**November 23, 2014**

**Volume 3, Issue 13**

Sunday School Times

Published almost weekly, but more like…..whenever, so get used to it, OK?

# Say *Thank you* to a Really Big God

**By Mr. Lyle (mrlyle1@gmail.com**

***Stuff For Today***

• How much do you really know about bacon?

• What Abraham Lincoln had to say on March 23, 1863

• How to properly say “Thank you” to God

The Thanksgiving season is once again upon us. It is worthwhile to remind ourselves again of the importance of saying *Thank you* to God. But just how do you say thanks to a God as big as ours?

Throughout the Bible we are told to give thanks--to be grateful--to a very generous and loving God.

In the Old Testament we find the Law. The rules that God gave to the Israelites as they left Egypt are interesting in many respects. One law that might seem boring and trivial on the surface, comes alive when studied carefully. It is introduced in Leviticus 3.

**3**“‘If someone’s offering is a fellowship offering,**[[a](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=lev%203:1-17&version=NIV1984" \l "fen-NIV1984-2780a" \o "See footnote a)]** and he offers an animal from the herd, whether male or female, he is to present before the Lord an animal without defect. **2**He is to lay his hand on the head of his offering and slaughter it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. Then Aaron’s sons the priests shall sprinkle the blood against the altar on all sides. **3**From the fellowship offering he is to bring a sacrifice made to the Lord by fire: all the fat that covers the inner parts or is connected to them, **4**both kidneys with the fat on them near the loins, and the covering of the liver, which he will remove with the kidneys. **5**Then Aaron’s sons are to burn it on the altar on top of the burnt offering that is on the burning wood, as an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord.

Of the five sacrifices detailed in the Law, this one was quite different. The Fellowship, or Peace, Offering was the vehicle to be used for thanks giving. The other four included the complete burning of hide, feathers, fur, and such—the smell would well have been repugnant. Mentally compare that smell to the aroma of the burning fat of this offering. BBQ or frying bacon might be a good comparison. The difference is not an accident. This was to be an enjoyable time. In addition, the meat was to be eaten by the one who brought the offering and shared with friends and family—a meal.

The first Thanksgiving?!

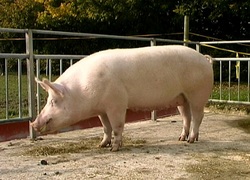
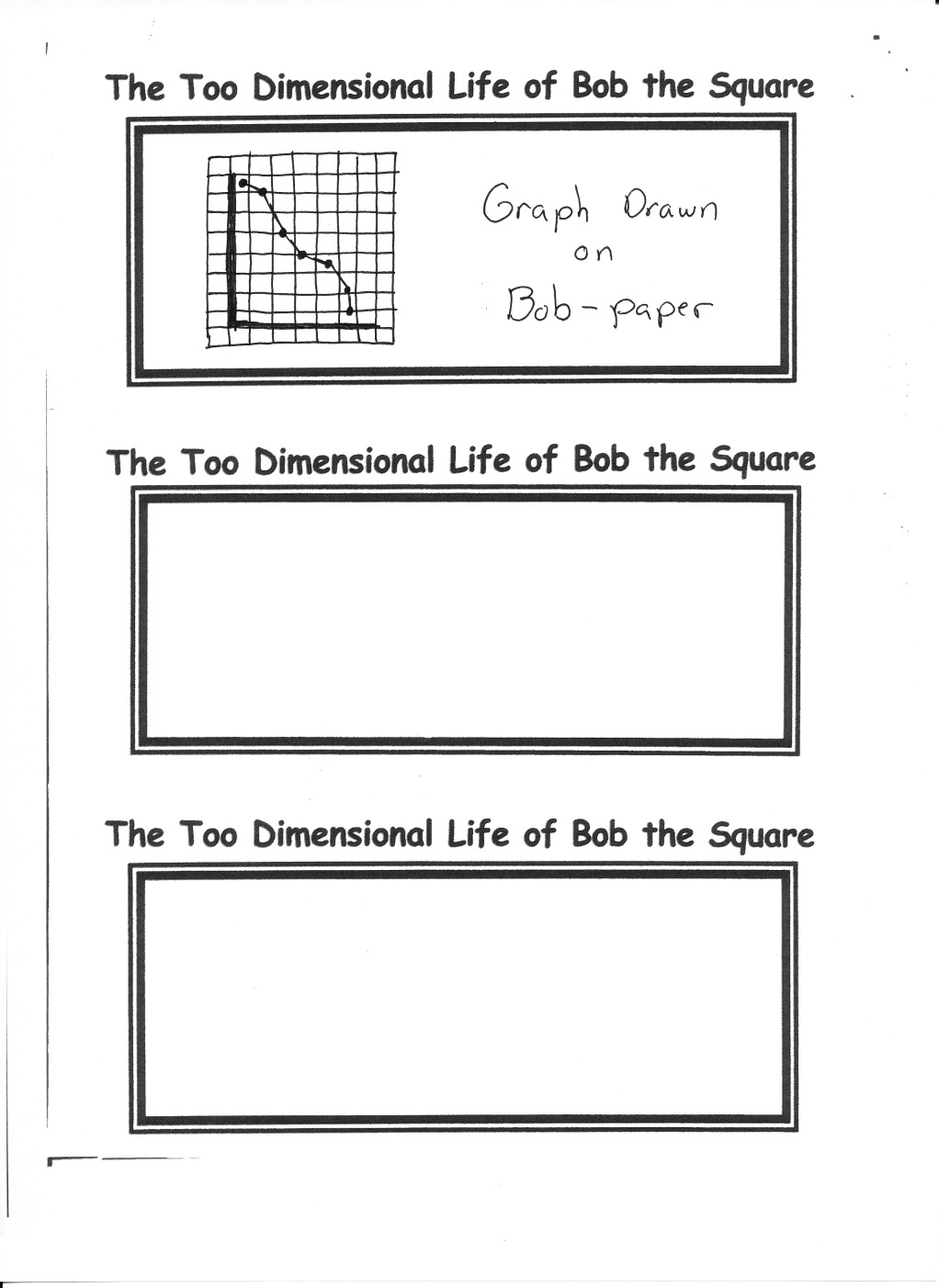
**Where Are We As A Nation Today?**

I am afraid that the world we live in today would like to forget the emphasis our nation once placed upon Christian values. Imagine the outcry in the news today if the President of the United States were to proclaim these words of Abraham Lincoln.

*...whereas it is the duty of nations as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all of history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord…*

I would vote for a man like that!

## **Nobody—*NOBODY*-- Doesn’t Like Bacon!!**



**Bacon Facts**

1. The Chinese were making it 3500 years ago.

2. A 250 pound pig produces an average of 25 pounds of bacon.

3. Yorkshire pigs are bred specifically for their bacon.

4. The average American consumes 18 pounds of bacon per year.

5. Frozen Pork Bellies were traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange from 1961-2011.

6. I would gladly be a vegetarian if bacon grew on trees!

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**This Is A Yorkshire Pig**