

WORSHIP

GOD



Gen 17:3
And Abram fell on his face: and God
talked with him,

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

Ps 100:4
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise: be
thankful unto him, and bless his name.



WORSHIP

A Study guide for Leaders in the Body of Christ

BY TIMOTHY II

WORSHIP

(PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING)

INTRODUCTION:

“Worship” has become one of the most misunderstood areas of the Christian Church. Many Churches today lump the majority of their ‘music ministry’ under the heading of “Praise and Worship”. When you begin to understand what “Worship” really is, it becomes more evident that the ‘music ministry’ in the Churches would be better titled as “Praise and Thanksgiving”.

The reason that many Churches debate over what “Praise and Worship” Services should consist of and how it should be done, is because of their misunderstanding of the meaning of True “Worship”.

In this Study Guide, we will concentrate on what the **Act** of “Worship” is, and what it means, and we will also compare “Worship” with “Praise and Thanksgiving”.

In these last days, those that want to be the True “Worshippers” of God need to understand **how** we are to “Worship” Him.

The following two Scriptures in the ‘Book of John’ are probably the most recognized Scriptures about “Worship”. However, they themselves are many times misunderstood.

John 4:23-24

23 But **the hour** cometh, and **now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

24 **God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

The following is the meaning of these two Scriptures:

“The time has come for the Truthful “Worshippers” to prostrate themselves in homage to God the Father, through Jesus the Son who is the Truth, and the Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of Truth. (John 14:6 14:17 16:13)

This is because God Himself is a Spirit, and those that prostrate themselves in homage to Him, must do so wholly in the Spirit and by professing the Truth and not concealing anything!”

When we begin to understand these Scriptures, you can see how difficult it is to “Worship” God the Father through song and music, and especially Corporately.

In the Church today, it is appalling to see and hear what is **called** “Worship Music”. All kinds of music is lumped together and it is called “Worship”.

There is very little effort to direct the people's attention to the actual "Worship of God". What with all the noise displayed in some of the music and with the actions of the musicians, how can one concentrate on "Worshipping the Lord". All the attention is drawn to the music and/or the musicians..

It is questionable whether God even listens to this outcry, when many of these musicians are not Called by Him, and many are living in Sin?

Many times, even the order of the music is mixed up. Some hymns are mixed up in their order with loud music and even some with rap and rock and roll. This type of music may be all right to use before the Service, but not mixed in during the time of "Praise and Thanksgiving", and never should be used for "Worship".

"Praise and Thanksgiving", should actually lead the people into the message from the Lord. Hopefully by then God the Holy Spirit will arrive and draw our attention to the message.

Because of all this, I believe, in accordance with the Scriptures, that it is very difficult to actually participate in the **Act** of "Worship" through song. We may be able to sing **about** "Worship", but it is almost impossible to actually **do** "Worship" through song. I believe that it is "Praise and Thanksgiving" that can **lead** to the **Act** of "Worship", and is therefore more appropriate to do through song.

As we have shown, the **Act** of "Worship" is done by the Repenting from our Sins, falling on our knees or face, seeking the face of the Lord, and "Worshipping Him" for who He is. It is also very important in "Worship", to take the time to **listen** for God's Voice. This means we need to be quiet at times and this cannot be accomplished if we are making a lot of noise in song and music.

There is currently on television a channel that is called the "Worship" channel. It plays mellow Christian music while displaying scenic pictures with written Scriptures. Although this is not actual "Worship", it does help to put one into an atmosphere of **preparation** for "Worship". I believe this is the approach we should use in our Churches when using song or music.

Recently however, the "Worship" channel has turned to the interruption of these songs with such things as preaching, teaching and advertisements., and there is no longer any continuity. You cannot get into a state of **preparation** for "Worship" when you are being interrupted constantly by someone talking, as well as being interrupted by the many commercials. Interruptions no longer puts you into a **preparation** of "Worship"! This too we need to heed in the Churches.

We must remember that True "Worship" happens when we enter into the "Holy of Holies", and come face to face with the Living God (Hebrews 9:8, 24). When this is accomplished, it makes us so humble that we usually fall on our face to "Worship" Him. Whenever I have done this, I don't break out in song, instead I cry!

