

Key Scripture

Hebrews 12:28 CEV

*We should be **grateful*** that we were given a kingdom that cannot be shaken. And in this kingdom we please God by worshiping Him and by showing Him great honor and respect.

Entitlement: A belief that one is deserving of or entitled to a certain privilege.

Certain Rights for Americans

- ✓ **Life**
- ✓ **Liberty**
- ✓ **Pursuit of Happiness**

Different Kinds of Rights/Privileges

- ✓ **Rights of those arrested...right to remain silent.**
- ✓ **Rights for everyone born...right to become a child of God.**
- ✓ **Rights for the enemy...right to test you.**

Luke 22:31-34 CEV

31 Jesus said, "Simon, listen to me! **Satan has demanded the right to test each one of you**, as a farmer does when he separates wheat from the husks. 32 But Simon, I have prayed that your faith will be strong. And when you have come back to Me, help the others." 33 Peter said, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to jail and even to die with you." 34 Jesus replied, "Peter, I tell you that before a rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will say three times that you don't know Me."

Jesus...The Right Example

John 1:10-13 NLT

10 He came into the very world He created, but the world didn't recognize Him. 11 He came to His own people, and even they rejected Him. 12 But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, **He gave the right to become children of God.** 13 They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

Notes: _____

Living A Grateful Life...

1. Use your rights to be a good **witness**...not a burden.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-12 Message

6 Our orders — backed up by the Master, Jesus — are to refuse to have anything to do with those among you who are lazy and refuse to work the way we taught you. Don't permit them to freeload on the rest. 7 We showed you how to pull your weight when we were with you, so get on with it. 8 We didn't sit around on our hands expecting others to take care of us. In fact, we worked our fingers to the bone, up half the night moonlighting so you wouldn't be burdened with taking care of us. 9 And it wasn't because we didn't **have a right to your support**; we did. We simply wanted to provide an example of diligence, hoping it would prove contagious. 10 Don't you remember the rule we had when we lived with you? "**If you don't work, you don't eat.**" 11 And now we're getting reports that a bunch of lazy good-for-nothings are taking advantage of you. 12 This must not be tolerated. We command them to get to work immediately — no excuses, no arguments — and earn their own keep.

2. Give up your right to **jump** ship.

Acts 27:23-26 TLB

23 "For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me 24 and said, 'Don't be afraid, Paul—for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What's more, **God has granted your request and will save the lives of all** those sailing with you.' 25 So take courage! For I believe God! It will be just as he said! 26 But we will be shipwrecked on an island."

3. Use your rights of ownership to be **generous**.

Matthew 20:15 NIV

Don't I have **the right** to do what I want with my own money?
 Or are you envious because I am generous?'

4. Set aside your **privileges** to accomplish His purposes.

Philippians 2:5-8 Message

5 Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of Himself. 6 He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of Himself that He had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. 7 Not at all. When the time came, **He set aside the privileges** of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! 8 Having become human, He stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. **He didn't claim special privileges.** Instead, He lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death — and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion.