

THE POWER OF MY PRAISE PT.2 THE POWER OF THANKSGIVING

Philippians 4:4-9

WE BEGAN LAST WEEK TALKING ABOUT PRAISE, YOUR PRAISE AND HOW THERE IS POWER IN YOUR PRAISE.

WHAT IS PRAISE:

THE WORD PRAISE IN GREEK: 1868. Epainos: ἔπαινος THE NOUN, DERIVED FROM THE VERB: epaineō, meaning "to praise" or "to commend." refers to the act of expressing approval or admiration, often directed towards God or individuals for their virtues or deeds.

ONE OF THE KEYS FROM LAST WEEK: PRAISE, WHICH IS AN OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF WORSHIP, CHANGES THINGS BECAUSE IT TAKES THE FOCUS OF YOURSELF, YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THIS WORLD AND PLACES IT ON GOD... AND WE HAVE THAT ABILITY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING GO HAND IN HAND.

THE WORD THANKSGIVING: 2168. Eucharisteó: (from 2095 /eú, "good" and 5485/xaris, "grace") – properly, acknowledging that "God's grace works well," i.e. for our eternal gain and His glory; to give thanks – literally, "thankful for God's good grace."

TRUTH: WE ARE TAUGHT TO APPROACH GOD, NOT WITH "HAT IN HAND"... POOR PITIFUL ME... NOT FULL OF WORRY... NOT FULL OF PRIDE... BUT IN THANKSGIVING. WE COME BEFORE OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, PRAYING FOR OUR NEEDS AND SUPPLICATION WITH AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE TOWARDS HIS GOOD GRACE!

IF PRAISE IS WORSHIP EXPRESSED (BASED ON THE VALUE OF WHO GOD IS), THEN THANKSGIVING IS THE ATTITUDE THAT PRODUCES PRAISE.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

BREAKING DOWN:

- -respect each other
- -esteem others who work for the Gospel
- -be at peace with each other
- -encourage those who are struggling, with patience
- -don't try to get even if someone harms you but be good to each other
- -rejoice, pray, give thanks IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES (THIS IS GOD'S WILL IN CHRIST!)
- -do not quench the Spirit, allow for the move of the Spirit but test it

-hold to good, abstain from evil

AND KNOW:

God will bring you to complete and wholeness in SPIRIT, SOUL, AND BODY!

QUOTE: "Thankfulness is an expression of TRUST that keeps us conscious of the presence of God." -Bill Johnson PSALM 100

THE "FORMULA": I ENTER IN THANKING HIM, I APPROACH HIM WITH PRAISE, AND THE END RESULT IS HIS PRESENCE!

FROM LAST WEEK: OBSERVATION THREE: THE MORE YOU PRAISE GOD, THE MORE OF HIM YOU WILL ENCOUNTER, FOR HE RESPONDS TO THE PRAISE OF HIS PEOPLE.

THE PALMIST WRITES: **PSALM 22:3** Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises^[a] of Israel.

OTHER VERSIONS SAY: **YOU ARE HOLY, DWELLING IN THE PRAISES OF ISRAEL**.

I.O.W. GOD INHABITS THE PRAISES OF HIS PEOPLE!

KEY #1: THANKSGIVING IS A RESPONSE TO GOD THAT CREATES IN US A GRATEFUL HEART AND ENABLES US TO PRAISE HIM, WHICH INVITES HIS PRESENCE INTO OUR SITUATION, OUR LIFE, OUR CHURCH, OUR HOME, ETC.

TRUTH: THOUGH MANY OF US MAY HAVE THINGS WE ARE THANKFUL FOR, WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING IN OUR LIVES THAT WE ARE NOT THANKFUL FOR THAT DISTRACTS US FROM THE LATTER.

I SUPPOSE THE QUESTION THEN BECOMES: HOW DO I REASON THIS OUT IN MY SOUL? HOW DO I REMAIN UNDISTRACTED? HOW DO I CHANGE MY FEELINGS ABOUT THE ISSUE?

JOHN 6:1-14

KEY #2: THANKFULNESS TAKES A SITUATION OF EXTREME LACK AND TURNS IT INTO EXTREME ABUNDANCE.

KEY #3: THANKSGIVING (JUST LIKE PRAISE) IS A SACRIFICE.

PSALM 116:17-19

ROMANS 8:16-28

IN OTHER WORDS, THAT THING THAT I'M NOT SO THANKFUL FOR, GOD WILL USE THAT TOO FOR MY GOOD AND HIS GLORY!

KEY #4: LET GOD BE GOD IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES! YOU STAY THANKFUL AND PRAISE HIM IN YOUR LACK, NEED, AND SITUATION, KNOWING HE'S GOT A PLAN!

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26 (PAUL TEACHING ON THE LORD'S SUPPER/COMMUNION)

TRUTH: JESUS, EVEN KNOWING THAT HE WAS BETRAYED. EVEN KNOWING WHAT HE WAS ABOUT TO FACE... GAVE THANKS. NOT BECAUSE OF WHAT HE WAS TO SUFFER BUT FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM, THAT WAS YOU AND ME. (HEBREWS 12:2)

PSALM 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

- Serve the Lord with gladness!Come into his presence with singing!
- ³ Know that the Lord, he is God!

 It is he who made us, and we are his;^[a]

 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!
 Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- ⁵ For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.