I believe that True "Worship" is also best accomplished by one's self. (Matthew 6:6)
This is because it is a **personal** thing.

Since we must come to God for “Worship” in a state of Holiness and Righteousness, we must Repent and receive the forgiveness of our Sins **prior** to our “Worship”.
Yes, I am talking about believers too!

1 John states:

I Jn 2:1

1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. **And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**

I Jn 1:5-10

5 **This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you,** that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

6 **If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:**

7 **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

10 **If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.**

For Corporate (or group) “Worship” to actually be effective at all, it must be done with ‘believers’ only, and just with those who have a ‘Repentant heart’.

This leaves out most Church Services including “Praise and Worship” through song, where many ‘unbelievers’ or ‘unrepentant believers’ are in attendance. This is why probably the best place for effective Corporate (or group) “Worship” is within small cell groups such as home fellowships

The terms “Praise and Thanksgiving” are vastly different from the term “Worship”. “Praise and Thanksgiving” are to be used for coming into the **gates** of God’s House and into His **courts**, and for **preparation** to enter into the “Holy of Holies”.

With “Praise and Thanksgiving”, we come with singing, dancing, and with musical instruments, with joy and with celebration. Even though there are Sinners in the Church, we are able to do so because we have not entered into the “Holy of Holies”. We are just singing **about** the Lord, not talking to Him.

In fact, the singing of “Praise and Thanksgiving” will many times lead people to Repentance.

When we do Repent, we will be free to “Praise” and “Thank” God for His Goodness and Mercy, and He **will** hear us. (2 Chronicles 7:14-16)

I pray that this Study Guide will introduce you to the Truth about “Worship”, and that the Truth will set you free in your “Worship of God”.

Amen!

I. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF WORSHIP?

The following are the meanings of the word "Worship". The meanings in English are those found in the Dictionary, and the meanings in Hebrew and Greek are those found in the Bible. Of course the meanings in the Dictionary, which is written by man, may or may not be completely correct. They are included merely for our understanding of what man thinks.

A. THE MEANING OF WORSHIP IN ENGLISH: (From the Dictionary)

wor-ship (wûr `sh¹p) *n.* **1.a.** The reverent love and devotion accorded a deity, an idol, or a sacred object. **b.** The ceremonies, prayers, or other religious forms by which this love is expressed. **2.** Ardent devotion; adoration. **3.** Often **Worship**. *Chiefly British.* Used as a form of address for magistrates, mayors, and certain other dignitaries. -- **wor-ship** *v.* **wor-shiped** or **wor-shipped**, **wor-ship-ing** or **wor-ship-ping**, **wor-ships** or **wor-ships**. --*tr.* **1.** To honor and love as a deity. **2.** To regard with ardent or adoring esteem or devotion. --*intr.* **1.** To participate in religious rites of worship. **2.** To perform an act of worship. --**wor`ship-er** or **wor`ship-per** *n.*

B. THE MEANING OF WORSHIP IN HEBREW: (From the Old Testament)

(From Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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Shachah ^7812^, "to worship, prostrate oneself, bow down." This word is found in modern Hebrew in the sense of "to bow or stoop," but not in the general sense of "to worship." The fact that it is found more than 170 times in the Hebrew Bible shows something of its cultural significance.

Shachah is used as the common term for coming before God in worship. Sometimes it is in conjunction with another Hebrew verb for **bowing down physically, followed by "worship"**.

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

7812 shachah (shaw-khaw');

a primitive root; to depress, i.e. **prostrate** (especially reflexive, **in homage to royalty or God**):

KJV-- **bow (self) down**, crouch, **fall down (flat)**, humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, **make to stoop**, **worship**.

C. THE MEANING OF WORSHIP IN GREEK: (From the New Testament)

(From Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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1. Proskuneo ^4352^, "to make obeisance, do reverence to" (from pros, "towards," and kuneo, "to kiss"), is the most frequent word rendered "**to worship.**" **It is used of an act of homage or reverence (a) to God.**

2. Sebomai ^4576^, "to revere," stressing the feeling of awe or devotion, **is used of "worship" (a) to God, (b) to a goddess.**

3. **Sebazomai** ^4573^, akin to No. 2, "to honor religiously".
4. **Latreuo** ^3000^, "to serve, to render religious service or homage," is translated "**to worship**".
5. **Eusebeo** ^2151^, "to act piously towards," is translated "**ye worship**".

