw it on a YouTube video... our houses do indeed collapse because we have built them in the sand, rather than building them on the rock of truth.

What I want us to understand before we ever even start this particular study, is that Thanksgiving Day has much to do with the Reformation of Christianity. You see, back in the early 1600s the people of England had separated themselves from a monolithically tyrannical church that we as true Bible believing, God-fearing, cross bearing, Messiah following

Christians have been warned to come out of in the book of Revelation. And I want us to turn to that particular Scripture so that we can read it for ourselves this morning. Revelation chapter 18 versus four and five: **(scrn 2)**

**Rev 18:4** Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues;

**Rev 18:5** for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

The founder of the Church of England, Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>, broke with the Roman Catholic Church when the Pope refused to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>, was trying to supplant the Pope as the head of the English church... not to remodel it mind you, or to reform the church. He agreed with the religion of Catholicism, he just wanted the sitting Pope to be removed. And so, the Church of England was for all intensive purposes, the Roman Catholic Church.

Over a period of time, Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>, was succeeded by Elizabeth the 1<sup>st</sup>, and eventually the Church of England finally did become part of the protestant movement, although not to the extent desired by English Puritans like the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists. And so, even though the Church of England eventually did pick up some of the protestant truth's of the Bible, it still to this very day has a close resemblance to the Roman Catholic Church.

Nevertheless... this is what the Puritans, and those who were called Separatists were fleeing England from. The Puritans and the Separatists came across the deep blue sea on the Mayflower because they were running from the throes of Catholicism. They wanted to worship the Scripture as it was written in their God breathed Scripture, rather than what this monolithic, tyrannical entity called The Church of England was commanding them to do.

And so, it's important to understand who these people were. These were not pagan people. These were not people who were going to bow down, and bend the knee to pagan gods. They put their very lives on the line to come to America to worship freely. Many of them left their families, and their loved ones behind, and everything that they possessed. Just to be able to come into a new land and worship their God breathed Scriptures freely. And this is tectonically important to understand when we hear people trying to proclaim that some American Indian tribe turned these God-fearing people into a bunch of pagans, and in a nutshell, that's why we can't celebrate Thanksgiving day.

As we learn the facts of history, and we begin to know a little bit more about these people, and who they were, and what they were running from... I would submit to you my friends, that it is more than just a little difficult to believe that such a God-fearing people, who were willing to give up all that they possessed, and even their loved ones, just in order to come worship the Scripture freely in a new land far away from the persecution of Roman Catholicism... were nothing more than a bunch of pagans in disguise. And and yet... this is exactly what a lot of

these people that are creating these ridiculously unfounded videos are trying to get you and I to believe.

In August 1620, the Mayflower, a 180 ton ship set sail from Southhampton England for the shores of America. She carried over hundred and two passengers that were to soon become some of the founding pilgrims of the United States of America, and although more than half of them would lose their lives to famine and plague in their efforts to establish a free land... the rest of them, by the hand of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, would survive to colonize what we now know as the United States of America.

The pounding waves and a number of problems with their vessel caused the pilgrims to be thrown off course, and when they arrived at the shores of America they spotted Cape Cod off the coast of Massachusetts. This was over 200 miles from where they were supposed to land off the coast of Virginia where other pilgrims had already begun colonies.

Before anchoring at Plymouth Rock and disembarking to explore the new territory, the pilgrims devised what is known as the “Mayflower compact”. This newly devised “Mayflower compact”, was to serve as a roadmap concerning how they would govern their new colony where everyone would have the freedom to worship the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob as they chose. **(scrn 3)**

The compact stated,

*“We whose names are underwritten, the loyal sub- jects of our dread sovereign lord King James... Having undertaken for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutu- ally in the presence of God and one of another, covenant, and combine our- selves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, offices from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the gen- eral good of the colony: unto which we promise all due submission and obe- dience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names; Cape Cod, the 11th of November...”*

(Mourt’s Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth).

I want us to stop right here for just a moment and notice exactly what this historical documentation tells us that this voyage was all about in the first place, and why these settlers even came to Plymouth Rock. According to the Mayflower compact that was written before they ever even got off the boat... the very reason that they came to America was for and I quote, “the glory of God, and the advancement of the Christian faith.” And I might add, that they were not advancing Catholicism. They were running from Catholicism. They came to advance Protestantism, which was a movement through the very hand of Yahovah, the one true God of

Abraham Isaac and Jacob that lead them back to his Torah, and his original God breathed Scriptures, and away from the harlot that rides the beast found in the book of Revelation.

