



Earl and Rosie Adams  
Casilla 2991  
Cochabamba, Bolivia  
South America  
Tel. 011-591-4-429-4520

**“Oh, give thanks to the Lord, call upon His Name; Make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of His wonders. Glory to His Holy Name; Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad.”**

**I Chronicles 16:8-10 (NASB)**

Dear Friends in Christ,

We want to wish all of you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving, and we are counting you among God’s blessings to us. We thank and praise Him for His goodness, grace, and mercy to us for Christ’s sake.

On October 3, 1789 President George Washington made “A Thanksgiving Proclama-tion.” In it he wrote, “ Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the provi-dence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor, and whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness: Now, there-fore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being Who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be, that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protect-tion of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation, for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war, for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are

blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge, and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, A.D., 1789”

--George Washington

It is our prayer that the Ruler of the Nations be acknowledged, honored, and worshipped by the peoples of every land to the praise of His Great Name, to the glory of His only-begotten Son and our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, and for our great gain and bene-fit. That indeed will be a “Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.”

Thank you so much for your prayers, support, and friendship,

In Christ Jesus,

Earl, Rosie, and Carla

Mission to the World  
P.O. Box 116284  
Atlanta, GA. 30368-6284

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