

WHY WORSHIP?

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Each one of us is a _____ to praise the Lord.

Let everything alive give praises to the Lord! You praise him! (Psalm 150: 6, TLB)

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9, NLT)

Chosen, eklektos - From *ef*, "out of", and *lego*, "to pick, gather." The word designates one picked out from among the larger group for special service or privileges. It describes _____ as the chosen Messiah of God (Luke 23:35), _____ as messengers from heaven (1 Timothy 5:21), and _____ as recipients of God's favour (Matthew 24:22; Romans 8:33; Colossians 3:12). The New Testament traces the source of election to God's grace.

And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God. (1 Peter 2:5, NLT)

In the Old Testament God called the children of Israel to be his _____ of priests. (Exodus 19:6)

And from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. 6 He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. (Revelation 1:5-6, NLT)

As a 'royal' priesthood, the kingly nature of the redeemed worshiper is noted. This passage is rooted in God's call to ancient Israel (Exodus 19:5-7). Peter and John (Revelations 1:5-6) draw this truth to full application and prophetic fulfilment in the New Testament believer. As with Israel, deliverance through the blood of the Lamb is but the beginning. As promised, dominion and destiny will unfold as their priestly duty is fulfilled. True authority is always related to a walk in purity and a constancy in worship. The spirit of worship is essential to all advance of the kingdom. Just as ancient Israel will only take the Promised Land while doing battle from a foundation of righteous worship before the Lord, so with the contemporary church. We will only experience promised power for evangelism and spiritual victories as we prioritize and grow in our worship of the living God. Kingdom power is kept from pollution this way, as kingdom people keep humbly praiseful before the King – and witness His works of power with joy. **Jack W. Hayford**

It is only by the _____ that we can stand before Him and enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise! (Psalm 100:4)

_____, *towdah*, properly, an extension of the hand, i.e. adoration; specifically, a choir of worshippers: confession, (sacrifice of) praise, thanks (giving, offering).

_____, *thillah*, laudation, specifically a hymn: praise.

David teaches us in the Psalms that worship requires our everything:

1. Sing

Sing a new song to the Lord! Sing it everywhere around the world! Sing out his praises! Bless his name. Each day tell someone that he saves. (Psalm 96:1-2, TLB)

2. _____ (Psalm 33:3; 47:1; 98:4)

3. Speak (Ephesians 5:19)

4. _____ (Psalm 150)

5. Clap our hands

Come, everyone, and clap for joy! Shout triumphant praises to the Lord! (Psalm 47:1, TLB)

6. _____ (Psalm 134:2)

7. Dance

Praise his name with dancing, Psalm 149:3 (NLT)

8. _____ (Psalm 95:6)

9. Stand

And now here we are, standing inside your gates, O Jerusalem. (Psalm 122:2, NLT)

In Numbers 4:23 the Lord spoke to Moses about setting up a priesthood to ministers before his presence. He described them as being all those who “enter in to perform the service...” The words “perform the service” are from Hebrew words which mean, literally, “_____.” The priests entered into the holy place to fight a warfare.

We see the same words used in the original of Numbers 8:24, which translated “to wait upon the service...” Clearly, the priests were appointed to fight a spiritual warfare against God’s enemies.

Example 1: Joshua _____ Jericho

Joshua understood his position in warfare when he understood that the victory wasn’t going to come about through a physical fight but instead one of a spiritual fight.

The people of Israel had, by their shouts and the sound of the trumpet, become a ‘rereward’ (verses 9,13), a gathered people who had the power to destroy the enemy. All they had to do was wait for the word to shout, and then shout together. As they did this, the walls came down, and the enemy was defeated.

The word “rereward” has the meaning in the Hebrew “to _____ in order to destroy to consume.” This is the same Hebrew word for the name _____, who was the man appointed by David in I Chronicles 16:37, “to minister before the ark continually...” He was responsible for those who were appointed to minister before the Ark in the Tabernacle of David.

Isaiah 58:8 promises that “the glory of the Lord shall be thy rereward” (Hebrew “*asaph*”).

Example 2: Jehoshaphat defeating Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir

And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. (2 Chronicles 20:30)

You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; (2 Chronicles 20:17)

Dismay:

1. To destroy the _____ or resolution of by exciting dread or apprehension.
2. To cause to lose enthusiasm, disillusion.
3. To upset or _____.
4. A sudden or complete loss of courage in the face of trouble or danger.

Latin: exagare, to deprive of _____.

2 Chronicles 20:20 ‘...Believe in the Lord your God and you shall be established...’

Believe, aman (Strong’s No. 539): To be firm, stable, established; also, to be firmly persuaded; to believe solidly. To consider _____. From ‘aman’ comes ‘emunah’, “faith”. The most famous derivative is “amen”, which conveys this idea: “It is solidly, firmly, surely true and verified and established.”

Example 3: Jesus defeating the _____

Turn to: Matthew 21:1-11

“Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ The King of Israel!” (John 12:13, NKJV)

Hosanna means ‘_____’.

‘Hosanna’ was more than a cry of acclamation. Essentially, it was a plea from an oppressed people to their Saviour for deliverance. Later it came to be a standard shout of praise.

Bibliography

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