

October 2, 2018

Presuppositions in Praise

Praise is the most worthwhile endeavor in earth and heaven

Praise is an exercise which occupies the full time of angels in heaven and in which heavenly citizens will engage in for time without end, surely could not be a waste of time for persons on earth.

Four basic ministries for the body of Christ in general and the believer in particular; The ministry of worship, the ministry of the word, the ministry of witness, and the ministry of work. The key to a proper balance in these vital ministries is placing WORSHIP in its rightful priority position.

No exercise will result in more healing physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually than that of studying and practicing praise.

The practice of praise in the corporate sense is essential to the maximum worship experience.

One can preach and plead with individuals to repent, be cleansed, be committed, and follow the Lord, but few will make lasting allegiances without a prevailing atmosphere of praise.

Until the practice of praise in private is continuous and free, the practice of praise corporately will be inhibited by fear, self –consciousness, and discomfort.

Public praise is threatening and fearful to those who are not praising God in their private lives. Began the practice of praise in its simplicity, out of that will flow a desire and expectation toward public exercises in praise.

When we praise we are engaging in an eternal exercise.

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—*who is forever praised*. Amen. (NIV)

Praise is eternal. It never began. It has always been. It will never cease. In Psalm 72:19 the psalmist says, "Praise be to his glorious name forever..." he further exclaims, "Then I will ever sing in praise of your name and fulfill my vows day after day." (Psalm 61:8).

Also again in Psalm 111:10b, "To him belongs eternal praise."

Psalm 119:164 Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous laws.

Psalm 147:1 Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

Identifying Praise; A Working Definition

Praise defined: praise in its essence is adoration of God. Praise is always assertive, demonstrative, and open. It is not passive, presumptuous, undemonstrative, or secretive. Wherever it is mentioned, movement, action, sounds, and songs are seen and heard.

Praise may be vocal “My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.” (Ps 145:21). “Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, *my lips shall praise thee*” (Ps 63:3). Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: (Ps 66:1). “That I may give out the voice of praise and make public all the wonders which you have done.” Ps 26:7 (BBE)

Praise may be audible without being vocal. Clapping is audible. “O clap your hands, all ye people;” (47:1a). Other means of audible praise are stated in Psalm 150:3-5. “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.

There are some forms of praise that are neither vocal or audible. One is the lifting of hands. “Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.” (Psalm 63:4) Dancing is a form of praise that is neither vocal or audible. David danced before the Lord when the ark was finally brought to its rightful place. “Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, and with sound of the cornet, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, making a noise with psalteries and harps. And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing: and she despised him in her heart.” (1Ch 15:28-29). David also exclaims. “Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.” (Ps 149:3)

Another form of praise that is visible but not audible is that of kneeling. The word *shachah* (havah) is used in connection with praise in the Old Testament. More than sixty times in the OT the word *shachah* is used and refers to a position of prostration or kneeling. It is generally translated “worship.” Here are a few references in the bible to this form of praise: 1Ch 16:29 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship (*shachah*) the LORD in the beauty of holiness. 2Ch 20:18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping(*shachah*)

Perfected Worship Characteristics

October 2, 2018

the LORD. Ps 96:9 O worship(*shachah*) the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

To use as a working definition of praise, the following description: *praise is adoration of God that is vocal, audible, or visible* (any one or all of these at a time).