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

4352 proskuneo (pros-koo-neh'-o);
from 4314 and a probable derivative of 2965 (meaning to kiss, **like a dog licking his master's hand**); to fawn or **crouch to**, i.e. (literally or figuratively) **prostrate oneself in homage** (do reverence to, adore):

KJV-- **worship**.

4576 sebomai (seb'-om-ahee);
middle voice of an apparently primary verb; to revere, i.e. adore:

KJV-- devout, religious, **worship**.

4573 sebazomai (seb-ad'-zom-ahee);
middle voice from a derivative of 4576; to venerate, i.e. adore:

KJV-- **worship**.

3000 latreuo (lat-ryoo'-o);
from latris (a hired menial); **to minister (to God)**, i.e. render, religious homage:

KJV-- serve, do the service, **worship (-per)**.

2151 eusebeo (yoo-seb-eh'-o);
from 2152; to be pious, i.e. (**towards God**) **to worship**, or (towards parents) to respect (support):

KJV-- show piety, **worship**.

II. THE SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH WORSHIP!

A. THE FOLLOWING ARE SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

“Worship” only God.

Exod 34:14

14 For **thou shalt worship no other god:** for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

Tithing followed by “Worship”.

Deut 26:10

10 And now, behold, **I have brought the firstfruits of the land**, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, **and worship before the LORD thy God:**

When we Truly “Worship God”, we will respect Him by positioning ourselves in a humble manner.

Josh 5:14-15

14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And **Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship**, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, **Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy**. And Joshua did so.

Ps 95:6

6 **O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

You can't “Worship God” in a state of sin. We must Repent, and then seek His face.

1 Sam 15:24-25

24 **And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned:** for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

25 Now therefore, **I pray thee, pardon my sin**, and turn again with me, **that I may worship the LORD**.

We must ‘Fear the Lord’ in order to “Worship Him”.

II Ki 17:36

36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, **him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship**, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.

Ps 5:7

7 But as for me, **I will come into thy house** in the multitude of thy mercy: **and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple**.

As well as Tithing and ‘Fearing the Lord’ in order to “Worship Him”, we must also “Worship Him” in ‘Holiness’.

1 Chr 16:29

29 **Give unto the LORD** the glory due unto his name: **bring an offering**, and come before him: **worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness**.

Ps 29:2

2 **Give unto the LORD** the glory due unto his name; **worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness**.

Ps 96:9

9 **O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him**, all the earth.

In the Millennium, all Nations will come to “Worship the Lord”.

Ps 22:27

27 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and **all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.**

In the Millennium, “Worship” with song will be perfected.

Ps 66:4

4 **All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.** Selah.

We must come to the footstool of ‘God’s Throne’ to “Worship Him”.

Ps 99:5

5 **Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool;** for he is holy.

Ps 99:9

9 **Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill;** for the LORD our God is holy.

Ps 132:7

7 We will go into his tabernacles: **we will worship at his footstool.**

We “Worship Him” because of His loving kindness and His Truth.

Ps 138:2

2 **I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth:** for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

B. THE FOLLOWING ARE SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

The following Scriptures deal with “Worship”, but little is said about music and “Worship”.

When the Wise men came to “Worship” the Lord Jesus they brought **gifts.**

Matt 2:1-2

1 **Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem** of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, **there came wise men from the east** to Jerusalem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, **and are come to worship him.**

When the Devil tempted Jesus to entice Jesus into “Worshipping” him, the Devil wanted Jesus to fall on His face and verbally “Worship” him from His heart. There was no mention of music.

Matt 4:8-10

8 Again, **the devil** taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, **if thou wilt fall down and worship me.**

10 **Then saith Jesus unto him,** Get thee hence, Satan: for **it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.**

If the Devil knows what True “Worship” is, we Christians need to know also.

The Disciples “Worshipped Jesus” as He departed to Heaven. This brought great **joy** to them.

Luke 24:51-52

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 **And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:**

“Worship” is in vain, if it is not done properly or for the right motives. That is why it is so difficult to participate in the **Act** of “Worship” through song. Much of it is of man and not of God.

