## Give God the Sacrifice of Praise, Hebrews 13:15.

It is not because God is an egocentric God, it's because God's glory and His mighty power comes to us during times of worship.

## Examples of praise and why it's important, it's not just an option.

God can move mightily in an atmosphere of praise!

- Praise creates an atmosphere of Glory and God's glory brings in the presence of God.
- Praise can be likened to fuel in a car; Without fuel, it takes a much effort to push a car and you do not get very far, likewise without praise a Christian extends much effort and gets little results.
- Everything we need can be found through praise and worship! ie. We have a living God, He knows what we need and He will provide for all of our needs, when we give Him the sacrifice of praise.

God wants and instructs His people to praise Him, because He knows the blessings praise will bring.

- We are instructed to give praise to God, and offer up a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips, giving thanks to His name, Hebrews 13:15.
- Praise can be a sacrifice! At times, we just don't feel like praising Him, do it anyways, make that sacrifice, you will be glad you did. Think of it as you get double points:-). Don't let anybody detour you of praising Him, not others or yourself, praise Him loudly, Psalm 150.

King David setting up the tabernacle for the Lord, appointed 4,000 to praise the Lord.

- And four thousand were gatekeepers, and four thousand praised Jehovah with the instruments which David made for praising, 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 23:5.
- Also his son Solomon when building the temple, set up many to praise and worship the Lord, And according to the order of David his father, he appointed the divisions of the priests to their service, and the Levites to their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required; and the gatekeepers by their divisions at every gate; for so David the man of God had commanded, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 8:14.
- David valued praise and worship and he put forth a sacrifice of resources, in the above scripture and
  in this one as well. neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost
  me nothing. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver,
  2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 24:24.

How praise and worship is portrayed by the Palmist.

- But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabits the praises of Israel, Psalm 22:3.
- Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness, Psalm 29:2.
- I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth, Psalm 34:1.

Jonah gave thanks to the Lord even in the belly of the fish.

• But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that which I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD, Jonah 2:9.

In the time of Jonah's distress, he gave praise to the Lord, Jonah chapter 2.

Jesus Christ as the Son of Man, knew the importance of praise and worship.

- <sup>6</sup> And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. <sup>7</sup> If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. <sup>8</sup> And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve, Luke 4:6-8.
- Praise is powerful, Satan wanted to steal praise meant only for God. For the person that you praise and worship becomes your master. Jesus knew this, He new that praise was more than just giving God lip-service, He new that praise was a lifestyle.

God moved on Paul & Silas praises when they where in prison.

• <sup>24</sup> Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. <sup>25</sup> And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. <sup>26</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed, Acts 24:24-26.

This passage tells us that Paul and Silas at midnight prayed and sang praises to God, unless they had come into the prison at midnight praising God, this would have been their personal decision to start praising Him. I believe they accessed their situation and figured they should invoke prayer and praise in their situation to see what God might do.

Therefore, glorify God in your body and spirit, because it was made to glorify God.

- 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1st Corinthians 6:19-20.

  We might think of our bodies as just being our earth-suit that houses our spirit. However, a temple is made to give thanks and praise to God, and since the spirit within you uses your voice and your mouth, it is up to you to praise God.
- For more insight on creating an atmosphere of glory, click here.

