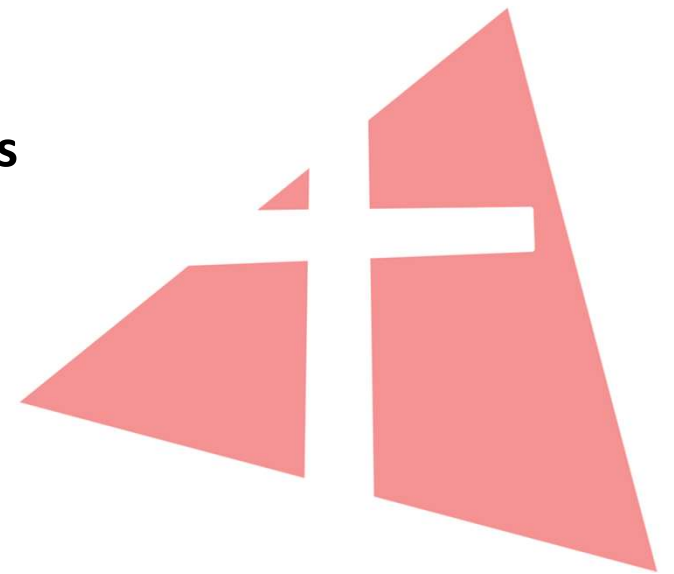




***Aletheia 7th Anniversary:
Give Thanks in All Circumstances***

Today's Occasion

- **We had our first church service on July 02nd 2017**
- **An event like this reminds us to look back at God's Faithfulness**




God's Commandment

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.



God's Will

- Rejoice evermore
 - In everything give thanks
 - In everything
 - Not for everything
 - χαίρω chaírō, khah'-ee-ro
 - a primary verb; to be "cheer"ful, i.e. calmly happy or well-off; impersonally, especially as salutation (on meeting or parting), be well:—farewell, be glad, God speed, greeting, hail, joy(- fully), rejoice.
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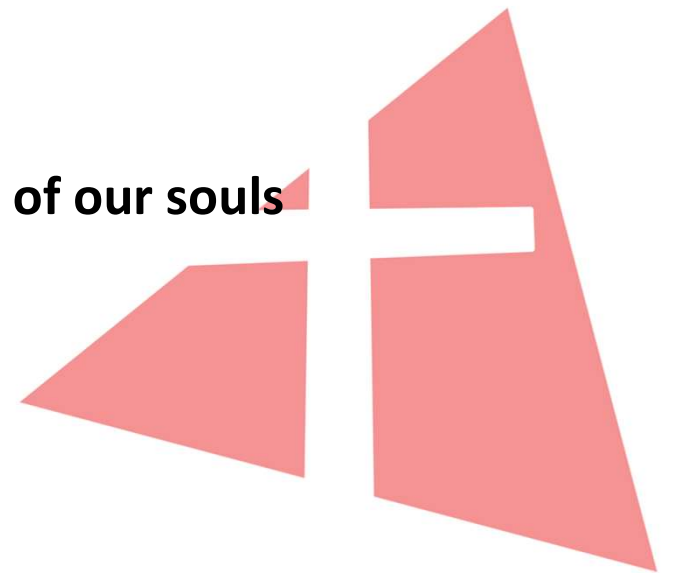
What about Complaining?

Philippians 2:14-15 Do all things without murmuring and disputing: That you may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom you shine as lights in the world;



How?

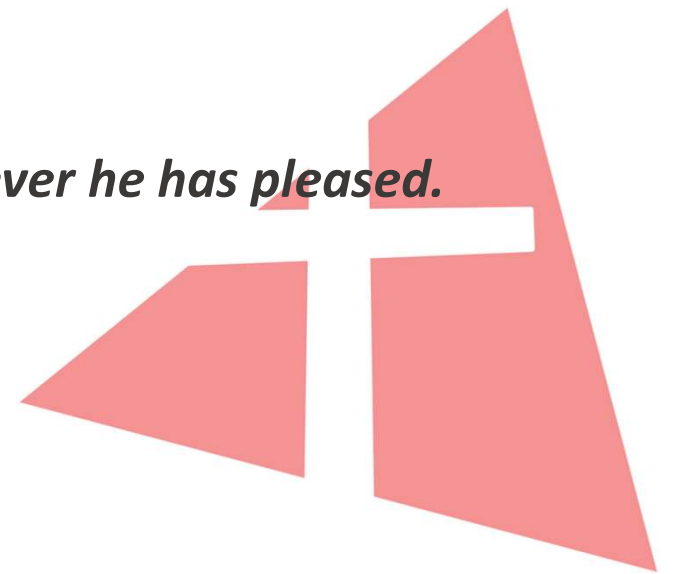
- For now, we are physical and spiritual beings
- The things in this world are imperfect
- But we can give thanks in all circumstances for the restoration of our souls



