



Miracle of Miracles: He Receives (*My Worship*)

Psalm 47, Psalm 46:10, 2 Samuel 6:22.

This weekend we're in Part #3 of our Christmas MIRACLE series!

- The Psalms are birthed in experiences and are always shaped through a powerful backstory!
 - **The backstory and context of Psalm 47 is found in 2 Kings 18-19.**
 - It's an account where the Assyrian army is on the doorstep of overrunning Jerusalem and King Hezekiah has to go to God for their protection.
 - It is thought that Psalm 46 outlined Hezekiah's struggle during the battle, and Psalm 47 is his call to celebrate following the victory.
 - *This Psalm is a heartfelt and passionate call to become a worshipper!*

Psalm 47

1 Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples!

Shout to God with the voice of triumph!

- Notice that the King is giving his people the permission to celebrate God's victory in their lives!
 - "We're not going to apologize for God being victorious over the enemy..."
 - *Don't apologize for the victory of God in your life! Celebrate it!*

#1) True worship is a VOCAL expression of celebration!

- I love how the Psalm begins!
 - It's almost in the opposite way that the previous Psalm ends

Psalm 46:10 | Be *still*, and *know* that I am God...

- "Be still" literally means, "Take your hands off and relax!"
 - It's almost an exact opposite charge from the Psalmist now...
 - *Clap your hands, shout with a loud voice, and engage your mind soul and spirit in all that God has done.*

- When you study the Psalms, you can see how Hebrew people were very engaged and vocal in their expressions of praise and adoration before God.
 - David knew that being God-conscious couldn't co-exist with being overly self-conscious.

As we close out this year, celebrate the victory that God has done in your life!

- Praise flows from a preoccupation with who God is and what He has done.
 - One thing is certain about true worship - it always focuses on who God is!

#2) Worship connects our LIVES with something greater.

- The call to be Worshippers continues for us today!

~Bring worship music into your heart~

~Bring worship music into your family~

~Bring worship music into your car~

~Worship is LOVE expressed~

- The word 'worship' means, literally, 'worth-ship'!
 - *It seems to me that if we've experienced the worth-ship of God then our love should be expressed through unabashed enthusiasm.*

In 2016, if we want to experience fresh-air in our lives, I think we must get a new perspective on what it means to worship God!

#3) Worship REFUELS and RENEWS our souls!

- It's through our Worship of God that:
 - Our souls are refreshed and refueled!
 - It's where we will find unspeakable joy and indescribable peace.

Make an extra effort to sing... SING LOUD!

- Sing louder than the conflicting thoughts of doubt that cascade through your mind!
 - You are not auditioning for the band; you're making melody with your heart!!!
 - *Let's be a church that worships!!!*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!