These people were certainly not perfect. These people made mistakes as we all do, but I think it's safe to say that they did indeed pay for the transgressions that they committed while doing their very best to try and establish what they saw as a new Jerusalem here in America. A new holy land. A new place that they could put a stake in the ground for the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. These people were serious about their faith. These people knew what Catholicism was, and they certainly knew what Catholicism was not, and there was no doubt in their minds that Catholicism was indeed not Christianity. And if they knew nothing else... they knew this without the shadow of a doubt just as all the reformers new without a shadow of doubt. Catholicism indeed was not, and is not... Christianity.

During that first winter in New England, it was common for two or three people to die in a single day due to infection and plague. The new settlers were losing their lives at an astonishingly fast pace, and the only thing that saved them was the friendship that they made with a local Indian tribe called the "Wampanoag". These Wampanoag Indians taught the new settlers everything that they needed to know to survive that first winter in that new land. Without the Wampanoag, it's safe to say that the settlers would never have been able to populate, and establish the United States of America.

The passing of that first winter allowed the pilgrims to labor and to produce crops causing the colony to flourish. After reaping their first harvest in the fall of 1621, the pilgrims then dedicated a day for thinking the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob for the bounty that he had blessed them with.

The divine Providence of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob can be seen all throughout this story for those who have the eyes to see and the ears to hear. These new pilgrims were indeed worshiping the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Although they stumbled and bumbled, and from time to time fell, they always came back to the God that they came here to worship. According to the documented history that we have before us, they were not worshiping a pagan God, nor were they worshiping an unknown God of some Indian tribe.

They had fought the brutal New England winter, and many of them died and had to bury their sons, and their daughters, and their wives, and their husband there in that new land. They had toiled through building an entire colony from what was nothing but wilderness. The devil had truly sifted them, and tested them through the fire of travesty and plague, and yet, they were victorious in their fight to establish a new land where they could worship the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob freely. Although the devil had sifted them through plague and poverty and death during their journey, they had reaped a great harvest, and they were at peace with their neighbors, and this allowed them to gather and store plenty of food and crops for the long and brutal winter ahead.

Their governor, a man by the name of William Bradford, proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving towards God. And I want us to know, and I want us to understand, that this is documented history. This is not legend, this is not myth, and this is not hearsay. We can actually read the manuscripts of William Bradford who was there at that time, and serving as governor over this new colony at that time. And so, we need not guess what Thanksgiving was all about. It is in the pages of our history books, and the manuscripts, and the autobiographies of those who were there.

The following quotes from America's God and country demonstrate William Bradford, and his newfound colonies thankfulness for both God's protection, and his blessings: (scrn 4)

*"Being thus arrived in a good harbor, and brought safe to land, they fell upon their knees and blessed the God of heaven who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean, and delivered them from all the perils and miseries thereof, again to set their feet on the firm and stable earth, their proper element"*

*America's God and Country*

William Bradford continues in his memoirs:

*"Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by his hand that made all things of nothing, and gives being to all things that are; and as one small candle may lite a thousand, so the lights here kindled, hath shown unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation; let the glorious name of God have all the praise I bid"*

*William Bradford*

Most of us who know anything about our history, clearly understand that freedom is not free. The Bible tells us that we will reap what we sow. If we fight for freedom, we will have freedom through the hand of Yahovah. But if we do not fight for freedom, then we should make no mistake about it... the little "g" god of this world will see to it that we have no freedom. All evil needs to triumph... is for good men to do nothing. And in times of war, the lines between good and evil can indeed become blurred. War is not something that we hope for... but just as we see in our Scripture, war is indeed needed from time to time. (scrn 5)

**Ecc 3:1** For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

**Ecc 3:2** a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

**Ecc 3:3** a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

**Ecc 3:4** a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

**Ecc 3:5** a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to

*embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;*

*Ecc 3:6 a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;*

*Ecc 3:7 a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;*

**(scrn 6)**

*Ecc 3:8 a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.*

*Ecc 3:9 What gain has the worker from his toil?*

*Ecc 3:10 I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.*

*Ecc 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.*

*Ecc 3:12 I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live;*

*Ecc 3:13 also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.*

There should be no doubt in our minds that our Father in heaven has raised the United States of America up from the dust of the earth through his divine Providence. The United States has been a tool in the hand of our Father in heaven in many cases throughout our rather short history. Hitler would never have been defeated without the United States. It's fair to say that Israel would have never become a nation without the existence of the United States. And I think it's also safe to say that without the technology of the iron dome, that protects the nation of Israel... the nation of Israel would not exist today. As the simple slingshot of David killed Goliath the giant of Gath... so too, the iron dome has killed the hopes of the Palestinians to murder every Jew upon the earth.

