

PRAISE AND WORSHIP - PART I

1. **WHAT DO WE MEAN BY PRAISE AND WORSHIP?**

- A. Praise is the expression of thanks, gratitude, adoration and applause for the goodness of God and His acts in the earth.
- B. The very word worship comes from the word "WORTHSHIP" which speaks of someone who was worthy of honor. Worship can best be remembered as our response to the presence of God. It includes the attitudes of love, submission, surrender, obedience and homage to our Maker and Savior. Both praise and worship are acts of our will.

2. **WHO IS TO BE PRAISED AND WORSHIPPED?**

The Lord and He only is worthy to be praised.

"But as for us we will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!"

(Psalm 115:18)

"Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart, In the company of the upright, and in the assembly." **(Psalm 111:1)**

"Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "Thou shalt worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only'." **(Matthew 4:10)**

3. **WHO OR WHAT IS TO OFFER PRAISE AND WORSHIP?**

- A. All those who are truly His servants are to worship and praise Him.
"Behold, bless the Lord, all servants of the Lord, who service by night stand in the house of the Lord."
(Psalm 134:1)
- B. Everything that has breath should praise Him. Our worship of the Lord should be an intricate part of our daily living in attitude and deed.
"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.
Praise ye the Lord." **(Psalm 150:6)**

4. **WHEN AND WHERE SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?**

- A. The scripture teaches we should praise the Lord all the time.
"I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth." **(Psalm 34:1)**
- B. We should praise Him when we gather with other believers.
"I will give thanks in the great congregation, I will praise Thee among a mighty throng." **(Psalm 35:18)**

"Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise His mighty expanse." **(Psalm 150:1)**
- C. We are to praise God among the unbelievers.

"And He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God, many shall see and fear and will trust in the Lord." (**Psalm 40:3**)

- D. We are to praise and worship the Lord as we fellowship in each others homes.

"And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved."
(**Acts 2:46-47**)

5. IS WORSHIP FOR NEW TESTAMENT TIMES?

One of the truths that God is restoring to the body of Christ is praise and worship.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of the darkness into His marvelous light."
(**I Peter 2:9**)

"This will be written for the generation to come; that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord."
(**Psalm 102:18**)

6. HOW SHOULD WE WORSHIP?

- A. We are to worship in Spirit and Truth.

"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth." (**John 4:24**)

- B. Our worship must not be like "religious" people.

"And He said to them, 'Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from me. But in vain do they worship Me. Teaching doctrines the precepts of men'. Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.'" (**Mark 7:6-8**)

- C. We are to worship God with our whole heart.

"I will give thee thanks with all my heart; I sing praises to Thee before the gods." (**Psalm 138:1**)

"I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders." (**Psalm 9:1**)

- D. We are to worship God in abandonment:

1. With joy.

"And my soul shall rejoice in the Lord; it shall exalt in His salvation." (Psalm 35:9)

2. Without concern about what others may say or think.
"But this I admit to you, that according to the way which they call a sect I do serve the God our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law, and that is written in the Prophets." (Acts 24:14)

"Sing for you in the Lord, O you righteous ones; Praise is becoming for the upright." (Psalm 33:1)

7. WHY DO WE WORSHIP GOD?

- A. God ordained it as the way to come into His presence.
"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." (Psalm 100:4)
- B. God lives in or inhabits the worship and praise of His people.
"But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." (Psalm 22:3)
- C. Worship and praise causes the presence of God among the worshippers.
"In unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised they Lord saying, 'He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting,' **then** the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud."
(2 Chronicles 5:13)

The Bible refers to our praise as vapors. Look up these scriptures on the rain of God: (Job 36:27 Hosea 6:3 Zechariah 14:17-18)

- D. Worship and praise are ways we can glorify God.
"He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God." (Psalm 50:23)
- E. It is a sign that God is moving in our midst.
"The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, 'Give thanks to the Lord of hosts, for

the Lord is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting'; and of those who bring a thank offering into the house of the Lord. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were at first, says the Lord." (**Jeremiah 33:11**)

- F. We are changed by what we worship.
"Those who make them will become like them, Everyone who trusts in them." (**Psalms 115:8**)

"For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds, and four-footed animals and crawling creatures." (**Romans 1:21-23**)
- G. God commands it - this should be reason enough to do it.
"Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering and come before Him; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." (**I Chron. 16:29**)
- H. Worship and praise purify us.
"As the fining pot for silver and the furnace for gold; so is a man to his praise." (**Proverbs 27:21**)
- I. There is a satisfying for the soul and flesh of man; this will help us with our temptations, too!
"My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God." (**Psalms 84:2**)

"O God, Thou art my God; early will I see Thee: My soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh longeth for Thee in a dry and thirsty land, where there is no water." (**Psalms 63:1**)
- J. We praise God because He is worthy.
"I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies." (**Psalms 18:3**)
- K. We praise Him because the Bible says it is a good thing to do.
"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High." (**Psalms 92:1**)