



Lesson 20

Worship

PRAISE THE LORD! SING A NEW SONG TO THE LORD; PRAISE HIM IN THE ASSEMBLY OF HIS FAITHFUL PEOPLE! BE GLAD, ISRAEL, BECAUSE OF YOUR CREATOR; REJOICE, PEOPLE OF ZION, BECAUSE OF YOUR KING! PRAISE HIS NAME WITH DANCING; PLAY DRUMS AND HARPS IN PRAISE OF HIM. THE LORD TAKES PLEASURE IN HIS PEOPLE; HE HONORS THE HUMBLE WITH VICTORY. LET GOD'S PEOPLE REJOICE IN THEIR TRIUMPH AND SING JOYFULLY ALL NIGHT LONG. LET THEM SHOUT ALOUD AS THEY PRAISE GOD... PSALM 149 (GNT)

Worship is a huge part of our lives, and not just what we do on Sunday morning. Whether or not we realize it, we are constantly worshipping something. Some people worship (crave) popularity, attention, money, control, etc. God alone is worthy of our worship! He alone is worthy to be praised. He alone is worthy to direct our lives. He alone is worthy to sit enthroned on our hearts! May our hearts reflect an adoration of who He is (faithful, truthful, all-knowing, almighty, compassionate) and what He has done (creator, savior, protector, merciful). Through this lesson, we will find freedom to worship Him in many different and creative ways!

WHAT IS PURE WORSHIP?

Pure worship is the outward expression of inner joy brought forth through worship and praise by the Spirit of God who dwells in us. It is connecting the things of the heart with the way of the Spirit through the inviting in of Holy Spirit. He, in turn manifests His presence, which then rests upon those who worship in spirit and in truth. **Pure worship in the literal sense is the true fellowship of believers in the manifest presence of God.**

Pure worship is a time of separation from the things of the world, where one can immerse himself in the anointing which fills the soul through the presence of the Holy Spirit. ~John Roddam, St. John's Episcopal Church, Seattle, WA

Worship is extreme submission and extravagant love.

Praise is adoration of God that is vocal, audible, or visible.

A NATURAL RESPONSE TO CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

Praise is a very important aspect of spiritual growth and should come from the overflow of joy in one's spirit. Peter tells us in 1 Peter 2:9 that praises should be our natural response to the wonderful gift of salvation. Jesus Christ's perfect sacrifice offers man the opportunity to live in a blessed, abundant state here in this life and throughout all eternity. Peter uses the plural "praises" of Him, indicating that there is more than one kind of praise: our lips and our lifestyle.

OUR PRIESTLY DUTIES OF SACRIFICE

Praise and worship have become the privilege and responsibility of every believer, for we are all called to be priests. (Rev. 1:6, 1 Peter 2:5) God no longer desires physical outward sacrifices like under the Law of Moses, but is pleased with sacrifices of the heart offered out of love for our Lord. (Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:15-16)

HEBREW WORDS FOR PRAISE

The meanings of Hebrew words used for "praise" are more expanded than the English language. It is interesting and beneficial to know the meanings of these words.

HALLELUJAH

Used 4 times in New Testament. (Revelation 19) Hallelujah seems to be reserved as a special response of extreme excitement, exuberance, and exultation. It is a combination of two Hebrew words: (#1984) **Hallal** - to celebrate and (#3050) **Jah** - the sacred name, the Lord.

THEN I HEARD WHAT SOUNDED LIKE A GREAT MULTITUDE, LIKE THE ROAR OF RUSHING WATERS AND LIKE LOUD PEALS OF THUNDER, SHOUTING: "HALLELUJAH! FOR OUR LORD GOD ALMIGHTY REIGNS. LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD AND GIVE HIM GLORY!"

REVELATION 19:6-7A (NIV)

HALLAL

(#1984) to shine, to boast, to brag on, to laud, rave, to celebrate, to make a show, even to the point of looking foolish. Occurs 165 times in Old Testament (Psalm 111:1, 113:1, 119:164, 1 Chron. 16:4 and 25, I Chron. 23:5, Luke 19:40)

PRAISE THE LORD! PRAISE GOD IN HIS SANCTUARY; PRAISE HIM IN HIS MIGHTY HEAVENS! PRAISE HIM FOR HIS MIGHTY DEEDS; PRAISE HIM ACCORDING TO HIS EXCELLENT GREATNESS! PRAISE HIM WITH TRUMPET SOUND; PRAISE HIM WITH LUTE AND HARP! PRAISE HIM WITH TAMBOURINE AND DANCE; PRAISE HIM WITH STRINGS AND PIPE! PRAISE HIM WITH SOUNDING CYMBALS; PRAISE HIM WITH LOUD CLASHING CYMBALS! LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD! PRAISE THE LORD! PSALM 150 (ESV)

YADAH

(#3034) to revere or worship with extended hands, to throw, shoot, cast down; make confession, praise, shoot arrows, give thanks, laud, praise. Occurs 114 times in Old Testament. Root word is **yad** (#3027) 'hand' indicating power, means, direction. (Gen. 29:35, Psalm 42:5,11; 107:21-22, 119:48,62; 141:2)

I WILL PRAISE YOU, O LORD MY GOD, WITH ALL MY HEART, AND I WILL GLORIFY YOUR
NAME FOREVERMORE. PSALM 86:12 (NKJV)

BARAK

(#1288) suggests the transcendent privilege of blessing the Lord, to kneel, to bless, to bless God as an act of adoration, to salute, to be blessed, be adored, to cause to kneel. Occurs 331 times in Old Testament. (Psalm 34:1, Judges 5:2)

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS HIS HOLY NAME!
PSALM 103:1 (ESV)

TEHILLAH

(#8416) to sing or to laud, praise demanded by qualities or deeds or attributes of God, extol, fame, glory, acclaim, act of general or public praise, adoration. Occurs 57 times in Old Testament.

