

# Happy Thanksgiving

## THANK YOU, GOD! 1 PRACTICE FAITH!

By Ernie Gommel, Rev. 8/21/2012



O God! The towers of Babel we have built.  
The complexities. The over-abundance.  
The anxieties brought on by fear of losing a thousand things!  
Our aging. Our mortality. Pain. Decline, death. The decline vs. increasing demands of the towers of Babel. This is the hard part!  
The threats of disasters, terrorism, wars – the nuclear realities,  
What if electric power went out for a week? We are so dependent on man's "creations"!  
Our righteous indignation over the evil we see, and our confessions of our own sins.  
Drowning in our "modern society". (See the Wall St. Journal.)  
Drowning in paperwork.  
Beaten with stones of bureaucracies, our consciences and our sins.  
High on a shaky tower, hanging on for dear life.

This all brings on anxieties, discouragement, -- even depression.  
We know that the antidote is faith: trust and hope in You, God.  
Have we been too trained as skeptics?  
When we are anxious we must ask:  
In What or in Whom is our hope? -- -- our trust? -- -- In traditions?  
In our wealth? In our health? In medicine? In doctrine?  
In governments? In other men? In how "good" we can be? In --?

We must believe! We must trust! We must "bet our lives"! We must have faith!  
Our hope and trust must be in You, living God! -- in living submission to You, God, and in Your mercy. It is not if our peace of mind depends upon other people or world events -- or elections -- or in comfort of our daily routines, success in business, or in our comfortable life, or in how "good" we can be.

Yes, inspired by Your Holy Spirit, God, we will be incensed over violations of Right, Truth, & Justice.  
We will want to drive the moneychangers out of the temple, or politicians out of office, and perhaps we should.  
And it's good that we are incensed.  
But deep down, with hope and trust in You, God, with faith, there can be the peace that passes understanding even as we must fight, even as we confess our sins, even as we sin again!  
God help us! Save us from blindness to our own sins! O God! Give us Your peace!

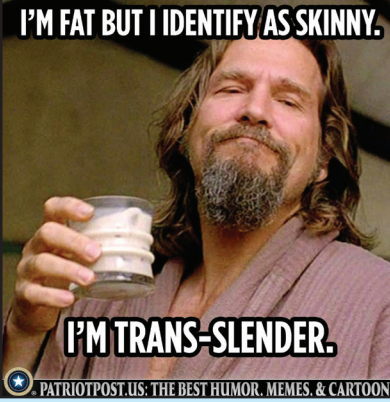
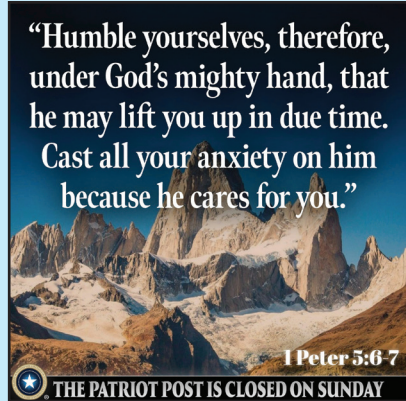
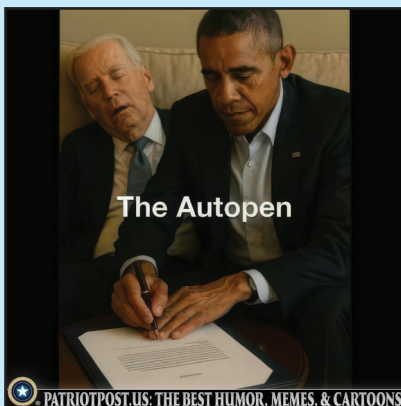
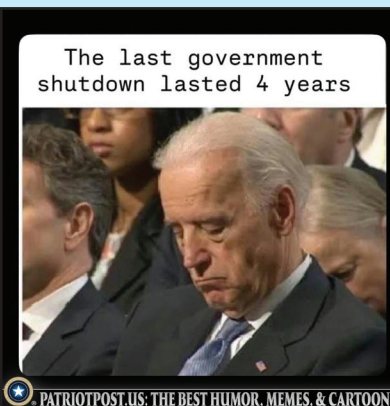
One important way that helps bring that peace is to count our many blessings -- name them one by one.

But let's be sure that, with eyes opened by Your Holy Spirit, God,  
we recognize Your true blessings bestowed on us, and so undeserved!  
The greatest blessing is Your Holy Spirit, and Your reaching out to us,  
offering reconciliation to our repentant hearts, poorly as we repent!

(Just stop and think: For 44 years we have been given the opportunities and the means to serve our communities, and to give good employment in an ethical atmosphere to many staffers!)

Now, let's remind ourselves of some of the many other important things for which we give thanks to You, God.

### On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web



## LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

**Monday, November 24th**

**5:00 pm**  
**at the Moose Lodge**  
on Foothill Road, just west of Tradepost Road.

- ✓ Reports from our **County, State and Federal representatives.**
- ✓ Progress reports from **CHP and Sheriff's Dept.**
- ✓ Reports from **Animal Control, Homeless situation, and Code Enforcement**
- ✓ License read cameras.
- ✓ Caltrans' LV projects.
- ✓ Update on Rancho Lucerne and Sienna Solar.
- ✓ SNAP program -- We'll give an update on where it stands. Still being used as a football.

**Is something really bugging you?**

**COME TO THE NEXT LVEDA MEETING TO EXPRESS YOUR OPINION!**