Matt 15:8-9

8 **This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.**

9 **But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**

Paul’s way of “Worship” was called **heresy** by the Jews because he didn’t follow man’s way. So will many probably view this Study Guide.

Acts 24:10-14

10 **Then Paul,** after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, **answered,** Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself:

11 Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since **I went up to Jerusalem for to worship.**

12 And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:

13 Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me.

14 **But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers,** believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

Through Prophecy, unbelievers may accept the Lord and fall down and “Worship Him”. This is True “Worship” as they obviously have not had time to be taught this by man.

1 Cor 14:24-25

24 But **if all prophesy, and** there come in **one that believeth not**, or one unlearned, he **is convinced of all**, he is judged of all:

25 And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; **and so falling down on his face he will worship God**, and report that God is in you of a truth.

True “Worship” of God must be done in the Spirit. This may include speaking in tongues.

Phil 3:3

3 For we are the circumcision, **which worship God in the spirit**, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

A **perfect** example of True “Worship of God”, is in Heaven. Let’s see how it is done!

Rev 4:2

2 And immediately **I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.**

Rev 4:4

4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

Rev 4:10-11

10 **The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him** that liveth for ever and ever, **and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,**

11 **Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power:** for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Amen!

III. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF PRAISE?

“Praise” is not the same as “Worship”. The following information on “Praise” is to validate the difference between “Praise” and “Worship” and why we should not put the two together.

The obvious difference is that “Praise” is a celebration and jubilation; therefore, “Praise” is usually demonstrated by singing and by the playing of musical instruments.

According to the Scriptures, “Praise and Thanksgiving” should go together rather than “Praise and Worship”!

The following are the meanings of the word “Praise”. The meanings in English are those found in the Dictionary, and the meanings in Hebrew and Greek are those found in the Bible. Of course the meanings in the Dictionary, which is written by man, may or may not be completely correct. They are included merely for our understanding of what man thinks.

A. THE MEANING OF PRAISE IN ENGLISH: (From the Dictionary)

praise (pr³z) *n.* **1. Expression of approval, commendation, or admiration. 2. The extolling or exaltation** of a deity, ruler, or hero. **3. Archaic. A reason for praise; merit.** --**praise** *tr.v.* **praised, prais-ing, prais-es.** **1.** To express warm approbation of, commendation for, or **admiration for. 2. To extol or exalt;** worship. --**prais'er** *n.*

B. THE MEANING OF PRAISE IN HEBREW: (From the Old Testament)

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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halal ^1984^, "**to praise, celebrate, glory, sing (praise), boast.**" The meaning "to praise" is actually the meaning of the intensive form of the Hebrew verb **halal**, which in its simple active form means "**to boast.**" In this latter sense **halal** is found in its cognate forms in ancient Akkadian, of which Babylonian and Assyrian are dialects. The word is found in Ugaritic in **the sense of "shouting," and perhaps "jubilation."** Found more than 160 times in the Old Testament.

The Hebrew name for **the Book of Psalms** is simply the **equivalent for** the word "**praises**" and is a bit more appropriate than "**Psalms,**" which comes from the Greek and **has to do with the accompaniment of singing with a stringed instrument of some sort.** It is little wonder that the Book of Psalms contains more than half the occurrences of **halal** in its various forms.

The word halal is the source of "Hallelujah," a Hebrew expression of "praise" to God which has been taken over into virtually every language of mankind. **The Hebrew "Hallelujah" is generally translated "Praise the Lord!"**

yadah ^3034^, "**to give thanks, laud, praise.**" A common Hebrew word in all its periods, this verb is an important word in the language of worship. **Yadah** is found nearly 120 times in the Hebrew Bible.

As is to be expected, this word is found most frequently in the Book of Psalms (some 70 times). As **an expression of thanks or praise,** it is a natural part of ritual or public worship as well as personal praise to God.

tehillah ^8416^, "**glory; praise; song of praise; praiseworthy deeds.**" **Tehillah** occurs 57 times and in all periods of biblical Hebrew.

