

Recalling & Remembering

A Sermon from
Deuteronomy 8

Father Chuck Owens



“Thanksgiving: Recalling and Remembering”

Thoughts to Ponder

1. Billions of dollars are spent each year on anti-aging products by senior citizens who realize they have fewer years before them than behind them.
 - a. Does the fact that you’re getting older make you anxious? If so, list the reasons for your angst.
 - b. If you’re at peace as the sunset of your life approaches, explain why.
2. At the age of one hundred twenty, Moses spoke to the Israelites for the last time as they were about to enter the unknown of God’s new tomorrow in the Promised Land.
 - a. Moses began by inviting the people to step from the present into the past to vividly recall their experiences with God in the wilderness. Recall God’s protection, His provision and His providence in your life.
 - b. Isn’t it true that, as you recalled those experiences, you were in a sense reliving those moments?
3. As he spoke to the Israelites, Moses was trying to accomplish more than just inspiring them to recall God’s blessings: he also wanted them to remember God’s blessings.
 - a. When we recall an event, we step from the present into the past; when we remember something, we bring the past into the present. Please explain how you understand the subtle difference between the two.
 - b. Somehow when I remember my mother, it seems like she is present with me. If you’ve had a similar experience, please share it.
 - c. When we share the bread and the wine around the Lord’s table, we’re remembering Christ and celebrating the truth that He is with us in a special way . . . what does that statement mean to you?

4. At Thanksgiving, we are standing at the edge of the river that divides the present from the future. Recalling God's mercies enables us to remember that the God who brought us safe thus far will surely lead us home. This Thanksgiving, what will you be recalling and what will you be hoping to remember?

