

SCRIPTURAL PRAISE & WORSHIP

by Gwen Davis

PRAISE is mentioned more than 290 times in the Bible. It means to bless, to declare blessed, to stretch out the hand (Psalm 9:1), to boast, to give thanksgiving, to touch the strings (Psalm 108:1), to be clamourously foolish (Psalm 35:18).

WORSHIP is mentioned at least 190 times in the Bible and 107 times it means “to bow self down”. In worship, our hearts are stirred to love and adoration of God Himself. It is the expression of our response to His person. It is abandonment to His love with an absence of self-consciousness.

(1Peter 2:9) says we are “called to be PRIESTS . . . a peculiar people to shew forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.” HALLELUJAH! As priests, we can come right into the presence of the Father because of Jesus (Hebrews 10:10, 12, 19-23), and offer the “sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name . . .” (Hebrews 13:15)

We can see that praise and worship are very important to the Father. He has told us to praise Him continually. HOW can we minister praise and worship to our Father? (John 4:23-24) says “the hour cometh, and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth”.

As God’s Spirit moves upon our hearts, we must learn to respond according to the TRUTH of God’s Word. Our flesh will not want to worship God, but we must follow the dictates of our spirit and say like David, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!” (Psalm 103:1)

I. WHY PRAISE?

1. (Psalm 149:4) The Lord takes pleasure
2. (Psalm 81:4) God’s law requires it
3. (John 9:31) “If any man be a worshipper of God and doeth His will, him He heareth.”
4. (Isaiah 61:3) We can exchange a spirit of heaviness for a garment of praise.
5. (Revelation 4:11) God is worthy.

II. WHERE?

1. (Psalm 111:1) In the congregation
2. (Luke 15 :25) At home

III. WHEN?

1. (Psalm 34:1-4) At all times
2. (Psalm 113:3) From the rising of the sun to sunset
3. (Psalm 119:164) Seven times a day

IV. RESULTS

1. Blesses God
2. Blesses the church
3. Edifies us
4. Brings freedom in the Gifts

5. God's presence (Psalm 22:3)
6. Testimony to the heathen
7. Puts the enemy to flight (Acts 16:25-31; 2Chronicles 20:19-21)

V. COMMON EXCUSES

1. I don't feel like it.
2. I'll just praise Him in my heart.
3. What will people think?
4. I don't want to "get in the flesh".
5. My church doesn't do it.
6. I've never done it before.
7. I sinned today.
8. My personality is different.
9. I can't sing.
10. It doesn't matter if I do or not.

VI. INSTRUCTIONS (TO STIR YOURSELF TO PRAISE)

1. Confess sin.
2. Concentrate on the words of the song.
3. Allow your spirit to worship.
4. Meditate on His character and nature.
5. Forget people around you.
6. Begin to physically express the attitude of your heart and the prompting of the Holy Spirit.
7. Be creative! Our only limits are those of the Word of God and the leading of His Spirit.
 - a. Psalm 48:1 "He is GREATLY to be praised (vehemently, exceeding, louder and louder)."
 - b. (2Samuel 6:14) "And David danced (whirled) before the Lord with ALL HIS MIGHT . . ."

When the Holy Spirit is guiding each individual in a gathering, the united praise and worship will build in intensity and flow towards the throne of God in the beauty of holiness. In whatever manner He leads, it will be decent and in order and bring glory to JESUS!!!

VII. RESTORATION OF WORSHIP PROMISED

1. (Psalm 102:16-18) "When the Lord shall build up Zion (the church), He shall appear in His glory . . .and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord."
2. (Isaiah 61:11) ". . . so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations."
3. (Jeremiah 17:26) ". . . and they shall come . . . bringing sacrifices of praise, unto the house of the Lord."
4. (Jeremiah 33:10-11) ". . . again there shall be heard in this place . . . the voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the Lord of Hosts for the Lord is good . . . and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord."
5. (Jeremiah 31:4, 13) ". . . shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances . . . the virgin shall rejoice in the dance . . ."

