



Sacrifice of Praise: Perfecting Praise

Praise and Spiritual Warfare

Fixing Our Heart on Praise
 Besides adoration and thanksgiving (see lesson 1), praising God is one of the tools of spiritual warfare provided by God. Praising God helps me to battle temptation and also sends Satan “packing.”

A. Preparing the Heart *2 Chr 12:14; Psa 57:7; 10:17*

“And he did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the Lord.” 2 Chr 12:14

1. King Rehoboam (grandson of David) sought the Lord for only 3 of the 17-years he reigned (2 Chr 11). **Why? Rehoboam failed to ‘prepare’ his heart.**
2. The Hebrew word ‘prepare’ means “to establish, fix or apply.” ***Is your heart prepared?***
3. David ‘fixed’ his heart on what he would/would not do! Psa 57:7 “...*My heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.*”
 When an opportunity presented itself for David to speed up God’s promise—he resisted the temptation by entering into song and praise!

Praising God establishes (fixes in our mind) the greater purposes of God in our life and His strength in us.

B. Ordained Strength—Perfected Praise

Matt 21:15-16; Psa 8:2

Praise is strength and the best way to silence the enemy is through praise.

1. A group of religious leaders criticized Yeshua for permitting the young people on temple mount to worship and praise Him. He replies by quoting *Psalm 8:2* to them:
“Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise.” Mat 21:16
2. However, *Psalm 8:2* says:
“Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength!”
3. So is it “**ordained strength**” or “**perfected praise**?”
It is both: Praise **IS** strength! Jesus did not change these words but he is teaching they are interchangeable.
4. Power of praise: Praise will silence the enemy!

*“You have ordained strength (praise),
 Because of Your enemies,
 That You may silence the enemy...” Psalm 8:2*

Praising God in the Face of Fear

2 Chronicles 20

This is a wonderful account of how ‘praising’ God was the key to a God-given strategy for defeating an enemy.

A. Jehoshaphat feared :3

Jehoshaphat did the right thing by seeking God. He prepared his heart by adoration praise. :5-7

B. God says “Don’t fear.” :14- 17

God speaks through Jahaziel that they should not fear since this was going to be God’s battle not theirs.

- Look beyond what you see
- Position yourself
- Stand still
- Look for the deliverance
- God is with you

C. The People Praise God :18-19

Upon hearing the Lord through Jahaziel, Jehoshaphat and all the people praised God.

D. Believe and Praise :20-21

Having faith in God would bring the victory (being established). By faith the singers would go before the army and sing:

*Praise the Lord,
 For His mercy endures forever!
 (See Psalm 136)*

● Praising God invites His ruling presence *Psalm 22:3*

*But You are holy,
 Enthroned in the
 praises of Israel*

E. God’s Presence :22-23

As a result of ‘praise’ the presence of God confounded the enemy and gave victory to Israel.

**The battle is not yours,
 but God’s! Praise brings
 the presence of God,
 and the victory!**