

Will the real

PILGRIMS

please stand up?



Real **PILGRIMS**

*“Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the **pilgrims** of the Dispersion...” (1 Pet. 1:1)*

*“Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and **pilgrims**, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul...” (1 Peter 2:11)*

- **Real Pilgrims** know this world is not their home
- **Real Pilgrims** long to be at home with their Father
- **Real Pilgrims** know what the Father has done for them
- **Real Pilgrims** live a life of **Real Thanksgiving**



Real

THANKSGIVING

RECALLS EVERYTHING IS FROM GOD, AND IT'S GOOD

*“... forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with **thanksgiving** by those who believe and know the truth. For every **creature** of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with **thanksgiving**” (1 Tim. 4:3-4)*

- God has removed all dietary restrictions!
 - In “faith” and with “knowledge” (Rom. 14)
- In fact, every “*created thing*” is good if...



Real

THANKSGIVING

TRANSCENDS PARTIALITY

*“I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, **thanksgivings**, be made for **all men**”*

(1 Tim. 2:1)

- Bias
- Prejudice
- Bigotry
- Partisanship



Real

THANKSGIVING

REPLACES THE NONSENSE

*“Let there be no **filthiness** nor **foolish talk** nor **crude joking**, which are **out of place**, but instead let there be **thanksgiving**.”*

(Eph. 5:4)

- Inappropriate
- Incompatible
- Unbefitting
- Incongruent



Real

THANKSGIVING

CAN HELP RELIEVE ANXIETY

*“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with **thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God” (Phil. 4:6)*

- Don't be distracted by this present life
- Pray about everything
- Count our blessings more than our challenges
- *“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you”*

(1 Pet. 5:7)



Real

THANKSGIVING

GLORIFIES GOD FOR HIS GRACE

*“For it is **all for your sake**, so that as **grace** extends to more and more people it may increase **thanksgiving**, to the glory of God.” (2 Cor. 4:15)*

- Paul suffered for their sake (4:8-9)
- Paul preached the gospel for their sake (4:13-14)
- The good news of God’s grace is for us!
- God’s grace compels us to **thanksgiving**
- Our **thanksgiving** overflows *“to the glory of God.”*



Real **PILGRIMS**

EMBRACE AND CONFESS THEIR “PILGRIMNESS”

*“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, **embraced** them and **confessed** that they were strangers and **pilgrims** on the earth.” (Hebrews 11:13)*

- **Embrace** – welcome it and own it no matter the cost
- **Confess** – profess openly in word and in deed
- “I am a **real pilgrim**; this world is not my home and my life of **real thanksgiving** will show it.”



Are you a Real

PILGRIM?