It's through the divine Providence of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob that all things come together for the good. And for those of us who have read our Bibles from the beginning to the end, and have prayed for the discernment to understand those God breathed Scriptures... we certainly can see the divine Providence of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob all over these United States and Israel.

Whole nations of pagan people were moved out of the way in order to establish the promised land of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. And I would submit to you my friends that whole nations of pagan people were also moved out of the way to establish the United States of America that was founded once again on the principles, and the precepts, and the Scriptures of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

We here in the United States would be extremely foolish to think that we have become the greatest nation on the face of the earth without the divine Providence of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. There are those who want to destroy this nation, and we should make

no mistake about it... our adversary utterly hates this nation, and is right now as we speak, doing all he can to tear it down and to destroy it. This nation is far from a perfect nation, and yet, we must remember how Abraham bartered with our Elohim concerning Sodom and Gomorrah. **(scrn 7)**

*Gen 18:23* Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?"

*Gen 18:24* Suppose there are **fifty righteous** within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the **fifty righteous** who are in it?

*Gen 18:25* Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"

*Gen 18:26* And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom **fifty righteous** in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

*Gen 18:27* Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes."

*Gen 18:28* Suppose **five of the fifty** righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find **forty-five** there."

**(scrn 8)**

*Gen 18:29* Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose **forty** are found there." He answered, "For the sake of **forty** I will not do it."

*Gen 18:30* Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose **thirty** are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find **thirty** there."

*Gen 18:31* He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose **twenty** are found there." He answered, "For the sake of **twenty** I will not destroy it."

*Gen 18:32* Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose **ten** are found there." He answered, "For the sake of **ten** I will not destroy it."

*Gen 18:33* And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

And so, by example, we can once again see why the United States, to this very day still stands. It's not because the United States is a perfect nation, and it's not because the United States is made up of all Christians. It's because the elect are still here. Those who believe in our Fathers Torah are still standing in this land. To this very day, there are still others that are in the process of coming back to his God breathed Scripture, and away from not only the wickedness of this world... but from the wickedness of man's newfound Roman rooted religion. And I daresay, that there are still more than 10 of us that can be found in this land.

As time marches on, I think it we can all recognize that lawlessness is indeed being increased across the land. And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will indeed grow



cold. And it will be through this lawlessness that will increase over the land that many of us who are true God-fearing, Messiah following, cross bearing Christian may be martyred for the very name of our Messiah Yeshua Hamashiach. And it may very well be at this point in time that not even 10 of us will be left in this great nation. But until that time, we have been commanded to put on the full armor of God, and to stand for what is right and just in the eyes of Yahovah, and to preach the word, and to be ready in season and out of season, and to reprove, and to rebuke, and to exhort with complete patience and teaching, and to endure to the end.

I would submit to you my friends that the desecration of Thanksgiving day is just another brick in the wall. It's just another way that our adversary is deceitfully blinding us from seeing how, and why this nation was established in the first place. I would submit to you my friends once again, that the time is already here when people will not endure sound teaching, but because they have itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and they will turn away from listening to the truth, and they are indeed wondering off into myths.

And this is exactly why it is written that we are to remain sober minded, and to endure suffering, and to do the work of an evangelist and to fulfill our ministries. You see it is our duty to uncover every wind of doctrine that comes out of the mouth of a man, and to overcome human cunning, and craftiness, and deceitful schemes. As Christians we should not allow even our own brothers and sisters to throw truth to the ground without testing their theology for ourselves, and judging righteously thereby standing in protecting the truth.

Much of what is found in these videos on YouTube that desecrate Thanksgiving day, is nothing more than legend, and myth, and unfounded historical deception that has been twisted and turned into a demonically inspired soup of human cunning, and craftiness, and deceitful schemes.

