

New Praise

When we read the scripture...full of scriptures on praise or giving God praise.

We were created to give God praise.

Isaiah 43:18-21 - *“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. 19 Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. 20 The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, 21 **the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.***

Luke 19:40 - people were praising God in a loud voice - rocks will cry out if they don't praise.

Many times we limit our praise to church...Or we do it when things are great.

What happens though when things aren't going our way?

Acts 16:22-26 NLT - *22 A mob quickly formed against Paul and Silas, and the city officials ordered them stripped and beaten with wooden rods. 23 They were severely beaten, and then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was ordered to make sure they didn't escape. 24 So the jailer put them into the inner dungeon and clamped their feet in the stocks. 25 Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. 26 Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off!*

TRUTHS ABOUT PRAISE

1. PRAISE IS A SACRIFICE

- **Hebrews 13:15** - *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.***
- Praise is not just for good times - This was not a good time...this wasn't a convenient. **Many times praise will cost you something.**
- **Praise is a choice not a feeling**
- Sometimes your situation has to take you to the point of desperation where you get out of your comfort zone and begin to praise.
- **Psalm 34:1** - *I will bless the Lord **at all times**; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

2. PRAISE SHIFTS YOUR PERSPECTIVE

- Praise changes not only our perspective of our problems...but of our God.
- **Psalm 34:3** - *Oh, **magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!***
- **When you magnify God...you see a big God and little problems.**
- Problems have then potential to drown out our praise. They made a decision not to let their circumstances break them.

- **We can let our circumstances break our praise, or our praise break our circumstances.**
- **Psalm 69:29-30** - *29 But I am afflicted and in pain; let your salvation, O God, set me on high! 30 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.*
- You can see your circumstance as your prison, or as an opportunity to see God move.
- Your praise has the power to break you out of what is breaking you.

3. Praise sets the atmosphere for God to move.

- **When we begin to praise it opens the heavens and invites God into our situation.**
- **Praise is the doorway to his presence**
- **Psalm 100:4** - *Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!*
- Praise brought the presence of God in and He moved on their behalf...not only for them, but for others! Praise impacts those around you.
- **How many people does God was to impact on the other side of your praise?**
- **Psalm 40:3** - *He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. **Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the Lord.***

Paul and Silas didn't have to do anything but pray and praise...God did the rest.

When you praise BEFORE God moves...your faith is activated and it moves God.

- **When you praise...God fights for you. It's a weapon.**
 - **2 Chronicles 20:22** - *22 And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed.*
 - **When we praise, God goes before us and does what we cannot do.**

God wants us to emerge with a new song in our mouth. So when midnight comes...praise is our response.

You might think...I don't have a reason to praise...here's just a few from David

Psalm 103:1-5 NIV - *1 Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—3 who **forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases**, 4 who **redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion**, 5 who **satisfies your desires with good things** so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*