

NO GRUMBLING HERE

1 Corinthians 10:10 “Do not grumble as some of them have grumbled. . .”

Israel repeatedly grumbled in their 40-year wilderness journey. (Exodus 16:2, etc.) Jesus’ Disciples grumbled. (John 6:61) Jesus rebuked His grumbling Disciples. (John 6:43) Solomon wrote in Proverbs 27:15 “A quarrelsome (grumbling) wife is like the dripping of a leaky roof in a rainstorm. . .” St Paul’s exhortation found in Philippians 2:14 is, “Do everything without grumbling or arguing.”

Webster’s dictionary defines the verb grumble as, “complain about something in a bad-tempered way; to growl” According to Webster’s definition grumbling occurs when emotions are out of control. In the case of Israel in the wilderness instead of putting their faith and trust in God, their immediate living conditions aggravated them, which in turn fed their emotions, which led to discontent and finally to their grumbling.

In Israel’s case, they had witnessed many miracles of God in their behalf. It was their lack of faith in God that brought about their grumbling. Would God really have led them into the wilderness to starve or thirst to death? They had His covenant promise, “I will be your God and you will be My people.” (Genesis 17:7)

Have you ever grumbled or growled? Did it make you feel better? Did it resolve the issue that caused you to grumble? Did it do you any good? When you grumble, even if there is no indication it is directed toward God, in essence it is. Not only is it directed toward Him, but it indicates you have lost sight, as had Israel, that God has promised to “provide all that you need to support your body and life.” (Luther’s explanation to the First Article of the Apostle’s Creed.)

God established His covenant promise (Genesis 17:7) with you at your Baptism. You are His adopted child through the saving work of Jesus. “You are not your own; you were bought at a price [the shed blood of Jesus].” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) "O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago" (Isaiah 25:1).

You have nothing to grumble about because your God is faithful and with you always. Your God hears your prayers and answers them with answers that best meet your needs. Your God even forgives your sins through the shed blood of

Jesus and the faith He has given you in His Son. "Since He is for you, nothing can be against you." (Romans 8:31)

Prayer: O Lord, I praise and thank You for all of your good gifts to support my body and soul. Daily give me eyes to see Your goodness and mercy you pour into my body and soul. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for good and harvest press,
While of Your richer gifts we're unaware:

Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace,
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face
That shows Your message ever new and near.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
For words that speak at variance with deeds;
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:

Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
Assured that only what's withheld is lost.

Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,
For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,
For walls and wars that hide Your mercies vast
And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:

Open our eyes to see Your love's intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;
May thankfulness be days in service spent,
Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.
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