## WHY PRAISE IS MORE POWERFUL THAN PRAYER

## a. Rejoicing Is A Must — Phil. 4:4

*“Rejoice in the Lord always,”* Paul says, *“I will say it again: Rejoice!”* He repeats it in I Thessalonians 5:16, and it is also in Psalm 32:11. So it is in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

## b. Everything that breathes must Praise God

Psalm 150:6 says, *“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.”* Not only us, but everything else that breathes. Have you ever seen how a chicken drinks? It looks up all the time. It praises God. You should be like that. It does its job.

## c. Praise Always

Praise is to be offered from morning until night. Psalm 113:3 says, *“From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised*.*”* All day long. This is a beautiful thing, when you think of the universe and how the world turns, how some people are awake and some are asleep, and how all the time praise is being offered to God from the whole world.

## d. God Inhabits Praise

We see in Psalm 22:3, that God inhabits praise, *“You are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel.”* God lives in praise. Where you praise, that is where you are going to find God. When the four boys of Israel were standing by the fiery furnace, they gave glory to God. God was right there, and He delivered them. When thousands of people complained about God in the wilderness, where was He? He was not there, and they died. Thousands of them died in the wilderness.

## e. Praise Glorifies God

Psalm 50:23 says, “*He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God.”* It says, “He who sacrifices thank offerings.” It is the same idea we found in Hebrews 13:15. Praise Produces Power!

## f. Praise because God is Holy

In Psalm 22:3 David says of God*, “You are enthroned as the Holy One”.* Therefore He is to be praised. God does not make mistakes. God cannot sin. God has no evil motive towards us. So we know that anything bad that happens is not God’s fault. What is the usual reaction of an unbeliever? He sees a picture on TV of starving children, and he says, “Why does God allow this to happen?” He thinks God is guilty. No, God is holy. That is why in all circumstances we can be quiet and give Him praise.

## g. We Must Come To God With Praise

We must come to God with thanksgiving. It is a requirement. Psalm 100:4 says, *“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”* It says to “enter his gates with thanksgiving.” We have just noticed earlier that God lives in praise.

So picture it like a beautiful house in a garden. God is in His house of praise and you are coming down the street to meet God. How are you going to enter? It says to *“enter his gate,”* open His gate *“with praise.”*

## h. Praise Is Commanded, As A Sacrifice

A sacrifice is something that is difficult for us to do. A sacrifice is something we do not really want to do. A sacrifice is something that is painful to do. I am mad and I do not feel like praising. However, God says, “Do it anyway.” God says to just praise the Lord — “Praise the Lord, Hallelujah.” Look at Hebrews 13:15, it says, *“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise.”* Continually — very interesting. In all circumstances. What is that praise? It says, *“the fruit of lips, that confess his name.”*

*T*he fruit of your lips is something you should do orally. When you hear how often curse, then you have some idea of how often you should say, “Praise God — Hallelujah — Thank you, Jesus.”

## i. Praise Personally

We are commanded to praise personally. Psalm 146 — 150. There are many Psalms that say, *“Praise ye the Lord.”* It’s a command. But when we read those Psalms, we like to point our finger at other people and say, “You, praise the Lord.”

## j. Praise Is A Good Thing Ps. 92:1-5

*“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp. For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works O Lord, how profound your thoughts!”* (Psalm 92:1-5). Lord’ my family and I – my wife – my children – we need to glorify YOU by singing songs of praise every evening. Help us to sing as a family.

## k. Praise Is The Very Purpose Of Our Existence

It is the very purpose of our existence. 1 Peter 2:9-10 says*, “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may DECLARE THE PRAISES of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”*

## l. Praise Is The Secret Of Increased Blessings

Psalm 67:3-7 *“May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the people praise you. Then the land will yield its harvest and God, our God will bless us. God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.”*

We see here that if the people of God praise Him, something good begins to happen: “*The land will yield its harvest.”* 1) God will bless our harvest. 2) God will bless us. 3) The ends of the earth will hear about it and believe.

## m. Praise Puts Us In Tune With Heaven

In Revelation 7:10, 12 we read, *“And they cried out in a loud voice*, *‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.’“**“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever.”*That is what they are doing in heaven.

If you are going to go to heaven you are going to do that. Show me - - Lord if I am prepared for that.

Let us look at Revelations 19:6b, “Hallelujah! For our God Almighty reigns. Let me - - - rejoice and be glad and give YOU glory!

## n. Life Changing Question

Have I - - - ever clapped my hands spiritually for Jesus. Have I - - - ever said, “Hallelujah! Praise Jesus!”, I see there is dynamite in praise.

## o. Concluding my Praise Note:

I ask myself a question: “*Have I said something good about Jesus Christ today?”*

It is easy to do at a conference. It is a very important question to answer. Have I said something good about Jesus to somebody? Psalm 34:3, *“Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.”*