Mark Glanville

Richard Layard: Happiness Research

Our culture of secular consumerism is out of shape. Our assumptions and values are not in sync with reality.

1.God has given generously

2. His people respond with thanksgiving

3. Thanksgiving results in generosity, justice and inclusion



Damascus, ARAM

EAS

Phatpart

Ramoth

Gilead



grain growS

Spring

Passover Feast of Weeks

Summer

Fall



1.God has given generously

2. His people respond with thanksgiving

3. Thanksgiving results in generosity, justice and inclusion

1. Gift – God has given generously

(Deuteronomy 16:3, 10, 13, 15)

God's creation is evidence of the caring hand of the Creator reaching out to secure the well-being of His creatures, of a Father extending a universe full of blessings to His children Gordon Spykman

2. Thanksgiving with Celebration

Deuteronomy 16:10, 11, 14
Psalm 117
Colossians 3:15; Philippians 4:11-13

Thanksgiving is the heartbeat of Pauline spirituality - Meye

Leading God's people to thankfulness



Damascus, ARAM

EAS

Phatpart

Ramoth

Gilead

3. Generosity and Justice List of the vulnerable, 16:11, 14

Slaves –debt slaves
Levites – no inheritance
Strangers – fled poverty or war
Fatherless – father has died
Widow – husband has died

How could this generosity be sustained? They know that *at the heart of reality is a generous God*

1.God has given generously

2. His people respond with thanksgiving

3. Thanksgiving results in generosity, justice and inclusion

The heart of a biblical worldview *Leading for mission*

The contemporary American church is so largely enculturated to the American ethos of consumerism that it has little power to believe or act. Walter Brueggemann

The heart of a biblical worldview *Leading for mission*

How do we lead God's church into authentic discipleship?

1. Help them to receive God's best gifts

2. Teach them to give thanks/celebrate

3. Show them how to live generously and for justice

The heart of a biblical worldview *Leading for mission*

How do we lead God's church into authentic discipleship?

Darryl Guder: *The church displays the Lordship of Christ to the world in:*

LIFE, WORD AND DEED