First, this word denotes a quality or attribute of some person or thing, "glory or praiseworthiness": "**He is thy praise.**"

Second, in some cases **tehillah** represents **the words or song by which God is publicly lauded,** or by which His "glory" is publicly declared: "**My praise [the Messiah is speaking here] shall be of thee in the great congregation...**"

In a third nuance **tehillah** is a **technical-musical term for a song (shir) which exalts or praises God:** "**David's psalm of praise**".

Finally, **tehillah** may represent **deeds which are worthy of "praise,"** or deeds for which the doer deserves "praise and glory."

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

1984 **halal** (haw-lal');

a primitive root; to be clear (orig. of sound, but usually of color); to shine; hence, to make a show, **to boast**; and thus to be (clamorously) foolish; to rave; causatively, **to celebrate**; also to stultify:

KJV-- (make) **boast** (self), **celebrate**, commend, (deal, make), fool (-ish, -ly), **glory**, give [light], be (make, feignself) mad (against), give in marriage, [**sing, be worthy of**] **praise**, rage, renowned, shine.

3034 yadah (yaw-daw');;

a primitive root; used only as denominative from 3027; literally, to use (i.e. hold out) the hand; physically, to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; **especially to revere** or worship (**with extended hands**); intensively, to bemoan (by wringing the hands): KJV-- cast (out), (make) confess (-ion), **praise**, shoot, (**give**) **thank** (-ful, -s, -sgiving).

8416 tehillah (teh-hil-law');

from 1984; laudation; specifically (concretely) **a hymn**:

KJV-- **praise**.

C. THE MEANING OF PRAISE IN GREEK: (From the New Testament)

(From Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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A. Nouns.

1. **ainos** ^136^, primarily "a tale, narration," came to denote "**praise**"; **in the NT only of praise to God**.

2. **epainos** ^1868^, a strengthened form of No. 1 (epi upon), denotes "approbation, commendation, **praise**"; **it is used (a) of those on account of, and by reason of, whom as God's heritage, "praise" is to be ascribed to God, in respect of His glory** (the exhibition of His character and operations).

3. **ainesis** ^133^, "**praise**" (akin to No. 1), where it is metaphorically represented as a sacrificial offering.

B. Verbs

1. **aineo** ^134^, "**to speak in praise of, to praise**" (akin to A, No. 1), **is always used of "praise" to God**.

2. **epaineo** ^1867^, akin to A, No. 2, is rendered "**praise**,"

3. **humneo** ^5214^, denotes (a) transitively, "**to sing, to laud, sing to the praise of**" (Eng., "**hymn**").

4. **psallo** ^5567^, primarily, "to twitch" or "twang" (as a bowstring, etc.), then, "**to play**" (**a stringed instrument with the fingers**), in the Sept., **to sing psalms**, denotes, in the NT, **to sing a hymn, "sing praise"** (KJV, "**sing psalms**").

5. **exomologeō** ^1843^, RV, "**will I give praise**" (KJV, and RV marg., "I will confess").

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

136 ainos (ah'-ee-nos);

apparently a prime word; properly, a story, but used in the sense of 1868; **praise (of God)**:

KJV-- **praise**.

1868 epainos (ep'-ahee-nos);

from 1909 and the base of 134; laudation; concretely, a commendable thing:

KJV-- **praise**.

133 ainesis (ah'-ee-nes-is);

from 134; **a praising** (the act), i.e. (specially) **a thank (-offering)**:

KJV-- **praise**.

134 aineo (ahee-neh'-o);

from 136; **to praise (God)**:

KJV-- **praise**.

1867 epaineo (ep-ahee-neh'-o);

from 1909 and 134; **to applaud**:

KJV-- commend, laud, **praise**.

5214 humneo (hoom-neh'-o);

from 5215; **to hymn**, i.e. **sing a religious ode**; by implication, **to celebrate (God) in song**:

KJV-- **sing a hymn (praise unto)**.

5567 psallo (psal'-lo);

probably strengthened from psao (to rub or touch the surface; compare 5597); to twitch or twang, i.e. **to play on a stringed instrument** (celebrate the divine worship with music and accompanying odes):

KJV-- **make melody, sing (psalms)**.

1843 exomologeō (ex-om-ol-og-eh'-o);

from 1537 and 3670; **to acknowledge or** (by implication of assent) **agree fully**:

KJV-- confess, **profess**, promise.

