"<u>It Is A Good Thing To Give Thanks Unto The LORD</u>, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High." Psalms 92:1 KJV

Doing the right thing is often painful. Has this thought ever crossed your mind? "What good would it do?" Of all the good things you can do, the best is to praise God, not just to others, but to Him as well. You may brag to everyone how much you love your wife, but unless you tell her, her heart breaks. Your love is the highest praise you can give God. Do you still love Him when He says "No"? It's easy to love in the sunshine and flowers of life, but real love truly shines in calamity. It's easy to praise God with money in your pocket and a full belly, but will you praise Him in the shadows and



storms as well? "Let us offer THE SACRIFICE of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name." Will you trust the Guide of Life even though unseen? Truth isn't Truth to you unless it directs your decisions. Direction is invisible without the compass. God's Word is the Compass of Life! One degree off is the wrong way. The longer we sail off course, the greater correction is needed to right it. Thankfulness is the foundation of praise, and praise keeps us mindful of the right direction. In the calm is when we are tempted most to relax. Off course is off course, whether the weather be good or bad. It's one thing for a storm to blow you off course, it's quite another if it is negligence or distraction. Good things always contain the potential of distraction. Always be in remembrance from what and by Whom you were delivered, dear believer, or you will be tempted towards it again. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the Mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a LIVING SACRIFICE, Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And walk in love, as Christ also hath Loved us, and hath Given Himself for us an Offering and a Sacrifice to God for a Sweetsmelling Savour." You'll never live a Holy life until you wholly commit your life to Jesus Christ. One degree of the compass translates into thousands of miles off course the longer it is left uncorrected! Do you want to go to Heaven or not? Keep correcting your helm to the compass needle that only points one Way! "Jesus Saith unto him, 'I am the Way...no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me!' For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." Winds rarely blow the right direction which is why our helm should never be left unattended. Constant course correction is vital to a successful journey! Repentance is the course correction of life. An attitude of praise, thankfulness, and gratitude for our daily provision, protection, preservation will keep us focused on "the Way, the Truth, and the Life;" undaunted by the storms that threaten our Peace and Joy! "Count your Blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done!"

> The worst of times, the best of times, Throughout it all God is sublime; And if your love to God is true, You'll love Him when life troubles you. –CGP

Calm weather is as perilous as tempest. Calm lulls into a false sense of safety until we run aground on the shoals of hidden sin. Keep focused on the Compass Needle of Truth. It always points in one direction. Continually praise and thank God for everything. "If there be any praise, think on these things." Remember, God Loved you first.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath Blessed us with all Spiritual Blessings in Heavenly Places in Christ: According as He Hath Chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be Holy and without blame before Him in Love: Having Predestinated us unto the Adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the Good Pleasure of His Will, To the Praise of the Glory of His Grace, wherein He Hath Made us Accepted in the Beloved." Ephesians 1:3-6 KJV