

GOD'S MAGNIFICENT IDEA

Part XXXII

Hebrews 13:15

Introduction: Praise and confession are the vanguard hallmarks of a consecrated Christian's life. The value of praise and a word-oriented confession is a paragon to spiritual maturity. Because of God's capacious appetite for praise, the need to give Him what He wants cannot be overstated because it is incalculable. In order to accomplish this and have optimum success in it, there must be a paradigm shift in our mindset. That is why we must rely heavily on God's help in order for this change to be effective. *John 1:12*. If God asks us to do something, He always supplies the wherewithal to do it. *Philippians 1:6, 4:19*. As we develop into what God intends for our lives, life will become more meaningful and fulfilling.

I. God's magnificent idea

A. Praise in the heavenly realm

1. Angels have a great prolific part in the business of praise. *Revelation 5:11-12*. Angels have always been involved in praise unto the Lord.
2. At the beginning of creation angels shouted for joy. *Job 38:4-7*. "The sons of God" is referring to angels.
3. In *Isaiah's* vision, he sees the seraphim (*Isaiah 6:2*) and the cherubim (*Isaiah 37:16*) praising God.
4. *Hebrews 12:22-24*. In the Amplified version of this Scripture it says, "...and to countless multitudes of angels in festal gathering." The word festal means "a joyous celebration."
5. There are some angels that do reconnaissance (seeking out information on the enemies' position) on behalf of God's work. *2nd Kings 6:8-17*. The king of Syria was informed that the prophet Elisha was able to read the thoughts of his mind. When the king found out where Elisha was, he sent his army to kill him. God's angels came to the rescue to do warfare on behalf of Elisha and Israel.
6. *Psalms 34:7*. The Lord uses the agency of angels to protect us. In fact, in *Psalms 35:5*, angels can chase our enemies away.
7. The amazing power of praise in the face of certain disaster. *2nd Chronicles 20:1-3*. In verse 17, God tells them they will not have to fight. The secret was in their praise. Verses 19-23. The people's praise, coupled with the ambushes of the angels, brought the victory. Notice the timing. When the Levites began to sing and praise the Lord, the angels were sent to win the battle for them.
8. In *Acts 12:5*, when Herod placed Peter in prison, the church went to prayer immediately. Their prayer and praise brought the angel of the Lord on the scene to rescue Peter.
9. In *Acts 16:16-26*, instead of being morose, Paul and Silas sang and praised God with alacrity in spite of their adverse circumstances. The angel or angels of the Lord apparently responded to their praise by opening up the prison doors.
10. When the church allows re-calescence – that is, the fire back into their praise – and shakes the tendency to be lukewarm, God will respond accordingly with untold blessings.
11. The idea of riding in the chariot with our triumphant Jesus, rejoicing and celebrating the victory that He has already won for us, is paramount to living a confident and successful life.
12. Our praises ring out to the Lord because we know beyond any credible doubt that the principalities and powers have been broken. The angels of God have been loosed on our behalf to perform exploits. What God intends for the church and what He wants to do for us is absolutely overwhelming. Our standing in praise and worship will help bring the angel on the scene with a manifestation of the mighty miracle-working power of Almighty God.

Conclusion: I get the feeling that we are headed for another level in God. We really haven't even scratched the surface yet, but I believe we are making spiritual progress. As we elevate our praise, get ready for God to react positively by pouring out His profound blessings upon us.