

# PRAISE • A Weapon of Faith

## PRAISE Part 1 • A Weapon of Faith

### Principles of Praise

Praise is expressed in many different ways. But at the heart of praise is a love for who God really is, Perfect and Faithful.

1. There are many forms and expressions of praise in the Old Testament. A few can be seen in Psalm 100:4 *Enter His gates with thanksgiving (Towdah) and His courts with praise (Tehilla); give thanks (Yadah) to Him and praise (Barak) His Name.*
  - Towdah - Extending the hands, a sacrifice of praise.
  - Tehilla - Extemporaneous praise under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. (2 Chronicles 20)
  - Yadah – To throw out the hands with intentional praise and rejoicing. (Psalm 111:1)
  - Barak - To kneel and expect in hope. (Psalm 103:1-2, 20-22)
2. God seeks people who worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.
  - In John 4:23-24, the word, truth means the unveiled reality agreeing with an appearance, genuineness.
3. Praise begins with acknowledging the Lordship of Christ.
  - When Joshua encountered the Captain of the LORD's army he fell face down and was told to take off his sandals. (Joshua 5:13-15)
4. When we spontaneously praise and worship Him ("Tehilla"), the enemy is defeated before us.
  - King Jehoshaphat's supernatural victory through praise. (2 Chronicles 20:18-26)
5. When we praise Him IN our situation we are delivered out of our bondages.
  - Paul and Silas were freed from prison stocks as they worshipped God. (Acts 16:25-26; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)

6. When we fully obey everything God has asked and worship Him His Presence descends.
  - Solomon's completion of the Temple and the Shaking Glory of God. (1 Kings 8:10-11)
7. A lifestyle of praise glorifies God in the world.
  - 1 Peter 2:9-10 *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;...* (Philippians 2:15)

### Praise is a Weapon of Faith

1. Many people underestimate the power of genuine praise as a weapon of faith. It's not natural to praise God while the answer to our prayer is not yet visible. (Habakkuk 3:17-19) It's at the closed Red Sea with the enemy rapidly advancing that genuine faith in God is forged! (Exodus 14)
2. Three examples of events that supernaturally turned around because of praise.
  - When Joshua and the armies of Israel marched around Jericho, Israel experienced a supernatural victory over Jericho. (Joshua 6)
  - When King Jehoshaphat faced certain destruction, he placed worshippers to praise God in front of the army, resulting in a supernatural victory for Israel! (2 Chronicles 20)
  - When Paul and Silas were beaten, placed in prison, and fastened in stocks, they began to sing and praise the Lord. Then the prison shook to release them and the other prisoners, resulting in the salvation of the jailer and his entire family! (Acts 16)
3. Faith is very practical. Through faith we can overcome evil with (by doing) good.
  - Romans 12:9-21 is faith in action, *...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*
  - What the devil is telling you TO DO... DON'T DO! What the devil is telling you NOT TO... DO!