

Praise & Worship



234) What is praise?

- A. The three Hebrew words used most often for praise (halal, tehillah, & yadah) mean "to show, to boast, to rave, to celebrate, to act loud and foolish; to laud or praise in song, a hymn; to lift or throw up the hands, to revere with extended hands."
- B. The two Greek words used most often for praise (epainos & doxa) mean "to laud or praise in song, to applaud; to give glory."
- C. Praise is an activity of both the voice and body that lifts up and glorifies God. Praise is always declared or expressed.
- D. Praising God is more than just repeating the words, "I praise you, hallelujah, Lord."

235) What is worship?

- A. Both the Hebrew and the Greek words for "worship" have the idea of "bowing down or laying on your face" before God.
- B. The English word "worship" means "worthship" and indicates the worthiness of God.
- C. Worship is when we honor and give reverence to God. While worship can be verbal, it can also be non-verbal; such as bowing or standing silent in God's presence.

236) Is worship limited to my words?

- A. No. Worship involves our entire life. It occurs whenever we honor God by either our words or deeds. Worship is a lifestyle, a life of service dedicated to honoring God. We worship God when we are dedicated employees, good parents, a devoted spouse, or a faithful steward of what God puts in our hands.

"We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man (worshiper, KJV) who does his will."

JOHN 9:31 NIV

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living

sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship.
ROM 12:1 NIV

237) What worship pleases God?

- A. Worship needs to be accurate in both truth and spiritual content. We can follow all the rules and perform everything correctly but if our spirit is not right, our worship will be empty and powerless, nothing more than a dead work.

*True worshiper
Father seeks*
"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. [24] God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

JOHN 4:23-24 NIV

"having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them."
2TIM 3:5 NIV

238) How do praise and worship differ?

- A. The focus of praise is what God has done or will do.
1. "I praise you because ..."
B. The focus of worship is on who God is.
1. "Lord, you are glorious."

239) What are the forms of praise and worship?

- A. Thanksgiving

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. [5] For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

PSA 100:4-5 NIV

- B. Singing & Music

"Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."

PSA 150:3-6

- C. Clapping

"Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy."

PSA 47:1 NIV

- D. Upraised hands

"Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place."

PSA 28:2 NIV

"Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. [4] I will praise you as

long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands."

PSA 63:3-4 NIV

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD."

PSA 134:2 NIV

E. Dancing

"Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp."

PSA 149:3 NIV

"praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute,"

PSA 150:4 NIV

F. Banners and flags

"Assyria will fall by a sword that is not of man; a sword, not of mortals, will devour them. They will flee before the sword and their young men will be put to forced labor. [9] Their stronghold will fall because of terror; at sight of the battle standard (flag) their commanders will panic," declares the LORD, whose fire is in Zion, whose furnace is in Jerusalem."

ISA 31:8-9 NIV

"So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him."

ISA 59:19 KJV

G. The shout

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth."

PSA 100:1 NIV

1. "Shout" (Strong's number - 7321H)

- a. Fig. - to split the ears (with sound), i.e. to shout (for alarm or joy).

H. Silence

"The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. [12] After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. [13] When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

1KINGS 19:11-13 NIV

"The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah [8] Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth. [9] He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire. [10] Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." [11] The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah"

PSA 46:7-11 NIV

1. Note: Silence as an aspect of reverence and awe.

240) What is the song of the Lord?

- A. The song of the Lord is a spontaneous spiritual song of praise sung at the direction of the Holy Spirit. It differs from psalms and hymns in that they have been previously written while the song of the Lord is a new song, composed and sung at the direction of the Spirit.
- B. It often has a prophetic aspect to it, with a tune and lyrics born of God for the occasion.
- C. You may receive a song that is only for your personal edification or it might be for the corporate body, in which case it should be shared with the church.

"Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, [20] always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

EPH 5:19-20 NIV

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."

COL 3:16 NIV

"He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD."

PSA 40:3 NIV

"And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth."

REV 14:3 NIV

241) What is a sacrifice of praise?

- A. A sacrifice is something of value. It should be our very best, given willingly to God. Our sacrifice of praise should be from the heart, the best we have to offer, given with joy.
- B. We often think of sacrifice as something we have to give up or do without. We might think in terms of, "it hurts, but I'm going to do it anyway." God requires that our sacrifice of praise be the best we can give. We are not to think that we are losing anything, but that we are delighted to give it.

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess his name. [16] And do not forget to do good and to share with others,

for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

HEB 13:15-16 NIV

"If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD."

LEV 1:3 KJV

"Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take whatever pleases him and offer it up. Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and here are threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. [23] O king, Araunah gives all this to the king." Araunah also said to him, "May the LORD your God accept you." [24] But the king (David) replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them."

2SAM 24:22-24 NIV

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2COR 9:7 NIV