

Sunday, October 18th, 2020

Title - Praising God

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Slide 1 - What is Praise?

Dictionary definition: express warm approval of; Express ones respect and gratitude towards (a deity) especially in a song

Slide 2 - Origin

- Latin "Pretium": praise

- Old French "Preisier": to prize, praise

- Middle English "Praise": set a price on, attach value to

𐌲𐌲𐌿𐍄 - original pictographic script, essential means "to look toward a sight"

- Hebrew "Halal": to boast of foolishly, make a show; to rave, celebrate

- Hebrew "Yadah": to throw the hand, worship with extended hands

Slide 3 - God commands us to praise Him

Deuteronomy 6:14-15 - Jealous God

Psalms 29

-vs 2 "Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name,"

Psalms 150:1-6

-vs 6: "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD."

Isaiah 12:5 - "Sing unto the LORD; for He has done excellent things: this is known in all the earth."

Slide 4 - How can I really praise God if I feel forced, demanded to?

Slide 5 - Reflections on the Psalms, C.S. Lewis

The most obvious fact about praise — whether of God or any thing — strangely escaped me. I thought of it in terms of compliment, approval, or the giving of honor. I had never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise unless . . . shyness or the fear of boring others is deliberately brought in to check it. The world rings with praise — lovers praising their mistresses, readers their favorite poet, walkers praising the countryside, players praising their favorite game — praise of weather, wines, dishes, actors, motors, horses, colleges, countries, historical personages, children, flowers, mountains, rare stamps, rare beetles, even sometimes politicians or scholars. I had not noticed how the humblest, and at the same time most balanced and capacious, minds, praised most, while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praised least. . . .

I had not noticed either that just as men spontaneously praise whatever they value, so they spontaneously urge us to join them in praising it: "Isn't she lovely? Wasn't it glorious? Don't you think that magnificent?" The Psalmists in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about. My whole, more general, difficulty about the praise of God depended on my absurdly denying to us, as regards the supremely Valuable, what we delight to do, what indeed we can't help doing, about everything else we value.

I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed. (93-95)

Slide 6 - The praise-worthiness of God

Job 38-39 ... wow!

Genesis 6-9 - Judgement and preservation of entire earth
Genesis 12:3- "I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Deuteronomy 7:9-10 - God is faithful!

Isaiah 53 - Christ's coming sacrifice

Isaiah 55 - God's compassion on all...

John 3:16 - "SO LOVED"

John 14:6 - Christ, the only Way

Romans 3:21-26 - all fall short, yet are accepted by believing in work of the cross!

Slide 7 - Hebrews 13:15

"Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name."

What does that kind of sacrifice look like?

- Ephesians 5:18-21 - give thanks always for everything
- Romans 5:1-11 - rejoice in suffering
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Constant praise is the will of God

Slide 8 ... the Outcome?

"God is most glorified in you, when you are most satisfied in Him."

- John Piper

Philippians 1:20-21

- to live is Christ, to die is gain
- Christ is to be more valuable than life itself

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