IV. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THANKSGIVING?

Although there is sometimes an overlap in the commentaries, “Thanksgiving” is not the same as “Worship”. The following information on “Thanksgiving” is to validate the difference between “Thanksgiving” and “Worship”, and why the two do not go together. The following are the meanings of the word “Thanksgiving”. The meanings in English are those found in the Dictionary, and the meanings in Hebrew and Greek are those found in the Bible. Of course the meanings in the Dictionary, which is written by man, may or may not be completely correct. They are included merely for our understanding of what man thinks.

A. THE MEANING OF THANKSGIVING IN ENGLISH: (From the Dictionary)

thanks·giv·ing (th²ngks-g¹v¹ng) *n.* **1. An act of giving thanks; an expression of gratitude, especially to God. 2. Thanksgiving.** Thanksgiving Day.

B. THE MEANING OF THANKSGIVING IN HEBREW: (From the Old Testament)

(From Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)
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todah ^{^8426^}, "**thanksgiving**." This important noun form, found some 30 times in the Old Testament, is used there in the sense of "**thanksgiving**." The word is preserved in modern Hebrew as **the regular word for "thanks."** In the Hebrew text **todah** is used to indicate "**thanksgiving**" in songs of worship.

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

8426 towdah (to-daw');
 from 3034; properly, an extension of the hand, i.e. (by implication) avowal, or (usually) adoration; specifically, a choir of worshippers:

KJV-- confession, (**sacrifice of**) **praise, thanks (-giving, offering)**.

C. THE MEANING OF THANKSGIVING IN GREEK: (From the New Testament)
 (From Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)
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THANK, THANKS (NOUN AND VERB), THANKFUL, THANKFULNESS,
 THANKSGIVING, THANKWORTHY

A. Nouns.

2. eucharistia ^{^2169^}, eu, "well," charizomai, "to give freely" (Eng., "eucharist"), denotes (a) "gratitude," "**thankfulness**,"; (b) "**giving of thanks, thanksgiving**,".

B. Verbs.

1. eucharisteo ^{^2168^}, akin to A, No. 2, "**to give thanks**,"

STRONG'S CONCORDANCE:

2169 eucharistia (yoo-khar-is-tee'-ah);

from 2170; **gratitude**; actively, **grateful language (to God, as an act of worship)**:

KJV-- **thankfulness, (giving of) thanks (-giving)**.

2168 eucharisteo (yoo-khar-is-teh'-o);

from 2170; **to be grateful**, i.e. (actively) **to express gratitude (towards)**; specially, to say grace at a meal:

KJV-- **(give) thank (-ful, -s)**.

V. SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING!

Because "Praise and Thanksgiving" **do** go together, I have taken the liberty to put these Scriptures for "Praise and Thanksgiving" together in this one section.

A. THE FOLLOWING ARE SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

We are to enter into God's **gates** with "Thanksgiving", and into His **courts** with "Praise"!

Ps 100:4

4 **Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:** be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

The Lord is to be greatly “Praised”!

1 Chr 16:25

25 **For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised:** he also is to be feared above all gods.

“Praise and Thanksgiving” to the Lord should be given **daily**; when we wake up, and when we go to bed.

1 Chr 23:30

30 And to **stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even;**

“Praising the Lord” Seven times a day is not too much.

Ps 119:164

164 **Seven times a day do I praise thee** because of thy righteous judgments.

“Praise and Thanksgiving” can be done with singing and with instruments together. When it is done properly, as one sound, the ‘Glory of the Lord’ **will** fill the Church!

2 Chr 5:13-14

13 It came even to pass, **as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD;** and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that **then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD;**

14 So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: **for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.**

When “Praising and Thanking” the Lord, we should sing of His Goodness and His Mercy.

It is also OK to **shout** with “Praise”!

Ezra 3:11

11 And **they sang together** by course **in praising and giving thanks** unto the LORD; **because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever** toward Israel. **And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD,** because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

“Praise and Thanksgiving” **should** be part of the Church Service!

Ps 22:22

22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: **in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.**

Ps 35:18

18 I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.

Ps 42:4

4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: **for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.**

“Praise” Glorifies the Lord.