(Psalm 22:3, 34:1, 40:3, Hbk. 3:3b-4, 1 Cor. 14:15, Ex. 15:11, Deut. 10:21, Isa. 61:3)

WHEN THEY BEGAN TO SHOUT AND PRAISE,
THE LORD SUDDENLY ATTACKED THE AMMONITES, MOABITES,
AND MEN FROM MOUNT SEIR WHO WERE INVADING JUDAH, AND THEY WERE DEFEATED.
2 CHRONICLES 20:22 (NET)

ZAMAR

(#2167) to pluck the strings of an instrument, to play a musical instrument, to praise with song. To make music, accompanied by the voice; hence to celebrate in song and music; give praise, sing praises. Occurs 45 times, often with joyful expressions of music.

SING TO HIM. SING PRAISES TO HIM. TELL OF ALL HIS MARVELOUS WORKS.
1 CHRONICLES 16:9 (WEB)

Hebrew words for clap:

CAPHAQ (#5606). Occurs 11 times. (Jer. 31:19, Numbers 24:10)

TEQA (#8628) Indicates energy and enthusiasm!! Occurs 69 times. (Ps. 47:1, Nahum 3:19)

NAKAH (#5221) Occurs 501 times. (Job 27:23)

MACHA (#4222) Occurs 3 times. (Psalm 98:8, Isa. 52:12)

TODAH

(#8426) used in connection with an offering and means to extend the hands in a sacrifice of praise, thanksgiving, confession or thank offering. Occurs 32 times in Old Testament. (Lev. 22:29, Psalm 50:23, 69:30, Jonah 2:9) It is a sacrifice of praise that prepares the way for victory. Todah is the worship offered before we see the victory, solution or answer.

NOW AT THE DEDICATION OF THE WALL OF JERUSALEM THEY SOUGHT OUT THE LEVITES FROM ALL THEIR PLACES, TO BRING THEM TO JERUSALEM SO THAT THEY MIGHT CELEBRATE THE DEDICATION WITH GLADNESS, WITH HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING AND WITH SONGS TO THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF CYMBALS, HARPS AND LYRES.
NEHEMIAH 12:27 (NAS)

GUWL

(#1523) to rejoice, exult, be glad, to dance, to leap for joy, to go in a circle, to tremble from fear, to spin around under the influence of violent emotion. Occurs 44 times. Get Happy!! (Isa. 41:16, Psalm 97:1, Zephaniah 3:17, 1 Chron. 16:30, Joel 2:21)

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE. LET'S REJOICE AND BE GLAD TODAY!
PSALM 118:24 (GW)

Other Hebrew words for dance:

MACHOWL (#4234) (Ps. 30:11, 149:3, 150:4, Jer. 31:4, 13)

KARAR (#3769) (2 Sam. 6:14-16)

RAQAD (#7540) (1 Chron. 15:29)

CHUWL (#2342) twist or whirl in a circular or spiral manner. To dance, to writhe in pain or fear, to wait, to bring forth, tarry, wait carefully. (Gen. 8:10, Psalm 37:7, 90:2; Deut. 32:18)

SHABACH

(#7623) to address in a loud tone, loud; to pacify as if by words; to soothe, still; commend, glory, praise, still, triumph. Occurs 11 times. (Psalm 29, 63:3, 89:9, 117:1, 106:47, 147:12)

ONE GENERATION WILL DECLARE YOUR WORKS TO THE NEXT AND WILL PROCLAIM YOUR MIGHTY ACTS. PSALM 145:4 (CSB)

RINNAH

(#7440) to make a shrill sound, ringing cry of entreaty, supplication, proclamation, joy, praise, shout, singing. Occurs 33 times. (2 Chron. 20:21-22. Psalm 30:5, 88:2, 106:44, 107:22)

LET MY PRAYER COME BEFORE YOU; LISTEN TO MY CRY. PSALM 88:2 (ISV)

CONCLUSION

So, let's join with creation in expressing our worship to Him! By studying the original meanings of the words in the Bible, we learn that worship is so much more than what we may have thought. It's the attitude of our heart and soul and also a very active body! Now we have a new understanding of what scriptures like the one below really mean- Worship Him! Worship Him freely with all you've got! Abandon yourself in worship. Forget about all else, except praising and worshipping the most high King.

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING (TODAH),
AND HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE (TEHILLAH)!
GIVE THANKS (YADAH) TO HIM;
BLESS (BARAK) HIS NAME!
PSALM 100:4 (ESV)

Listen:

I Just Want to Worship - by Kristene Di Marco

Praise is the Highway - by Bethel Music

Be Enthroned - by Bethel Music

Even Louder - by Steven Malcom with Natalic Grant

