

Praise and Worship

“1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. 2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. 3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. 4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. 5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. 6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” (Psalm 150:1-6 KJV)

Why we praise God and worship Him? When we praise God we express to Him our thanksgiving and our gratitude for the salvation that He gave to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus Christ saved us from sin, from death, from sicknesses, from the power of darkness and freed us from our bondages, and for all that being our rescuer we praise Him and we express our gratitude to Him for how He gave His life for us. We thank Him for His salvation and for all his goodness and faithfulness toward us.

When you cry to God for help, this is your prayer to Him to come and save you, to solve your problems and to deliver you from your enemies. The helplessness inside you and you are not able to deal with your enemies and the troubles that you are surrounded with teach you to pray. When God respond to your prayer, save you and rescue you from your troubles and from your enemies then your expression of thanksgiving to Him this illustrate your praise to God. Worship is when you begin to honor God, not only for rescuing you from your enemies and troubles and saving your life, but because you get to know Him more seeing how His presence is so precious and essential in your life. That you start to honor and appreciate God for all his goodness, His grace, His provision to you, His kindness, His patience and His gentleness in dealing with you, correcting you, disciplining you and how He is dealing with your sins and bad characters to make you a better person in Christ Jesus, directing you to go into His ways and into His path.

In other words, praise is an expression of thanksgiving for what God has done in our lives, for saving us and giving His son Jesus Christ that we may be cleansed from our sins and iniquities. Worship is an expression of adoration and love for who God is and all what He is doing in our lives in how He is directing us to live for Him and to serve Him.

According to *Psalm 150:2*, ***“Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.”*** We praise God for His mighty acts; His acts of power which include His great work of salvation, His provision for us, and His great care and protection. We praise God also for His excellent greatness. God is great in His power for He is God Almighty, God is great in His presence, for He is present everywhere, and God is great in His knowledge for He is all knowing God, therefore we praise Him with sound of trumpets, with psaltery, with harp, with timbrel, with dance, with stringed instruments, with organs, with loud cymbals and with high sounding cymbal. ***“3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. 4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. 5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.” (Psalm 150:3-5 KJV)*** We praise Him with all of what we have. *Psalm 103:1* says that you need to bless the LORD with your soul and from the depths of your inner

being, ***“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.” (Psalm 103:1 KJV)***

Praise is very important in the life of every Christian. As you praise God, you will realize His power to work in the difficult situations in your life. *2 Chronicles 20* is a good example of the power of praise. A vast army was coming against the people of Judah. Jehoshaphat declared a fast, the Lord gave Word through Jahaziel that the people were to go out and face the enemy not with weapons but with praise. As they sang and praised God, He defeated the enemy before them. ***“14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; 15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. 17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you. 18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. 19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high. 20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. 22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. 23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another. 24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. 25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much. 26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day. 27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies. 28 And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.” (2 Chronicles 20:14-28 KJV)*** When your life becomes filled with an attitude of praise, then you are saying to God that you trust Him to take care of you and to defeat your enemies. This is an attitude of faith that pleases God and makes you witness more miracles from Him.

Now we will speak more about worship. **What is worship? Worship is reverence or respect and requires relationship and communication.** Thanks lead us to praise and praise leads us to worship. Why do you need to worship God? **Psalm 95** tells us why God is worthy of worship, **“1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. 3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. 5 The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. 6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. 7 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: 9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. 10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: 11 Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.” (Psalm 95:1-11 KJV)** Verse 3 says the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods; He is the Lord God over all gods. **“3 For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.” (Psalm 95:3 KJV)** No other god deserves our worship other than Him nor idols for they are worthless as we can read here, **“4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.” (1 Corinthians 8:4 KJV)** **“19 What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? 20 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. 21 Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.” (1 Corinthians 10:19-21 KJV)** In **Psalm 95:7** tells us that the Lord is not impersonal, but is a personal God who cares for the people of His pasture, the sheep of His hand who are under His care, **“7 For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.” (Psalm 95:7 KJV)** **We worship, then the Lord who is great God and King above all other gods and kings, who is the Creator, and who is also a loving, personal God who cares for us.**

How do we worship God?

