

GOD'S PAVILION Part XIII

Introduction: A renaissance of worship in the church today is essentially tied to a resurrection of Davidic worship. David discovered the ecstasy of total-person involvement in worship. As a result, he summons all people to join him in enthusiastic, *psalmic praise*. In *Psalms 14*, we have what is called "*the magnificent obsession*." David here displays a consuming desire to glorify God with his whole being. In addition to that, he wants to make Jerusalem the worship capital of the world. In *chapter 15*, he gives "*the order of worship*." Based on his comprehension that "*God is enthroned on the praises of Israel*," David initiated a new twenty-four hour approach to worship on Mount Zion. Later, his new order of worship was incorporated into Solomon's temple and into every period of revival that has followed. Thank God, it appears that *psalmic* worship is occurring in many evangelical churches across the world.

A. God's pavilion

1. David's paragon of thanksgiving, praise, and worship, distinctive from perfunctory worship, should be compared to the three areas of the tabernacle of Moses. 1. The outer court, representing thanksgiving; 2. The holy place, representing praise; 3. The Holy of Holies, representing worship.
 - a) According to *Psalms 100*, we enter His gates with thanksgiving. Thanksgiving relates to what God has done. As we come to the outer court of the temple, preparing ourselves to come to the Holy of Holies, we begin a recounting of what God has done for us, and then we begin to thank Him.
 - b) Next, we move into the holy place where we offer up praise. This involves the raising of the hands, praise in a loud voice, excitement, the clapping of the hands, and praise with exuberance. Praise is a function of the will, which is represented by the table of showbread in the holy place. It flows out of an enlightened mind, which is represented by the golden candlestick. It is a mind set on fire by the Holy Spirit, enlightened by the power of our prayer language.
 - c) By thanking Him and praising Him, we find ourselves in condition to travel through the veil into the Holy of Holies and into the presence of God in worship. When we come to this final act of worship, it is the divine invitation of the Lord Himself that draws us within the veil.
 - d) It is an act of the will to thank God, and it is an act of the will to praise God. It is an act of God's will to invite us into His presence in the act of worship, and it is only when our relationship with God is consummated in worship that we truly feel that we are where He is and He is where we are.
2. The principles of praise. Praise silences the devil! Every believer needs to know how to make the devil shut up. Praise is the way to silence him. Praise will stop the oppression of his evil thoughts. Praise will bring the weapons of God to bear against the attacks of the evil one.
 - a) Praise will bring the weapons of God to bear against the evil one. *Psalms 8:1-2*. In *verse 1*, notice that David says, "...how excellent is Your name in all the earth..." The weapon David is using here is *the name of the Lord*. The launching vehicle that sends forth the name against the strongholds is the launching rocket of praise.
 - b) David is launching into spiritual warfare. Then he says, "*Out of the mouth of babes and infants You have ordained strength because of Your enemies...*" Notice "*enemies*" here is used in the plural. I believe it is referring directly to *evil spirits*, the instruments that Satan uses to come against the believer. The next phrase says, "*That you may silence the enemy and the avenger.*" Here David speaks of the enemy in the singular. He is referring directly to *Satan*. God has ordained a method for believers to quiet the enemy. A practical translation of this verse would be, "*That you might make the devil shut up.*"

Conclusion: Praise is the ordained strength of God. When we take advantage of the tools that God has made available to us, great victories will occur in our lives. The arrows that Satan sends our way will be intercepted by the power created by our praise.