

An Unlikely Thanksgiving



I. The Plymouth Pilgrims

- Have we forgotten what it's like to be alive? To serve others? To have fellowship?
- One of the most underprivileged people were the Pilgrims in 1621
- The only food in America was what they caught fishing or killed hunting
- They had few implements, no fertilizer; they were taught to use fish for fertilizer by the Indians
- They guarded their crops at night from the animals
- There was no transportation
- Their neighbors were Indians
- They spent the first few months building a common house; the rest lived on ship
- The Pilgrims praised God they had survived

II. The Christians In Smyrna

- **Revelation 2:9-11**
- This letter is the only letter that doesn't contain a word of criticism
- The people in Smyrna were economically poor, but spiritually rich
- Some people today are far more like the Laodicean Christians
- Still the Christians in Smyrna were rich not because of money, but because of God
- But what about

III. When Present-Day Christians Experience Great Difficulties?

- The strength of the Church is when we go through trials
- God does not intend for us to rest
- **Revelation 3:15-19**

IV. Conclusion

- Some of the greatest moments in life are when bondage is broken and you are free from persecution
- God can set you free through His Son Jesus Christ