

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For many folks **TURKEY DAY** means **TURKEY DINNER!!!**

For many folks **TURKEY DAY** means **FOOTBALL!!!**

For many folks **TURKEY DAY** means **FAMILY, FRIENDS,** and hopefully a little bit of **FUN!!!**

Ah, **TURKEY DAYS** of old would have meant, Pilgrims and Native Americans gathering to celebrate around a setting of food from the harvest and hunting.

Ah **TURKEY DAYS** of old would have meant, Pilgrims and Native Americans gathering to celebrate together in a spirit of appreciation for the bounteous blessings they had received.

Ah, **TURKEY DAYS** of old would have meant, Pilgrims and Native Americans gathering not only in a spirit of appreciation but also in a spirit of generosity sparking a willingness to share.

Ah, sometimes looking back at the “good old days” we might want to say that they weren’t all the “good”.

Think about it, would we really want to give up, our cell phones, our laptop computers, our remote control TV’s, our garage door openers, not to mention cars, stoves, electricity, indoor plumbing and all the rest.

Well, I think not; therefore sometimes it is hard to make a strong case for the “good days” and longing yet again to return to the “good days”!

So, **TURKEY DAY** with turkey, football, family, friends, and fun, on the one hand; and **TURKEY DAY** with food and celebration from the harvest and labors of the day, in a spirit of appreciation, and generosity nurturing a spirit of sharing with others on the other hand; just what kind of **TURKEY DAY** will we be celebrating this year???

Here is what **GOD** might want to suggest to us, for this coming year as we prepare for **THANKSGIVING DAY**, **GOD** might suggest that we **CELEBRATE** in the midst of all of our **GADGETS** from cell phones to electricity but that we do so in a spirit of **KINSHIP** with the “good old days” in a spirit of **APPRECIATION** and **THANKSGIVING** for the rich bounty **GOD** has provided to us!!!

Indeed, **GOD** has provided us with rich and precious gifts, such as life, love, family, and friends, each one of these precious gifts, and all of them, ought to nurture within our hearts a spirit of appreciation and thanksgiving unto our gracious and loving **GOD!!!**

THANK YOU GOD today, tomorrow, and always, for all you have done, for all you are doing, and for all you will do, for each of us as children within your **FAMILY!!!** May we as children within your family be found to celebrate **THANKSGIVING DAY** 2014 wrapped in wonder of loving gratitude for you our **GRACIOUS AND LOVING GOD!!!**

Love in Christ,

Dana