God's people should have the eyes to see, and the ears to hear, what the historical documentation of this day represents, and what it does not represent. Fanciful videos across a network of deception has led people to believe things that they have not taken the time to study for themselves, and this is a shame for a Christian. And we should know better than that.

The pilgrims of the Plymouth colony gave our Elohim credit for all that they had. And we can clearly see what the truth is through the historical documentation of men like William Bradford who was the Gov. of that colony at that time, a man of great stature, and a man of strong faith that had been unshaken even by death itself. The pilgrims beliefs were firmly entrenched in the realization of God's presence and intervention in their everyday lives.

Thanksgiving day began because of the faith that they had in the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It is a day that was dedicated to giving thanks to the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for the many things we often take for granted.

When we take a look at the historical documentation of that time, we can also find that there were many days of Thanksgiving that were established by these pilgrims throughout different times of the year. There was nothing new about establishing a day of Thanksgiving for the pilgrims. It's a popular misconception that the pilgrims celebrated Thanksgiving on the same day each year following the first celebration of 1621. The truth is, that it was a tradition that was always used to highlight, and show gratitude for important events such as bountiful harvests, or victories in battle etc.. Whenever our Elohim had blessed them with these things, the colony called for the celebration of a day of Thanksgiving. This was common practice for the early pilgrims, and I might add, another example that we could all learn from.

In the late 1700s during the American Revolution, the Continental Congress suggested a yearly observance of Thanksgiving day in the hopes of uniting the states.

In 1817 the state of New York adopted Thanksgiving day as an annual holiday. By the mid-1800s many of the other states also adopted the practice of Thanksgiving day. In 1863 Pres. Lincoln appointed it as a national holiday, and he actually gave a Thanksgiving proclamation. Each president since then has issued a proclamation announcing the celebration of this day of Thanksgiving to the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

Not everyone in this nation gives thanks to the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob... but that's what this original holiday was created for... according to truthful historical documentation.

Most of us already know that Thanksgiving day is not specifically mentioned within the confines of our God breathed Scripture, however... Thanksgiving Day is different from most other national holidays. Many other nations have traditions that are pagan in nature that celebrate their own unique harvest festivals that do indeed come from the adoration of different pagan God's, but... Thanksgiving day here in America clearly, according to historical documentation, has nothing to do with pagan gods, or the worship, and adoration, or sanctification of any pagan God.

Thanksgiving day here in the United States was centered on giving thanks to the creator of the heavens and the earth, and there is a major distinction in origin that separates Thanksgiving day from holidays tainted with pagan origins such as Easter, Valentine's Day, Christmas, or Halloween.

The question then begs... Does God allow Christians to participate in holidays, even if they're not associated with paganism? To find the answer to that question, we have to go back to our Father's God breathed Scripture.

John chapter 10 verse 22 records our Messiah being present at the Jewish celebration of the feast of dedication. This of course was the yearly anniversary of the rededication of the temple in Jerusalem also known as Hanukkah in about 165 BC after it was desecrated by Antiochus

epiphanies. It was a national holiday commemorating a respectable and solemn event. And this account that we find in John chapter 10 verse 22 clearly shows that our Messiah himself was with the Jews as they gave thanks to God on this very special day.

In the book of Esther, we read about the celebration of Purim. Mordechai and Esther established the feast of Purim. This particular day is a yearly commemoration of the Jews overcoming the persecution of Haman, the Prime Minister of King Ahasuerus. And I want us to notice that Mordechai and Esther's proclamation, of confirming, the keeping of this particular day, is also not found in the book of Leviticus.

The example of our Messiah being at the feast of dedication, and the traditional Festival of Purim put in place by Mordechai and Esther, clearly show us that God does indeed permit man-made customs that commemorate honorable moments in national history... and that they are indeed allowed to be kept by his people. And although Thanksgiving day is not directly mentioned in the Scripture, Thanksgiving day is a holiday specifically based on biblical principles and commandments. It is to be a day to spend with family and friends honoring and thanking our Elohim for the bountiful blessings that he provides. Consider what King David wrote in the Psalms, as well as what Paul said. **(scrn 9)**

**Psa 95:2** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

**Psa 100:4** Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

**Psa 107:1** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

**Psa 107:8** Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!

**Psa 107:9** For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

**Php 4:6** do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

**Eph 5:20** giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

These faithful servants, without a doubt knew how important it was to give thanks, and they recorded their examples of giving thanks so that we would also remember to give thanks regularly. The truth is, that we are commanded to give thanks to our Elohim on a regular basis.

