

Ascribe

The Posture of Worship

Psalm 29

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

Ascribe: to give or to regard a quality as belonging to.

To ascribe glory to God is to regard Him

- to extol His attributes
- praise His works
- trust His name
- obey His Word
- To recognize His worth

The glory of God is who God is

- It's the beauty of His character and all that he is.
- In Hebrews 1:3. Jesus is even called radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.
- Jesus was fully God

So how do we ascribe or give something to God who already has everything and is perfectly glorious?

“Neither men nor angels can confer anything upon Jehovah, but they should recognize his glory and might, and ascribe it to him in their songs and in their hearts.” - Charles Spurgeon

We cannot add or take away from the Glory of God

- when we give him the glory in all that we do, whether in works or in our praise, we are recognizing Him for he is.
- It's acknowledging his greatness.
- We give him honor by praising and worshiping him. Because He alone deserves to be praised.

We ascribe glory to Him because it is His due, no one else deserves it and he will not share it with another.

- It is what is expected
- In most cultures, it's customary to bring a gift when you come before royalty.

Wouldn't you want to be in a room where everyone said the nicest things about you?

- God wants to be in a place where he's being recognized.
- The Bible says in Psalm 22:3 He inhabits the praises of His people.

To inhabit something means to live or occupy it.

Revelation 21:3

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God."

God longs to dwell with His people

- When we walk into this sanctuary, it is our responsibility to make sure the King of Glory receives His Glory
- That's why when we worship together and we say
 - "lift your voice"
 - "lift a shout of praise"
 - "Praise the Lord"
- It's not because we want to feel good as worship leaders, it's because we want the King of Glory to receive the Glory DUE his name.
- That's why we sing! That's why we worship!
- Because we want him! Because he alone is deserving of it.

Where he Glorified, he comes

- We see this principle throughout the bible
- Where 2 or 3 are gathered in His name, he comes.
- Where there is praise, he comes
- When he recognized, he comes

2 Chronicles 5:12-14

12 and all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, their sons and kinsmen, arrayed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps, and lyres, stood east of the altar with 120 priests who were trumpeters; 13 and it was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the LORD), and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the LORD, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever," the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, 14 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

Solomon goes on to bless the people and dedicate the Temple to God
And when he finishes dedicating it...

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

1 As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. 2 And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house. 3 When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

He inhabits the praises of his people

- He comes where he is praised
- And when Glory walks in, things change

Our Praise is Powerful

Praise isn't subjective.

- Praise is not just a song or a genre
- It's not your time to pout about how old or new the song is.
- It's, not your time to decide to do it based on the style of music.
- It's not your time to decide whether or not you feel like it or not.

Praise doesn't come down to our level.

We get on the level of praise!

I don't know how loud praise is but I know, for one thing, it's not quiet!

Quiet praise didn't knock down the walls of Jericho

Quiet praise didn't open the prison door for Paul and Silas

Quiet praise didn't cause the fire of God to fill the temple

Quiet praise didn't strike fear in the enemy as the Levites marched ahead of the army

Quiet praise didn't send confusion into the enemy camp

It was a high praise!

We are welcoming in the presence to come in.

- And when Glory walks in, things change
- It's a weapon to wage war with

The enemy always has a plan to try and ruin the move of God.

Do you know what high praise does?

It not only calls for the presence of God but also awakens a religious spirit.

The number one enemy of our praise is the religious spirit.

It's the spirit that says

- "How dare you sound like that"
- "how dare you look like that"
- It's the thing that that puffs you.
- It is when you start to feel contempt for other Praise filled believers
- It's when you say that praise stuff isn't for me
- It's too embarrassing

2 Sam 6:13-23

13 After the men who were carrying the Ark of the LORD had gone six steps, David sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. 14 And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly garment. 15 So David and all the people of Israel brought up the Ark of the LORD with shouts of joy and the blowing of rams' horns.

16 But as the Ark of the LORD entered the City of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked down from her window. When she saw King David

leaping and dancing before the LORD, she was filled with contempt for him. 17 They brought the Ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the special tent David had prepared for it. And David sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings to the LORD. 18 When he had finished his sacrifices, David blessed the people in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies. 19 Then he gave to every Israelite man and woman in the crowd a loaf of bread, a cake of dates, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people returned to their homes. 20 When David returned home to bless his own family, Michal, the daughter of Saul, came out to meet him. She said in disgust, "How distinguished the king of Israel looked today, shamelessly exposing himself to the servant girls like any vulgar person might do!" 21 David retorted to Michal, "I was dancing before the LORD, who chose me above your father and all his family! He appointed me as the leader of Israel, the people of the LORD, so I celebrate before the LORD. 22 Yes, and I am willing to look even more foolish than this, even to be humiliated in my own eyes! But those servant girls you mentioned will indeed think I am distinguished!" 23 So Michal, the daughter of Saul, remained childless throughout her entire life.

The religious spirit will look down from its window and judge you.

- It brings shame and condemnation.
- It's the same spirit that operated in Pharisees.
- It tried to stop the move of God then
- It will try and stop the move of God now

We combat the religious spirit by being even more undignified

- "Praise the Lord OH my soul, with all that's within me, praise his holy name"
- It's reminding yourself of the goodness of God
- It's recognizing the glory and strength
- It's ascribing glory and honor due His name

When we praise, it takes our eyes off of ourselves and onto Jesus.

- The spirit of religion says Look at me
- The Spirit of Praise says Look at Him
- It's something we have to intentionally do.
- Isaiah 61 says he gives us a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair

Our praise drives out the enemy.

When the band comes up on stage on a Sunday morning, it's wartime.

- I don't know what spirit you walked in with but it's wartime.
- I don't know what type of hell you had to go through to get here today, but it's wartime.
- We're not singing to feel good, we sing because it is His due.
- That the King of Glory would receive His Glory

Let that be our declaration today.

Would we not stop until The King of Glory has His Glory

Let us not settle for anything less than His presence.

The Holy Spirit wants to bring a fresh revelation of Jesus and a fear of the Lord to the church again.

I'd like to quote pastor Josh from last week as he was praying. He said this in prayer,

"Lord that we wouldn't offer you something that's cheap, Lord that we wouldn't offer you something that costs us nothing. Words can be cheap. And going through the motions can cost us very little but when we make a decision to be obedient to the Lord. Often times our obedience requires a price. There's a price for our obedience. Lord that we would be willing to pay the price for our obedience."