

November traditionally brings thoughts of apple orchards, cider doughnuts, raking leaves and pumpkin pies. Later in the month we plan for the big day of food, family and football. This day we call Thanksgiving. In some cases our “thanksgiving” may be a few minutes as we go around the table naming the things for which we are thankful. In others it is those things we mention in our “blessing” of the food.

As Americans there is still an ongoing discussion about the “First Official Thanksgiving”. Did it occur in Plymouth, Massachusetts as we were taught in school? There is evidence that it was held here in Virginia at the Berkeley Plantation. The discussion goes on. Thanksgiving is important to Americans. We seem to have an innate sense which tells us we owe homage to a creator who provides for us.

As I was preparing this devotional I was reminded of just exactly how important this matter of thanksgiving is to Almighty God. Revelation 7:11-12 gives us a view into heaven. *“All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell face down before the throne and worshiped God, saying, Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”* Revelation 7:11-12 CSB

The scene is around God’s throne. There are angels and elders and living creatures gathered there. They are all face down worshipping. But it is to one of the elements of worship I wish to draw your attention. Thanksgiving is one of the elements of true worship as conducted in heaven. How often have I been guilty of simply saying “thank you” and moving on? Instead I should have made that gratitude a true act of devotion. This year, won’t you join me and take a moment to offer worship to the Almighty for the blessings of this past year?

God bless you as you serve him.

*Grace & Peace
David Clifton
Grand Prelate*