And I am well acquainted with the argument that some of our misguided brothers and sisters make concerning only giving thanks once a year. Clearly my friends, there is nothing about Thanksgiving that says that you are only allowed to give thanks once a year. But I would submit to you that it is important that we give thanks corporately, as one people, to the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Thanksgiving day is a day that all ministries, and all denominations, can sit down at the table together and to give thanks to the one true God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to say that the Bible speaks against this, is to clearly speak out of hand because there is nowhere in our God breathed Scriptures that speaks against giving thanks to our Father in heaven and his only begotten Son for the blessings that have been bestowed upon us and our families, and our nations.

The early Pilgrims of Plymouth Rock could have never imagined that America would become the global superpower that it is today. They could never have imagined how our Father in heaven has blessed us here in the United States. We have continuously been at the forefront of economic prosperity, medical science, technology, food production, sanitation, agriculture, and even space exploration. The freedoms that we enjoy here in United States are unmatched by any other nation. The freedom of religion and the freedom of speech, and yes.. even the freedom to bear arms to protect our children and our children's children has been given to us by the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob and recognized by the founders of the United States of America.

The United States is usually the first country, if not the only country to support other nations and people in need. The problem is, that Americans today seem to have forgotten where these blessings come from. The act of Thanksgiving towards our Father in heaven should be done every day, everywhere, by everyone. Thanksgiving day is indeed a beacon of light that shines in a very dark day. It reminds us to stop, and to smell the flowers, and to give thanks for the provisions that we have that come directly from our Father in heaven. It reminds us where these things come from, and it causes us to sit down at the table even though we may disagree amongst ourselves concerning our theologies, and dogmas, and understandings.

Thanksgiving is not only a commandment, it's an act of love. It is to be done with a joyous and open-heart without malice. It is to be done both personally, and corporately throughout the body and those who choose to join with the body to give thanks to the creator of all things both seen and unseen. It's a time for unity, faith, love, long-suffering, and joy.

I would submit to you my friends, that there is no paganism to be found in this day unless you are looking to insert paganism into this day. It should be of no surprise to us that our adversary would not want us to give thanks to our creator. It should be of no surprise to us that our adversary would want us to stand against the day that proclaims Thanksgiving to the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. It should be of no surprise to us that our adversary would want more than ever to destroy the United States because more than 10 of our Father's elect do indeed reside within its borders. It should be of no surprise to a us that our adversary would

want to destroy a nation that protects the land of Israel and stands for her sovereign God-given rights.

And so, I would submit to you my friends, that Thanksgiving day is not about an Indian war. Thanksgiving day is not about genocide. Thanksgiving day is not about paganism. Thanksgiving day is not about evil... even though evil would like to make it about itself.

Thanksgiving day is a day that Yahovah has made, and through his divine Providence he has brought us to this day to see who will join together not forsaking the gathering of themselves to give thanks to him. It would be an utter shame, and even a crime if Thanksgiving day was to disappear from the tradition of this nation.

As Christians we stand for the truth and the truth alone. Our documented history clearly reveals to us the divine Providence of our Father in heaven who clearly raised this nation up from the dust of the earth to be the nation that it is today. And yes, there are people who want to destroy it because it was indeed raised up from the dust of the earth by the hand of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. And that's exactly why they want to destroy it.

Today, let us give thanks for what is left of what once was a truly Christian nation. And let us give thanks for the remnants of freedom that we still have bestowed upon us because of the divine Providence of the one true God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Let us give thanks that unlike Sodom and Gomorrah... there are still more than 10 righteous in this land. And let us give thanks for one another, and not only those who have come back to the truth of God's word, but for those who are still coming.

Let us not look for evil, but let us look for good. Let us not revel in wickedness, but let us revel in righteousness. Let us not tear down what God has built up for his purpose.

And with that being said my friends, I would like to ask as I always do, that you would take what you've heard here today to your prayer closet. Bow your head and bend your knee, and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you've heard here today be true... Or not.

Ask, seek, and knock and the door will be opened to you. And if you will do that, you and I will walk hand in hand through the Gates of his soon coming kingdom.

I'm pastor Scott Velain with holy impact ministries, and I'd like to thank you once again for sharing your time with me here in our Father's blessed and holy seventh day Sabbath.