

# Thankfulness, Not Longing

by Mary Wilder Tileston

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of cultivating a thankful attitude in our daily lives, as it shapes our character and brings joy and positivity.*

**Topics:** "Contentment", "Gratitude"

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## Description

Mary Wilder Tileston preaches about the dangers of longing for what we do not have, emphasizing the importance of being content with the blessings we already possess. She warns against wasting time by focusing on desires that lead us away from our own responsibilities and tasks. Tileston highlights the impact of our attitudes on our character, noting that gratitude for what we have cultivates a different spirit than constant longing for more.

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## Transcript

I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel.

--EXODUS 16:12

SAVE our blessings, Master, save

From the blight of thankless eye,

Teach us for all joys to crave

Benediction pure and high,

Own them given, endure them gone,

Shrink from their hardening touch, yet prize them won,

Prize them as rich odors meet

For love to lavish at His sacred feet.

--JOHN KEBLE

NOTHING so hinders us in what we are doing as to be longing after something else; in so doing, we leave off tilling our own field, to drive the plough through our neighbor's land, where we must not look to reap a

harvest; and this is mere waste of time. If our thoughts and hopes are elsewhere, it is im.possible for us to set our faces steadily towards the work required of us.

--ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

One thing is indisputable: the chronic mood of looking longingly at what we have not, or thankfully at what we have, realizes two very different types of character. And we certainly can encourage the one or the other.

--LUCY C. SMITH

Seek to cultivate a buoyant, joyous sense of the crowded kindnesses of God in your daily life.

--ALEXANDER MACLAREN

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/mary-wilder-tileston/thankfulness-not-longing/>

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