AN EXPLORATION OF BIBLICAL PRAISE, Part 3

- Praise is a key cog in the wheel of our fellowship of God!
- It's not just about singing hymns, lifting our hands on Sunday, or reciting verses of scripture from memory. It's about <u>acknowledging the greatness</u> of our God in a way that <u>transcends</u> our circumstances, <u>influences</u> our attitudes and <u>draws us into a deeper connection</u> with the Creator.
- Praise is not merely a ritual or a religious routine, it is a <u>dynamic and life-changing expression</u> of the relationship with the Almighty.

I. WHAT IS PRAISE

A. Commentary Perspective

1. Matthew Henry:

 An act of worship wherein we give unto God the glory due His name. It is done out of delight and not out of duty.

2. Barnes' Notes on the Bible:

• A <u>public declaration</u> of God's <u>attributes and works</u>. It is a reflection of a heart attuned to God's goodness!

3. Jamieson, Fausset and Brown:

Involves <u>adoration</u>, <u>thanksgiving</u>, <u>and joyful celebration</u>!
Praising God is an acknowledgement of His <u>greatness and goodness</u>, expressed by our <u>love and reverence</u>.

4. Pulpit Commentary:

• The recognition of God's character works and attributes. Praise is the believer's response to God's grace and mercy.

B. Biblical Language Perspective

Old Testament...

1. Yadah

- To give thanks; to confess one's dependence upon God.
- Psalm 42:5

2. Barak

- To kneel down; to bless God as an act of adoration and surrender
- Psalm 95:6

3. Halal

- To boast; to celebrate God in a loud extravagant manner
- Psalm 150

4. Tehillah

- A song of praise; expressing adoration and worship
- Psalm 22:3

5. Zamar

- Musical/instrumental adoration of God
- Psalm 33:2-3

6. Todah

- A confession of thanksgiving, often associated with gratitude for God's deliverance
- Psalm 50:23

New Testament...

1. Aineo

- To celebrate; to express approval or admiration.
- Revelation 19:5

2. Epainos

- To express favorable judgment or acclaim.
- Ephesians 1:6

3. Hymneo

- To sing praise, to express praise through music or song
- Colossians 3:16

4. Eulogeo

- To bless, speak well of or give thanks
- Matthew 26:26-27
- 2 Corinthians 9:5-6

II. WHY DO WE PRAISE?

1. Recognition of God's Attributes

- Psalm 145:3
- When we lift our voice in praise to God, we signify our awareness of His greatness, holiness, power, presence and incomprehensible character.
- Psalm 95:1-4
- It is through our expressions of praise we acknowledge God's sovereignty and declare His worthiness.

2. Response to God's Faithfulness

- Psalm 103:1-2
- Praise is a <u>deliberate act</u> of remembering and expressing <u>gratitude</u> for the <u>bountiful blessings</u> the Lord grants us.
- Psalm 136:1-3

3. Invitation to God's Presence

Psalm 22:3

- Inhabitest Yashab (Hebrew) to sit, dwell or abide
- Praise creates an atmosphere where God's presence is not only acknowledged, but <u>actively welcomed</u>.

•	Praise reflects humility, acknowledging our creating a space where	
	welcomed.	
•	Praise creates a	
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•	Praise provides us an avenue in which we	
	, allowing us to experience with His presence.	
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•	Ultimately, incorporating praise into our daily routine and and	
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