
Passionate Praise: 10 Hebrew Words for Praise

The Roots

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

2 Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 Know that the Lord, he is God!

*It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!*

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

*5 For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

Psalm 100 (ESV)

Today's Roadmap

- Introductory concepts
- 10 Hebrew Words for Praise
- What does this mean for us/what fruit does this lead to?

What IS praise...?

Praise vs. Worship

- **Worship** is a lifestyle of loving obedience in which we seek to bring glory to God through every aspect of our lives.

Praise vs. Worship

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. | Rom. 12:1-2

Praise vs. Worship

- More generally, worship defines and orders the affections of your heart and allocation of your resources (ex: time, money, energy, etc.)

Praise vs. Worship

*21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
22 The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy,
your whole body will be full of light, 23 but if your eye is bad,
your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you
is darkness, how great is the darkness!*

Praise vs. Worship

24 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. I

Matthew 6:21-24

Praise vs. Worship

- Praise is an outward expression of worship in which one's attention is, for a time, fully fixed on God and one's affection is displayed toward him in response. (ex: singing, dancing, etc.)
- More simply, it is to behold God

Theology of the Body

- We are made body, soul, and spirit
- You ARE your body just as much as you ARE your soul and your spirit
- Jesus was raised bodily from the dead and we will be too!

Theology of the Body

- This matters because we are integrated beings:
**what we do with our bodies on the outside
affects our inner attitude of worship!**

The Hebrew Words for Praise

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!*

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

- Psalm 100:4 (ESV)

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Shachah
- Halal
- Yadah
- Barak
- Tehillah
- Zamar
- Towdah
- Qadad
- Rua
- Shabach

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Shachah (שָׁחַחּ)
 - To bow down, prostrate oneself, worship
 - Used ~175x
 - Psalm 95:6

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Shachah (שָׁחַחּ)
 - “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!” -

Psalm 95:6

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Halal (הָלָל)
 - To praise, boast, celebrate, shine, to make a fool of
 - Used ~165x
 - Psalm 150:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Halal (הָלָל)
 - “Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!” - Psalm 150:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Halal (הָלָל)
 - Ex: I Thank God (skip to ~03:28)

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Yadah (יָדָה)
 - To give thanks, praise with extended hands
 - Used ~114x
 - Psalm 9:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Yadah (יָדָה)
 - “I will **give thanks** to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.” - Psalm 9:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Shabach (שְׁבַח)

 - To shout loudly, commend in praise
 - Used ~11x
 - Psalm 117:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Shabach (שְׁבַח)
- “Praise the Lord, all nations! **Extol** him, all peoples!” - Psalm 117:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Rua (רוּאָה)
 - To shout, to raise a triumphant cry, to make a joyful noise
 - Used ~12x
 - Psalm 47:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Rua (רֹעַ)
 - “Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!” - Psalm 47:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Barak (ברך)
 - To kneel, bless, praise
 - Used ~100x
 - Psalm 103:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Barak (ברך)
 - “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!” - Psalm 103:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Tehillah (תְּהִלָּה)
 - To sing a song or hymn of praise, adoration
 - Used ~58x
 - Psalm 22:3

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Tehillah (תְּהִלָּה)
 - “Yet you are holy, enthroned on the **praises** of Israel.” - Psalm 22:3

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Zamar (זָמַר)
 - To make music, sing praise, play an instrument
 - Used ~45x
 - Psalm 147:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Zamar (זָמַר)
 - “Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.” - Psalm 147:1

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Towdah (תָּוְדָה)
- Thanksgiving, praise offering, confession
- Used ~32x
- Psalm 100:4

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Towdah (תָּדוּחָה)
 - “Enter his gates **with thanksgiving**, and his courts **with praise!** Give thanks to him; bless his name!” - Psalm 100:4

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Qadad (קָדָד)
 - To bow the head, stoop in humility, shrivel up
 - Used ~15x
 - Exodus 12:27

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Qadad (תִּפְאַת)
 - “...And the people **bowed their heads** and **worshiped**.” - Exodus 12:27

The Hebrew Words for Praise

- Honorable mentions:
 - Mahal (to dance)
 - Alaz (to exult, rejoice, triumph)
 - Ranan (to sing/cry out for joy)

What does this mean for us?

- Praise is both a RESPONSE and a CHOICE
- Let's focus on the latter...
 - It's a choice to gather with the saints for worship
 - It's a choice to spend time with God
 - Make praise part of your daily habits

What does this mean for us?

- Sometimes your body will follow your spirit, and sometimes your spirit will follow your body
- **The fruit???**
 - To behold God and be transformed more into his image! (2 Cor. 3:17-18)

Response

- Let's be a church with a **WILD worship culture!** Not for the show, not for emotionalism, but because we have a **WILD love for Jesus!**

Response

- God, what do you want to reveal to me today about your glory and goodness?
- God, are there new expressions of praise that you want to stir up within me?
- God, are there ways I need to choose to praise you more? If so, what does that look like?