VIII.VISUALIZED PRAISE & WORSHIP LESSON

The Bible presents a pattern of praise & worship that involves physical expression proceeding from a pure heart & a clean life. (See Visualized Praise & Worship Lesson and use with the scriptures and visual numbers below)

1. **SINGING:** Mentioned 300 times. It means loud cry (Numbers 21:17), to sing with a musical instrument (Psalm 27:6), to stroll as minstrels (Exodus 15:1), to shout for joy, to make a shrill creaking sound (Psalm 95:1); (Psalm 40:3; 47:6; 81:1; Isaiah 5:1)
2. **SHOUTING:** Mentioned 65 times. It means to celebrate, boast, rave, cry aloud for joy. (Psalm 5:11; Ezra 3:11-13; Joshua 6:10-16, 20)
3. **JOYFUL NOISE:** (Psalm 98:4; 100)
4. **LAUGHTER:** (Genesis 21:6; Psalm 126:2; Ecclesiastes 3:4)
5. **SPEAK & SING IN TONGUES:** (Acts 2:11; 10:46; 1Cor. 14:15; Ephesians 5:18-20)
6. **TEARS:** (Luke 7:38; Acts 20:19)
7. **SILENCE:** (Psalm 46:10; Habakkuk 2:20); not to be silent (Psalm 30:12)
8. **INSTRUMENTS:** (Psalm 150; Numbers 7:1 cymbals mentioned 16 times; 1Chronicles 25:1; 2Kings 3:15,16 prophesy on instruments)
9. **CLAPPING:** Mentioned only 9 times (Psalm 47:1)
10. **DANCING:** Mentioned 27 times. It means to skip, to turn, to move around, to lift feet, to jump, to leap. (Psalm 149 & 150; 2Samuel 6:14; Psalm 30:11)
11. **UPLIFTED HANDS:** (Psalm 63:4, 134:2)
12. **FALL ON FACE:** (Luke 17:15; Numbers 22:31; Revelations 4:10-11)
13. **STANDING:** (Psalm 33:8; Psalm 135:1-2)
14. **BOWING:** Mentioned more than 80 times. 107 times “worship” means to bow down (Ephesians 3:14; Philippians 2:10; Psalm 95:6)
15. **BANNERS & FLAGS:** Song of Solomon 2:4; 6:4; Isaiah 13:2 ~ “Jehovah Nissi” means “The Lord is Our Banner”
16. **REJOICE:** Mentioned 200 times. It means to enjoy, to shine, to cheer up (Psalm 33:21), to make mirth (Psalm 35:9), to spin around under the force of a violent emotion (Psalm 9:14), to jump for joy (Psalm 68:4), to make a high shrill sound (Psalm 98:4). 37 times rejoice means “to spring about, to leap with much joy.”
17. **JOY & JOYOUS:** Mentioned about 190 times, means joy, loud cry, gladness. (Ezra 3:12; Isaiah 61:3; Matthew 2:10; Nehemiah 12:43, “I offer in His tabernacle sacrifices of JOY;” Psalm 27:6; Habakkuk 3:18; Zephaniah 3:17; Psalm 149:2, Joyful means “to leap and rejoice”

RECOMMENDED READING:

1. Word meaning in Young’s Analytical Concordance (Study “rejoice” and “praise”, etc.).
2. Let Us Praise by Judson Cornwall (Logos).
3. Every Christian’s Ministry by Graham Truscott, Restoration Temple
4. The Rebirth of Music by Lamar Boschman, Manasseh Books, Box 9245, Little Rock, AR 72219.
5. The Song of the Lord from Bible Temple, 7545 N.E. Glisan St., Portland, OR 97213.
6. On Eagles Wings by E. Charlotte Baker, King’s Temple, 15555 15th Ave., NE, Seattle, WA 98155.
7. The Key of David by Pastor B.M. Gaglardi, Glad Tidings Temple, 3456 Fraser St., Vancouver, BC V5V4C4.
8. Rejoice: A Biblical Study of the Dance by Debbie Roberts, Revival Press, PO Box 9245, Little Rock, AR 72219.

9. Bring Them Into His Courts by Cheryl Edmiston, #2 E. 116 Boardwalk, Elk Grove Village, IL.
10. Music Ministry by Mike & Viv Hibbert, PO Box 2355, Sydenham, Christchurch, New Zealand.
11. The Power of Praise & Worship by Terry Law, Victory House, Box 700238, Tulsa, OK 71470.
12. Exploring Worship—A Practical Guide to Praise & Worship by Bob Sorge, Sonrise Publications, Rt. 3, Box 202, New Wilmington, PA 16142.

VISUALIZED PRAISE & WORSHIP

- Enlarge each drawing to fit on a 8 1/2 x 14 (216 x 356mm) piece of paper
- Trace onto card using weight pencil using a black water proof marker
- Color pictures using water proof markers or crayons or chalk and cut out
- Tape on slots available you may color pictures on white paper or poster board
- Use this lesson on a flannel board or simply by holding up the pictures as you teach
- Be creative when teaching this lesson and have the children participate

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