

## Praise: Blessing God



### For the Pleasure of God

In this three-part series we have seen how praising God strengthens the believer, is a primary tool for spiritual warfare and in this study we will see how 'praise' blesses God!

*"But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."*

*Psalms 22:3*

#### A. Made to Praise...Bless God *Psalms 22:3*

This verse teaches us that God comes to dwell with us when we praise Him. This is not as much for our benefit as it is to 'enthroned' Him (as the New King James version says.) God is blessed when His people praise Him.

#### B. Made to Please...God *Rev 4:11; Isa 55:12*

God created mankind and all of creation for 'His pleasure.' This is God's original and continuing purpose—that He would find pleasure in us and all of creation. God delights when we praise Him—He is pleased!

#### C. Made to Delight...in God *Psa 37:4-7; Psa 40:8; Psa 119:16*

God is blessed when we delight in Him. The word 'delight' means delicate pampering and here the object is God. This is the story of the Song of Solomon and covenant love. God longs for our love—when we praise Him we delight Him.

#### D. Made to Walk...with God *Gen 2-3; 3:8; Mic 6:8*

##### **What were Adam and Eve created for?**

- They did not have a church to work in...
- There were no sinners to be witnessed to...
- There were no sick to be healed...
- There was no one to invite over for fellowship...

According to *Rev 4:11* (see above) they were created for God's pleasure. Or better—they were created as an object of God's love. They were made in His image. God is love—they (and we) were made to love and be loved—first and foremost to love and be loved by God.

#### E. Made to Minister...to God

##### **There are two primary ways we minister to God!**

1. By ministering to others *Matt 25:31-40; 40*  
"...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."
2. By ministering to the Lord *Acts 13:1-2*  
**What were these early believers doing when they 'ministered to the Lord?'**
  - They were not ministering to each other—they were worshiping and praising the Lord.
  - They were '**enthroning**' the presence of God among them—and out of this 'inhabitation' the Holy Spirit spoke 'direction' to the church.

### What is

#### "The Sacrifice of Praise?"

*"Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."* *Heb 13:15*

#### A. David's Todah

*Psalms 116:1-19; 17* When David is faced with death he cries out to God with a 'sacrifice of thanksgiving.' The Hebrew word for 'thanksgiving' is 'todah.' Todah can also mean praise, offering and confession.

#### B. Shalom and Todah

*Leviticus 7:11-18; 12* The 'peace' offering was the basis for the 'sacrifice of praise.'

1. Unleavened bread was offered on the altar.
2. Leavened bread was offered (given) to the priest. Jesus is our High Priest. *Heb 3:1*
3. The only offering that could be eaten by the one making the offering! *Lev 7:15*

#### C. Powerful Fruit *Heb 13:15*

The Greek word for 'giving thanks' (*homologeō*) means to 'say the same word.' In other words to agree together. It is often translated as 'confess' (NIV *Heb 13:15*)

1. The sacrifice of praise is to confess the NAME(S) of the Lord.
2. We agree with who He is and what He has done and will do!
3. When faced with difficulty we offer the 'sacrifice of praise' and agree with God for His deliverance and provision (See "A" above).

#### **Praise His Name: Jehovah...**

- Rapha—God our healer
- Jireh—God our provider
- Shalom—God our peace
- Tsidkenu—Our righteousness
- Shammah—Always present

*As we confess the names of God, 'our sacrifice of praise' we release the provision of God for us and for others. We share in the offering! (C-3 above)*