Ps 50:23

23 **Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me:** and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

It is Scriptural that “Praise and Thanksgiving” go together and **is** often given through song.

Ps 30:4

4 **Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks** at the remembrance of his holiness.

Ps 69:30

30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

The poor and the needy need to learn to “Praise” His Name.

Ps 74:21

21 O let not the oppressed return ashamed: **let the poor and needy praise thy name.**

Great “Praise” comes out of our mouths, and **can** be done Corporately (in groups).

Ps 109:30

30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude.

“Praising the Lord” may be done through **Dance**, as well as through **Singing** and with **Instruments**.

Ps 149:3

3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

Ps 150:3-6

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 **Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.**

5 **Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.**

6 **Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.**

B. THE FOLLOWING ARE SCRIPTURES DEALING WITH PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

Perfect “Praise” comes from the heart, and is unrestricted!

Also, the singing of “Praise” doesn’t have to sound perfect! Do babies ?

Matt 21:16

16 And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, **Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?**

Giving “Thanks” to the Lord, just like “Praise”, glorifies God.

Luke 17:15-18

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, **and with a loud voice glorified God,**

16 **And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks:** and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

18 There are not found that returned **to give glory to God,** save this stranger.

“Praise” can be given in large groups, and with **loud** voices.

Luke 19:37

37 And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, **the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice** for all the mighty works that they had seen;

We are not restricted to where we can give “Praise and Thanksgiving” to God. Paul and Silas sang their “Praises” unto God while in prison.

Acts 16:25

25 And at midnight **Paul and Silas** prayed, and **sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.**

We are **always** to give “Thanks” unto God the Father, in the Name of Jesus.

Eph 5:19-20

19 **Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;**

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

“Praise” is considered as a sacrifice unto the Lord. It is to be given **continually**. The giving of “Thanks” is the fruit of our lips.

Heb 13:15

15 By him therefore **let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually**, that is, **the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.**

We are to “Praise the Lord” **continually** in the Church.

Luke 24:51-53

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

53 **And they were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.**

We should show forth our “Praises” to the Lord, because we have been chosen, and are holy, a royal priesthood, and a peculiar people.

1 Pet 2:9

9 **But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him** who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

VI. RESTORING TRUE WORSHIP TO THE CHURCH!

There are many things that need to be done in order to restore True “Worship” to the Church.

A. THE CLEANSING THE CHURCH:

Much of the “Worship” in the Church today is **fruitless** because of the state that the Church is in. This does not just mean the buildings, but the state of the people and the Leaders as well.

The Church today is full of physical idols, which is anything that does not represent Jesus and Him only! (Revelation 2:4) The Holy Spirit will show you what needs to go!

Many of the Church Leaders themselves are full of hidden idols such as the love of the things of this world, status, money, power, and stubbornness. (1 John 2:15-17

1 Timothy 6:5-10 1 Samuel 15:23) This too must go!

There is also much False Doctrine and Unsound Doctrine in the Church.

(Read the books by Timothy II, “The Ten Commandments for the Church” and “Unsound Doctrine”)

The Church must be cleansed of all these things, before we can enter into the True “Worship of God” in the Church.

B. HOW DO WE CLEANSE THE CHURCH?

THE PLAN:

First we should **physically** repair the Church Buildings if needed.

2 Chr 29:3

3 He (Hezekiah) in the first year of his reign, in the first month, **opened the doors of the house of the LORD, and repaired them.**

Secondly, we should gather the Church Leaders.

2 Chr 29:4

4 And **he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together** into the east street,

Next, we must Sanctify the Church Leaders (make Holy), by having them Repent of their Sins, and then Anointing them with 'Holy Anointing Oil'.

(1 Corinthians 6:9-12 Exodus 30:30)

Then Anoint the Church with 'Holy Anointing Oil', and everything in it.

(Exodus 30:25-29)

Get rid of all the idols and junk.

2 Chr 29:5

5 And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, **sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.**

Be not deceived, only those chosen by the Lord Jesus, should be **Serving** as Pastors/Priests in the "Five-Fold Ministry". (Ephesians 4:8, 11, 12)

2 Chr 29:11

11 My sons, be not now negligent: **for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him,** and burn incense.

Next, we must actually **do** the cleansing of the Church.

