

**PRAISE.**

- A. In a sense, you could consider praise one type of prayer. In the Bible, praise is frequently related to God's awesomeness or fearfulness. Praise is the appropriate response by God's people to His awesomeness, to His fearful acts of war and vengeance on their behalf (Psa. 8:2; 22:23).

(Psa 8:2) From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength  
Because of Your adversaries,  
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.

(Psa 22:23) You who fear the LORD, praise Him;  
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,  
And stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel.

- B. Satan is going about speaking lies (Jn. 8:44) and spreading a false gospel (2Cor. 11:14).

(Jn. 8:44) You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

(2Cor 11:14) No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

The side which uses their mouth most effectively will win this spiritual war. If we do not learn to use our mouths, we cannot win the war. Propaganda is often a satanic instrument to promote false ideologies, false, political purposes, or false and evil rulers. One of the great ways to deal with these forces is praise that comes out of the mouth of God's people.

- C. Eight Hebrew words for praise:

1. **Hallah.**

- a. "Hallah" is the most common word for praise. This word simply means to boast, brag, or rave about God even to the point of appearing foolish (Psa. 63:3,4).

Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,  
My lips will praise You.

4 So I will bless You as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands in Your name.

- b. People who attend football games and shout and scream for their favorite team are called fans.

2. **Yadah.**

- a. "Yadah" means to worship with extended hands.  
b. "Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord" (Psa. 134:2).

Lift up your hands to the sanctuary  
And bless the LORD.

See Psa. 43:1-5; 134:2; 2 Chr. 20: 1- 21; Neh. 8:6; 1Tim. 2:8.

- c. Yadah pictures a three-year-old child, hands raised, running towards daddy, crying, "Hold me, daddy, hold me!"  
d. Yadah is often translated as, "giving thanks."  
e. Yadah is often a cry for help. Yadah praise is used when we are in desperate straits and need a victory from the Lord.  
f. Raising the hands is one of the most explosive and meaningful expressions of praise.

- g. Raising the hands is an international sign of surrender. A worshiping person raises hands in adoration and surrender to God.

3. **Barak.**

- a. "Barak" is used to denote blessing.
- b. "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised" (Job 1:21).

He said,

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,  
And naked I shall return there.  
The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD."

See Jud. 5:1-2; Psa. 72:15.

- c. Barak suggests the transcendent privilege of blessing the Lord.

4. **Tehillah.**

- a. "Tehillah" means to sing or to laud.
- b. "Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises" (Psa. 22:3).

Yet You are holy,

O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

See Ex. 15:2; Isa. 61:3; Deut. 10:21.

- c. Tehillah involves music and singing-especially singing. Singing is vital to the worship of God. There are over 300 Bible mandates to sing. This word suggests that God himself is a song of praise. We might say it like this, "God is our song."

5. **Zamar.**

- a. "Zamar" means to pluck the strings of an instrument.
- b. "For the director of music. Of David the servant of the Lord. He sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul."
- c. "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge... I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies" (Psa. 18:1-3).

"I love You, O LORD, my strength."

2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,

My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge;

My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

And I am saved from my enemies.

See Neh. 8:10; Psa. 18:46-50; 68:1-4; Eph. 5:19.

- d. Zamar speaks of rejoicing. It is involved with the joyful expression of music. Zamar means to sing praises or to touch the strings. It speaks of involving every available instrument to make music and harmony before the Lord. It is God's will that we be joyful. Use Zamar when you are rejoicing after God has done something great for you.
- e. Zamar is translated into the New Testament has "psallo".  
"Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19).

speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

6. **Todah.**

- a. "Todah" means to shout or to address with a loud voice. But Todah goes even further. It includes an attitude of gratitude for God's promised deliverance even while we are still in need. This type of praise also refers to lifting of the hands in inviting God's help. Todah praise is having faith and assurance that is well even before the victory actually comes.
- b. "Be merciful to me, my God, for my enemies are in hot pursuit... When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise—All day long they twist my words; They conspire, they lurk, they watch my steps, hoping to take my life. Record my misery... Then my enemies will turn back when I call for help. By this I will know that God is for me" (see Psalms 56:1-12).
- c. Offer Todah praise and trust that God will deliver.

7. **Shabach.**

- a. "Shabach" also means to shout or to address in a loud tone. For example, the pagan king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, was struck insane by God because of his pride. When God restored his sanity seven years later, Nebuchadnezzar shouted words of Shabbat praise:
- b. "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble" (Daniel 4:37).

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."

8. **Hallelujah.**

- a. "HALLELUJAH" is the premier word for praise in the Bible. Hallelujah transcends the languages of the world. It is not translated; it is transliterated.
- b. "Hallel" means to boast or to brag on, to make a show, even to the point of looking ridiculous. "Jah" is the short form of the name for God.
- c. Hallelujah is the spontaneous outcry of one who is excited about God. It is used only 24 times in the OT all between Psalm 104 and 150. It is reserved for times of extreme exultation.
- d. The word hallelujah is used only four times in the NT, all of them in Rev. 19:1-7.  
"Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God."  
"Hallelujah! Revenge on the Harlot: God is just after all."  
"Hallelujah! God is still on his throne even though the world is destroyed."  
"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!  
For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready."

D. Some scriptures concerning praise for God:

- 1. Psalms 9:14; 22:3,22; 35:18; 35:28; 42:11; 51:15.  
(Psalms 9:14) That I may tell of all Your praises,  
That in the gates of the daughter of Zion  
I may rejoice in Your salvation.  
(Psalms 22:3) Yet You are holy,  
O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.  
(Psalms 22:22) I will tell of Your name to my brethren;  
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.  
(Psalms 35:18) I will give You thanks in the great congregation;

I will praise You among a mighty throng.  
**(Psa 35:28)** And my tongue shall declare Your righteousness  
 And Your praise all day long.  
**(Psa 42:11)** Why are you in despair, O my soul?  
 And why have you become disturbed within me?  
 Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him,  
 The help of my countenance and my God.  
**(Psa 51:15)** O Lord, open my lips,  
 That my mouth may declare Your praise.

2. Mt. 11:25.  
 At that time Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.
3. Lk. 2:13; 18:43.  
**(Lk 2:13)** And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,  
**(Lk 18:43)** Immediately he regained his sight and *began* following Him, glorifying God; and when all the people saw it, they gave praise to God.
4. Ac. 2:47.  
 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.
5. Rom. 15:9-11.  
 and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written,  
 "THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES,  
 AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME."  
**10** Again he says,  
 "REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE."  
**11** And again,  
 "PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES,  
 AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM."
6. Eph. 1:6.  
 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
7. Phil. 4:8.  
 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.
8. Heb. 2:12; 13:15.  
**(Heb 2:12)** saying,  
 "I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN,  
 IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE."  
**(Heb 13:15)** Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.
9. Jas. 5:13.  
 Is anyone among you suffering? *Then* he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises.
10. Rev. 19:5.  
 And a voice came from the throne, saying,  
 "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."