

GRACE ABOUNDING TO THE CHIEF OF SINNERS

from 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

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When Paul discusses the Lord's Supper in 1 Cor 11, he says, "the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it." A traditional Christian name for the Lord's Supper is the Eucharist. The word Eucharist means "thanksgiving" and comes from that phrase in verse 24, *when he had given thanks*. When we come to the Lord's Table, we ought to have a heart of thanksgiving to God for all that he has done for us.

In 1 Tim 1, Paul is amazed at the privilege he has been given to be Christ's minister. So in verse 12 he "thanks Christ Jesus our Lord." Why should *we* give thanks this morning? Paul gives us four reasons to thank our God:

1. We give thanks because Jesus saves blaspheming infidels (vv12-13).
2. We give thanks because Jesus abounds with grace (vv14-15).
3. We give thanks because Jesus comforts us with his grace (v16).
4. We give thanks because our God is glorious (v17).