1. Psalm 95 verses **1** and **6** invites us to sing to God, to make a joyful noise to Him, to worship Him, to bow and kneel down before Him: **“1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. 6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.” (Psalm 95:1, 6 KJV)** **We worship God by invitation. Worship is a call to God's children, to those who are graciously invited to His Kingdom.**

2. Psalm 95 verse **1** shows us that we worship with singing. We celebrate by singing, dancing, shouting, and clapping. We celebrate being in God's presence. Verses **1**, **2** and **6** says, **“1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, 6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.”** **Yes, let us worship God and bow down and kneel before God.**

3. Worship is public, and we need to be with our other Brothers and Sisters in Christ, His church.

4. Worship must be God-centered, “1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.” (Psalm 95:1-2 KJV) **When we worship we come to honor God, and God alone. We do not worship pastors, deacons, elders, church, etc.**

5. Worship involves the whole of us, “2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. 6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.” (Psalm 95:2, 6 KJV) **We worship God, not with just our mind or with just our body, but with the whole of us.**

6. Worship is hearing and obeying God's voice, “To day if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness:” (Psalm 95:7, 8 KJV) This includes the idea of obedience. **To worship God it means and is equal to obey God.** In **Genesis 22** God called Abraham to worship Him with the call to sacrifice His Son Isaac. Abraham's willingness to obey God's command was in his willingness to offer his son Isaac to God which was a necessity for worship and upon such attitude Abraham received God's blessings, **“1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? 8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. 11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. 15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, 16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy**

son, thine only son: 17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; 18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.” (Genesis 22:1-18 KJV)

My dear and beloved: Praise and worship are two things that you need to be very familiar with and love to do as we describe in this message. You should not only praise and worship God when you come to church and fellowship, but you need to do that even in the rest of your time while you are working living and serving as we can read here in the following Scriptures, **“1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1 KJV) “15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.” (Hebrews 13:15 KJV)** Praise and worship means also to return to God, repenting of your sins, asking forgiveness from God, asking Him to receive you once again and uttering your commitment to come back to Him, to live for Him and do His will and to serve Him: **“1 O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. 2 Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.” (Hosea 14:1-2 KJV)**

*** It is time for you now to renew your mind and start to understand what is praise and worship, is to live in holiness and in obedience to God, cherishing the salvation that He gave to you in addition to all His care, love, His mercy, His forgiveness to your sins, His grace, His protection, His healing, and for all His kindness that He bestowed on you. * It is time for you to thank God, expressing thanksgiving and honor unto Him for all what He had done for you, what He is to you, for all His mercies and His countless blessings, His salvation and the wonderful place that He had prepared for you in Heaven.**

Let us pray

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that taught me what is the meaning of praise and worship and how to praise you and worship you. Lord I thank you and praise you for the salvation that I received from you, for the place that you prepared for me in Heaven, for your forgiveness of my sins, for your protection and your deliverance from my enemies, for your provision, for your guidance and for the rest of your loving kindness and your mercies over my life. Lord thank you for all the miracles and the wonders you did and you are doing in my life. Lord thank you for all the material blessings and the Spiritual gifts that you bestowed over my life. Lord thank you for all the teaching, the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Come now to God and repent and renounce all your sins. Repent of your not giving your life to Jesus and living in disobedience to God. Repent of your lack of faith and your lack of full trust in God. Repent of your worldliness and your love for material things. Repent of your lies, anger, fights, lust, immoralities, laziness, and the rest of the works of the flesh in your life. Repent of your selfishness and following your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God in your life. Repent of your non willingness to praise and worship God as you

are not willing to serve God and do His will and suffer for Christ. Repent of your lack of reading of God's Word and your lack of prayers. Lord I repent forgive me the following sins

Lord I commit myself to keep a life of living in obedience to you, submitting myself and my will fully to you. Lord I commit myself to offer you the parts of my body as a living sacrifice to serve you with from my head to my toes. Lord I commit myself to thank you and to praise you for all your goodness and mercies and to continue to do that in all circumstances. Lord I commit myself to go and evangelize, speaking about your goodness, making new disciples and spreading your Word to the people around me and to whatever place you are directing me to go. Lord give me good health and strength, guide me, protect me, and provide my needs to continue to serve you.

Lord bless our Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, and committed their lives to live in holiness, to serve you and to praise you and worship you according to what we received in this message. Lord help them, solve their problems, do miracles in their lives and deliver them out of the hands of their enemies. Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit and give them the Spiritual gifts they need to go on and serve you. Lord protect them from the evil one, provide their needs and set them as good examples to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as your church and help us to continue to stand firm to teach and to preach your Word and to declare your will to the people. Lord we thank you, we praise you and worship you for all your great goodness and mercies toward us. Lord we commit ourselves to live and teach your Word that we received in this message. Lord we commit ourselves to continue to evangelize and spread your Word in reaching the lost. Lord enable us to go and make new disciples and to train new workers to serve you to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord take the message and spread it to reach the people who need your Word. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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