Spiritual Realities

- God is in control

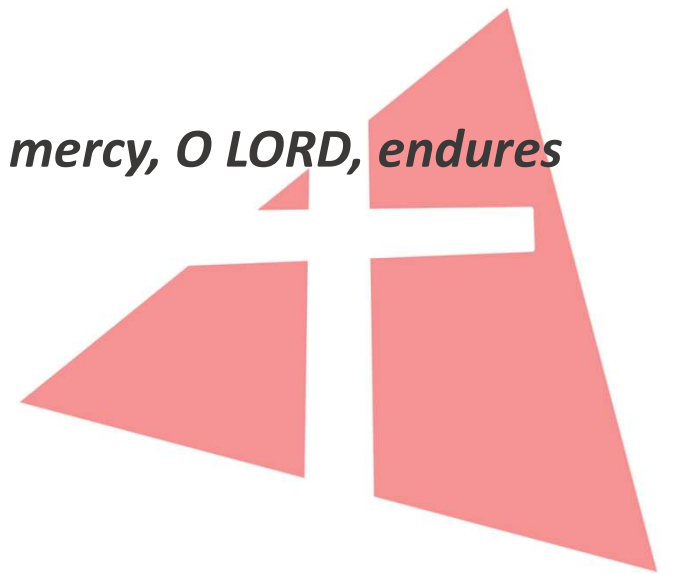
Psalm 115:3 But our God is in the heavens: he has done whatsoever he has pleased.



Spiritual Realities

- God has a plan

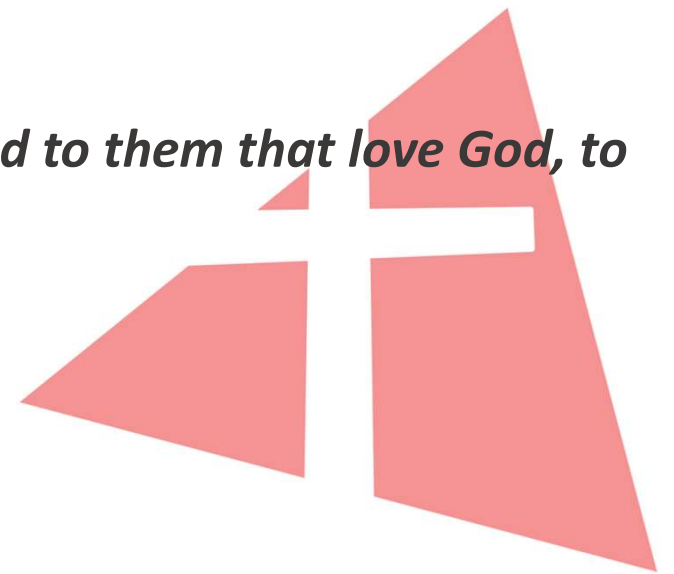
Psalm 138:8 The LORD will perfect that which concerns me: your mercy, O LORD, endures forever: forsake not the works of your own hands.



Spiritual Realities

- God is always at work

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.



Spiritual Realities

- God is for us

Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?



Spiritual Realities

- God doesn't withhold good from us

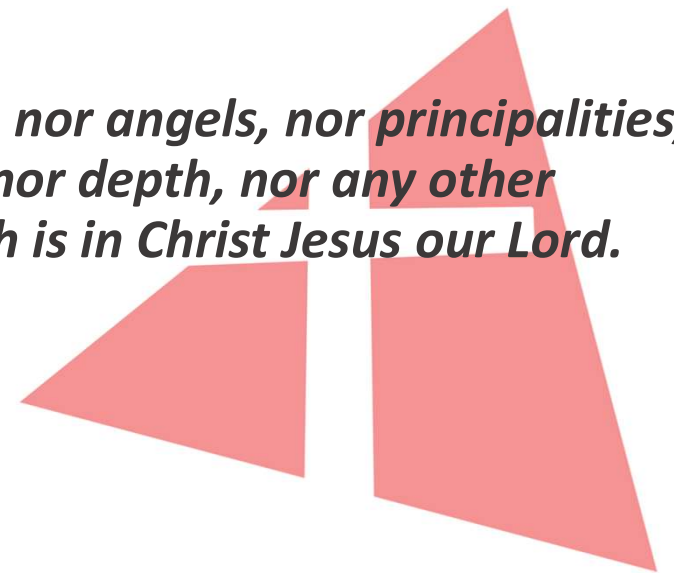
Psalm 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.



