

RESOURCE MINISTRIES
PRAISE AND WORSHIP SEMINAR
Session 3 - WHY AND HOW SHOULD WE WORSHIP GOD?
By Jim Stephens

I. WHY SHOULD WE PRAISE AND WORSHIP GOD?

1. God is seeking true worshippers.

"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him."
(John 4:23 AV)

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. (John 4:23 NIV)

2. God ordained Praise and Worship as the way to come into His presence.

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." Ps 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. (Psalms 100:4 NIV)

3. God lives in or inhabits the praises of His people.

"But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel." (Ps 22:3 AV)

Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel. (Psalms 22:3 NIV)

4. Prayer, Praise, and Worship are our altar of incense to God.

"Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice." (Ps 141:2 AV)

May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice. (Psalms 141:2 NIV)

5. Unity of Praise and Worship brings the Presence and Power of God.

*"It came to pass, as the trumpeters and singers **were as one**, to make **one sound** to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and as they lifted up **their voice** with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music: and praised the Lord saying, For He is good; for His mercy endureth forever: that **then** the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord." (II Chr 5:13 AV)*

The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang: "He is good; his love endures forever." Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, (II Chronicles 5:13 NIV)

6. Praise and Worship is a way we can glorify God.

"Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God." (Ps 50:23 AV)

He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God." (Psalms 50:23 NIV)

7. Praise and Worship by believers today is a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.

"And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon His name, declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted." Isa 12:4

In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. (Isaiah 12:4 NIV)

8. We are changed into His image through our Praise and Worship of the Lord.

"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (II Cor 3:18 AV)

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (II Cor 3:18 NIV)

9. We Praise God because it is a good thing to do.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High." Ps 92:1

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, (Psalms 92:1 NIV)

10. We Praise Him because He is worthy to be praised.

*"I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised..." (Ps 18:3 AV)
I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. (Psalm 18:3 NIV)*

11. We Praise God because a sacrifice of praise is pleasing to Him.

"By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name...for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." (Heb 13:15-16 AV)

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-- the fruit of lips that confess his name...for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (Heb 13:15-16 NIV)

II. HOW SHOULD WE PRAISE AND WORSHIP GOD?

1. In spirit and in truth.

"God is a spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24 AV)

God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24 NIV)

2. With our whole heart.

"Praise ye the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation." (Ps 111:1 AV)

Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly. (Psalms 111:1 NIV)

3. With our mouths: Singing, shouting, and telling of His works and His goodness.

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation." (Ps 95:1 AV)

"..shout unto God with the voice of triumph." (Ps 47:1 AV)

"I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, I will show forth Thy marvelous works." (Ps 9:1 AV)

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. (Psalm 95:1 NIV)

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. (Psa 47:1 NIV)

I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. (Psalm 9:1 NIV)

4. With our hands: clapping, and raising them to the Lord.

"O clap your hands all ye people: shout unto God with the voice of triumph." (Ps 47:1 AV)

"Thus will I bless Thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in Thy name." (Ps 63:4 AV)

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord." (Ps 134:1 AV)

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. (Psa 47:1 NIV)

I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. (Psalm 63:4 NIV)

5. By standing in honour of His Presence.

"Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord which stand by night in the house of the Lord." (Ps 134:1 AV)

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD. (Psalm 134:1 NIV)

6. By bowing before the Lord.

"O come let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." (Ps 95:6 AV)

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; (Psalm 95:6 NIV)

7. By dancing before the Lord.

"Let them praise His name in the dance." (Ps 149:3 AV)

Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp. (Psalm 149:3 NIV)

8. With all kinds of musical instruments.

"Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet: praise Him with the psaltry and harp.." (Ps 150:3 AV)

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, (Psalm 150:3 NIV)