



**LORD, CHANGE
MY ATTITUDE**

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

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Five Wilderness Attitudes

1. replace a Complaining attitude ...
2. ...with a Thankful attitude
3. replace a Covetous attitude ...
4. ... with an attitude of Contentment
5. replace a Critical attitude ...
6. ... with an attitude of Love
7. replace a Doubting attitude ...
8. ... with an attitude of Faith
9. replace a Rebellious attitude ...
10. ... with an attitude of Submission

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Wilderness attitude #1

- Attitude is important
 - Choices you make takes you one way or the other
- God deeply despises negative, fault finding, faithless attitude
- Those who choose **complaining** as their lifestyle will spend their lifetime in the wilderness

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Say it in a sentence:

Thankfulness is an attitude that perfectly displaces my sinful tendency to complain and thereby releases joy and blessing into my life

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Thanklessness is not new

- Luke 17:11–19
- It took faith with obedience to be healed
- Few thank Him personally
 - A Samaritan, a foreigner, one least likely to
 - Applies to us who grew up in Christian homes, we sometimes do not fully appreciate our salvation
 - often, we don't recognize God as our gracious provider
- Jesus notices those who are ungrateful

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God, our gracious provider

- When we ask & understand our need for God, then we will know thankfulness
- Rom 1:19 – 21
 - God made the universe
 - within the heart of every human is an awareness that God is real
 - Without thankfulness, we won't fully be aware of God

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Not merely words

- Distinction between genuine thankfulness
- vs. the simple “thx” our parents trained us to say from young
- not an obligation
- but a deep appreciation of kindness we have received
- Gratitude – to show that a kindness received is valued (oxford defⁿ)

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Levels of gratitude

1. Am I a thankful person?
2. Increasing maturity levels of thankfulness:

Elementary	Heb 13:15	offer sacrifice of thanksgiving
High School	1Thes 5:18	give thanks in all circumstances
Graduate	Eph 5:20	in everything, always

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Thankfulness is a decision

- What were you thinking this morning?
 - are you glad the sun came up?
 - are you glad you live another day?
 - or do you wish you could have slept later
 - or that you could be somewhere else?
- I don't have the right to demand anything. Just being thankful for being there, the breath we take.

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Thankfulness – based on reality

- Thankfulness is a decision based in reality
 - Not mind-over matter, power of positive thinking, self-motivation etc
- Robinson Crusoe
- Matthew Henry

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Thankfulness is a life changing decision

- Gratitude is the attitude that sets the altitude for living
- Contrast low-altitude life many are in:
 - down & dirty, cloudy, damp, depressing, ungrateful, unthankful, complaining, negative
 - definitely wilderness
- High-altitude attitude
 - where the air is clean, sun is shining, future is bright as God's promises

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Personal Reflections

1. Am I a thankful person?
2. Am I seeing the blessings of thankfulness in my life?
3. Am I choosing thankfulness over complaining moment by moment?

Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! (Psa 107:8 nkjv)

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