Spiritual Realities

- God is always close to us

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

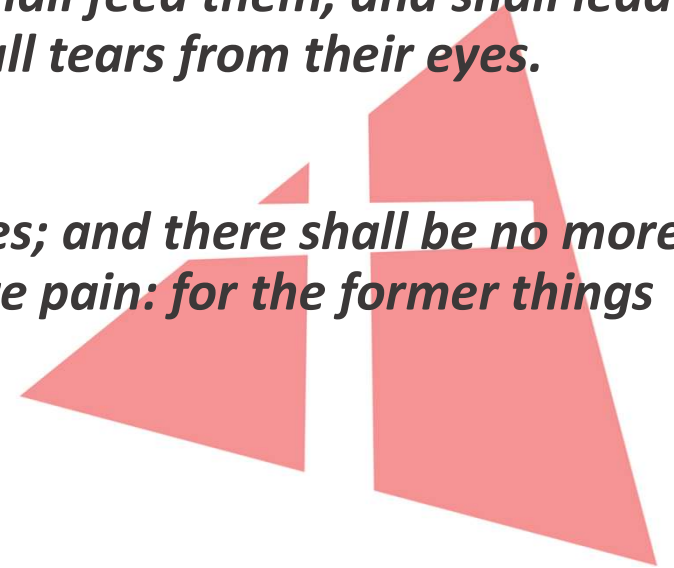


Spiritual Realities

- Eternal hopes

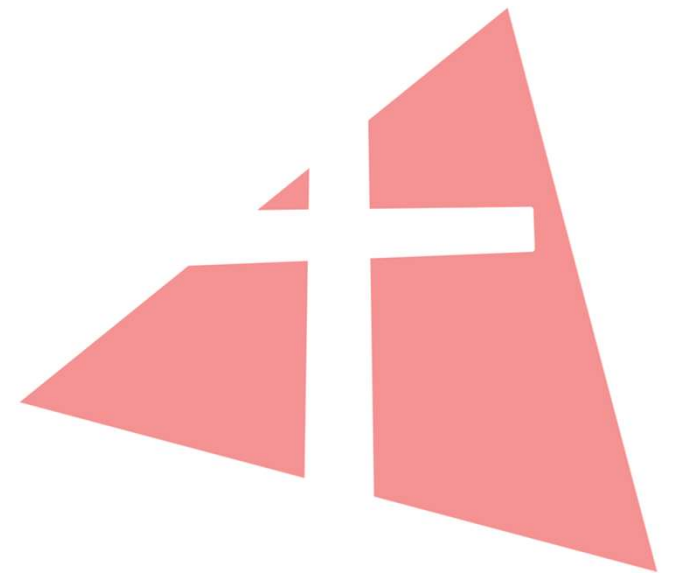
Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.



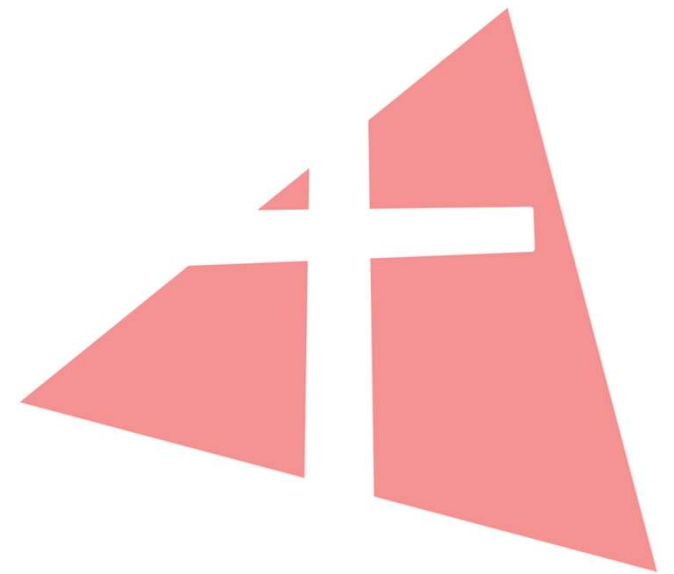
Thanksgiving and Faith

- **Being able to give thanks is evidence of Faith**
 - A commandment
 - An offer
 - A choice



It works both Ways

- Faith creates Thanksgiving
- Thanksgiving creates Faith



2 Other Emotions

- **Worry is the fear that God won't get it right**
- **Bitterness is the conclusion that God didn't get it right**

Matthew 6:34 Take therefore no thought for tomorrow: for tomorrow shall take thought of the things for itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Ephesians 4:31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;



In Conclusion

- A day like today should be a reminder for us to rejoice and give thanks
- But Rejoicing and Giving Thanks should be our daily lifestyle, not just at special occasions

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