2 Chr 29:15

15 **And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came,** according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, **to cleanse the house of the LORD.**

The Pastors should actually **do** the cleansing of the inside of the Church. They are responsible for it. The Church Leaders should haul the stuff away.

2 Chr 29:16

16 **And the priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD, to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took it, to carry it out abroad into the brook Kidron.**

Then declare all the ‘physical things’ cleansed and Sanctified.

2 Chr 29:18-19

18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the king, and said, **We have cleansed all the house of the LORD**, and the altar of burnt offering, with **all** the vessels thereof, and the shewbread table, with **all** the vessels thereof.

19 Moreover **all** the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign did cast away in his transgression, **have we prepared and sanctified**, and, behold, they are before the altar of the LORD.

Next comes Repentance, starting with the Pastors!

Rev 2:5

5 **Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent**, and do the first works; **or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.**

Then comes Repentance for all.

2 Chr 29:24

24 **And the priests killed them, and they made reconciliation** with their blood upon the altar, **to make an atonement for all** Israel: for the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.

Then those that are Called by the Lord will take up their instruments.

Notice that the musicians were Levites and Priests!

2 Chr 29:25-26

25 **And he set the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with psalteries, and with harps**, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet: for so was the commandment of the LORD by his prophets.

26 **And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets.**

What they play is “The Song of the Lord” with instruments, not the song of the world! (Nehemiah 12:46)

2 Chr 29:27

27 And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, **the song of the LORD began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments** ordained by David king of Israel.

The following is the exception that proves the rule:

Here the Congregation is said to have “Worshipped” together while the singers sang and music is played; however, this is while a burnt **offering** was taking place. Imagine the noise and confusion that must have been happening. I believe that the True “Worship” did not take place until the offering was over, because it was then that the whole congregation and the Leaders bowed down and “Worshipped” the Lord together.

2 Chr 29:28-29

28 And **all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded:** and all **this continued until the burnt offering was finished.**

29 And **when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped.**

The Called will **sing** “Praises” to the Lord with gladness, which is **followed** by bowing the heads in “Worship”.

2 Chr 29:30

30 Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded **the Levites to sing praise unto the LORD** with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. **And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped.**

When we understand and follow all these Scriptures, then the Church Service will be set in order.

2 Chr 29:35

35**So the service of the house of the LORD was set in order.**

Amen!

A WARNING:

The following Scriptures include a warning from the Lord about those that are supposedly “Worshipping Him” but are living in Sin.

There is a consequence to pay!

Jer 7:2-16

2 **Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word,** and say, **Hear the word of the LORD, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the LORD.**

3 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, **Amend your ways and your doings,** and I will cause you to dwell in this place.

4 Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.

5 For if ye throughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye throughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour;

6 If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt:

7 Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.

8 **Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.**

9 **Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not;**

10 **And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations?**

11 **Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes?** Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD.

12 But go ye now unto my place which was in Shiloh, where I set my name at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.

13 And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not;

14 Therefore will I do unto this house, which is called by my name, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

15 **And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim.**

16 **Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee.**

CONCLUSION:

PRAISE:

Phil 4:8

8 **Finally, brethren,** whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and **if there be any praise, think on these things.**

1 Pet 4:11

11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: **that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.**

Rev 19:5

5 **And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.**

THANKSGIVING:**Col 3:15-17**

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also **ye are called in one body**; and be ye thankful.

16 **Let the word of Christ dwell in you** richly in all wisdom; **teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks to God and the Father by him.**

1Thes 5:18

18 **In every thing give thanks:** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Rev 7:12

12 **Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

WORSHIP:

My Brethren, let us not ignorantly “Worship God” as the Greeks did in Paul’s day. We are without excuse, because we have the Bible to show us **how** to “Worship Him”.

Acts 17:22-23

22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. **Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship,** him declare I unto you.

Instead, let us “Worship Him” as we will when we are in Heaven.

Rev 7:11

11 **And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,**

Rev 22:8-9

8 **And I John** saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I **fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.**

9 **Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not:** for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: **worship God.**

Finally:

Rev 3:22

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

AMEN!

TIMOTHY II