

The Untapped Power of Praise

- There are all kinds of prayers according to Ephesians 6:18
- Praise is known as the highest form of prayer – fellowshiping and communing with God
- We need to tap into the untapped power of praise
- Concerning redemptive realities – thank and praise God for what He has already provided
 - o We should be praising and thanking God for what He has already done

The Anointing is the Holy Spirit

- The Bible speaks of the anointing, which refers to the power of the Holy Spirit
- The “Anointing” and “Holy Spirit” are synonymous terms
- Spanning from the Old Testament, the ministry of Jesus and the current Church Age

1 Samuel 16:13

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

1 John 2:27, “As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit — just as it has taught you, remain in him.”

- One significant purpose of the anointing is to destroy the works of the devil
- 1 John 3:8, *“The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.”*

2 Cor. 10:3-5, “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

- I like the AMP in verse 4- “for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds”

Isaiah 10:27

And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing

Ps 109:30, “With my mouth I will greatly exalt the Lord; in the great throng I will praise him.”

Old Testament Weapon of Praise

- Let's first look at some Old Covenant examples of praise and the power of God
- David was anointed with the Holy Spirit and he played the harp
- The Holy Spirit had left king Saul and an evil spirit came and tormented him

1 Samuel 16:23

Whenever the evil spirit came upon Saul, David would take his harp and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

- Notice the enemy cannot stand in the presence of praise- a powerful weapon
- **Please Read: Isaiah 61:1-3** *A Garment of Praise*

Ps 30:11-12

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.

Ps 42:11

Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Praise and Musical Instruments brings God on the Scene

Joram king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah went to war against Moab and had marched through the desert of Edom for seven days without water.

2 Kings 3:15-18, "But now bring me a harpist or 'Minstrel'. While the harpist was playing, the hand of the Lord came upon Elisha and he said, 'This is what the Lord says: Make this valley full of ditches. For this is what the Lord says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. This is an easy thing in the eyes of the Lord; he will also hand Moab over to you.'"

Minstrel: Hebrew *nagan*: To thrum, i.e. beat a tune with the fingers; to play on a stringed instrument; hence (generally), to make music

- Often times the prophetic ministry is stirred up by praise music
- KJV states God "Inhabits" their praises- Heb "To sit down, dwell, remain"- i.e. attracted by

Ps 22:3-5 NKJV, "But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel. Our fathers trusted in You; They trusted, and You delivered them. They cried to You, and were delivered; They trusted in You, and were not ashamed (did not let them down)."

Genesis 29:35, “Leah, Jacob’s wife conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, ‘This time I will praise the Lord.’ So she named him Judah.”

- Judah in the Hebrews means “Praise”
- Jehoshaphat was the king of Judah at the time when they faced a formidable enemy
- **Please Read: 2 Chronicles 20:1-29**
- Instead of praying the problem, let’s start praising God for the answer
- When we praise and thank God, it’s a statement of faith- already got the answer
- Isaiah 43:26 KJV- God said to “Put me in remembrance” or “Review the past for me” NIV

Psalms 37:25-26

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed.

Praise lifts us up above the storms of life where there are blue skies and the Son is shining upon us. As we look down we can see the clouds, turmoil and lightening as the storm rages on.

Praise is Boasting in the Lord – Lift up the High Praises

Psalms 149:6 NKJV, “Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand.”

- High Praises- in the Hebrew means to “Exalt on High” or “To raise Up”
- Praise is Boasting in God for who He is and what He has done

1 Corinthians 1:31 AMP, “So then, as it is written, Let him who boasts and proudly rejoices and glories, boast and proudly rejoice and glory in the Lord.”

- **Please Read: Luke 19:28-40** *Jesus’ triumphal return into Jerusalem*
- In Matthew’s account we see “Perfected Praise”

Matthew 21:14-16

The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were indignant. “Do you hear what these children are saying?” they asked him. “Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read, ‘from the lips of children and infants you have ordained (KJV ‘Perfected’) praise’?”

- Children and those with a heart after God- not concerned about what other people think
- **Please Read: 2 Samuel 6:12-23** *David dances before the Lord*

- **Please Read: Acts 16:6-34** *Paul and Silas in Philippi*
- Clearly God called them to take the Gospel to this region
- Lydia got saved and a slave girl who was demon possessed was delivered
- Then came the persecution for obeying God- beaten with rods- bruised and bleeding
- At their midnight hour “The darkest moment”

New Covenant Praise

- Worshipping God from a recreated heart – New Birth

John 4:23-24

“Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

- Worshipping God from the baptism of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 14:14-17

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind. If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? You may be giving thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified.

- Worshipping God with songs given by the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18-20

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

What I have noticed over the years is that with each camp meeting or revival there is an accompaniment of fresh new theme songs, spiritual songs from heaven to represent, declare, and identify what the Spirit of God is saying and doing in this current move.

- A new song: **Psalms 149:1-5; 150:1-6**

WORD OF WISDOM: KENNETH E. HAGIN NOVEMBER 1981, TULSA, OK

For there is coming a greater wave of My Spirit: men and women will sing with joy and with rejoicing. And the heavenly choir will join in and sing with them. Angels shall sing, and whole congregations will hear the angels sing. And it shall be a cause for much rejoicing. Rejoice and be glad, for the Lord is at work among His own. And in the earth He will accomplish that which He hath decreed.... praising and blessing His name.

For it is within praise that the Spirit can flow and flow and move freely and go where He goes. And watch the musicians that have played just as they have had talent in the natural in the days that have gone by. They'll be touched by the finger of God on their hands and play as the angels in Heavenly bands. And they shall play on the keyboards and play on the harp and play as David has played in days gone by. And you shall see the Spirit move and move and move. And minister freely as He desires.

So begin to praise Him and praise the Lord. He desires to manifest. He desires to show that He loves His people. And He desires the best. And show that he loves them. And show them the rest. Hallelujah (14x).

And it shall become more and more clear that there are musicians that were not appointed by the will of man, or just something that has come within a natural talent. But the hand of God shall come upon them mightily like minstrels in the olden testament. And when the hand of God shall come upon them mightily, things shall begin to flow. And they shall not be recognized as just Ministers, they shall be recognized in the place in which they truly stand.

And within that office the men and women of God can take their rightful stand. Because it is through the music that the floodgates of Heaven are opened wide. It is through heavenly music, not music from the soul, but, Oh, from the Spirit that the Spirit of God can move in the way that He desires to move. And through the people that He desire to move through.

And, yes, the Spirit of God is not just teaching people to deliver the Word of God through verbal means, through the Ministry of the spoken Word. But the Spirit of God is at work now being able to minister through people and teach musicians how to flow in the Spirit. Not just flow in the avenues of soulish praise as we have heard. But, Oh, in the Ministry of the Spirit of God and Ministry of the Spirit of Truth. And the Ministry of the Prophet shall be able to come to full fruition through that ministry. Through the Ministry of the Minstrel, of the Prophet. Through the ministry of the Minstrel of Music. And, Oh, things that have not been seen here to fore shall be able to be seen as this Ministry comes forth. It shall be so.