

GOD'S MAGNIFICENT IDEA

Part XVIII

Psalm 100:1-5

Introduction: In this continuum, I want to say that thanksgiving, praise, and worship must be an integral part of our Christian experience. We must overcome the paucity of praise in the church with a renaissance of enthusiastic and heartfelt praise. God is a jealous God, and He wants and deserves adoration from His people. David's inurbane fusillade of praise was a great example of a true worshipper. He discovered the joy of total-person involvement in worship and summoned all people to join him in salubrious, enthusiastic, psalmic praise. In his book, "Exploring Worship: A Practical Guide to Praise and Worship," author Bob Sorge writes: "Set before us in the book of Revelation is a glorious example worthy of our emulation. I am keenly anticipating that day when our worship around the throne will be free from all hindrances and shackles of self-consciousness! Heaven is noisy and passionate in its demonstration of praise and worship to God. God himself is fiercely and passionately emotional, and He responds to us accordingly! We will never go wrong in using the heavenly prototype of worship as a pattern today. As we gain insight into the heavenly worship, we can then pray that we experience worship 'in earth as it is in heaven.'"

I. God's magnificent idea

A. In reading about David, you come away knowing that he had a "magnificent obsession" to worship God. Psalm 73:28. One translation puts it this way: "...my joy is my nearness to You..."

1. David wanted to establish Jerusalem as the worship center of the world. His plan to retrofit the five hundred year history of worship was as revolutionary as changing the social security system today.
2. The relentless consuming ambition of David to build a temple was because he sought to exalt and venerate his God before all nations, and to establish Jerusalem as the religious capital of the earth. 2nd Samuel 7:25-29.
3. The books of Kings and the Chronicles, coupled with many of the Psalms, show that David was imbued with a tenacious passion to worship God and to share his vision of the true God with all mankind. 1st Chronicles 16:23-31.
4. Expressing his heart's cry for Jerusalem, David wrote and sang a stream of prophetic songs such as Psalm 46:4-5, 48:1-2.

B. From boyhood, David loved to worship. He became so well known that he was invited to the king's palace to play his harp in an attempt to calm King Saul. As a skilled musician (1st Samuel 16:18) and a man after God's own heart (1st Samuel 13:14), he is a worthy example of what worship should consist of in the church today.

1. The book of Acts refers to David in 13:22. It was because David respected God's name and anointing. Secondly, he sought to do God's will. Thirdly, he had a truly repentant heart. Finally, he was dependent on God's help.
2. It is interesting to note that before the temple could be built, David brought the ark back to Jerusalem. When the Philistines captured the ark and placed it in the house of Dagon, something supernatural happened. 1st Samuel 5:1-4.
3. As the ark was being brought back to Jerusalem, worship was immediately enacted. 1st Samuel 6:4-6.

C. David's concept of worship is simple, and it revolves around total, fervent adoration of God. Spontaneity, exuberance, excitement, youthfulness, and celebration, accompanied by bodily actions, characterize psalmic worship.

1. David and his singing priests in the Psalms simply say that Godly people should be more excited about God than they are about worldly things. The gatherings of God's people should be more like celebrations than funerals.

Conclusion: David discovered the secret of enjoying God with his entire being. While we are conditioned in our culture to restrain ourselves when it comes to worshipping God, He deserves our all out and our best worship with abandonment. True revival will follow true worship.