

## 2.) PRAISE: WHEN, WHERE, & HOW

### The Heart Of Praise & Worship Series

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#### I. WHEN SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?

A. When we feel like it.

*Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. (James 5:13)*

B. When we don't feel like it.

*Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and 6 my God. (Psalms 42:5-6a).*

1. True praise is the opposite of emotionalism. To refrain from praising when we do not “feel up to it” is true emotionalism: allowing our emotions to dictate our level of praise.
2. Please not, though, that while praise is not emotionalism, it is emotional.

C. We are to praise the Lord at all times. (Ps. 34:1; 57:8; 119:62)

*Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, 18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. (Habakkuk 3:17-18)*

#### II. WHERE SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?

A. We should praise Him everywhere.

*From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised. (Psalms 113:3)*

B. Primary importance is placed on praising in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 22:22,25; 26:8,12; 27:4; 35:18; 68:24-26; 107:32)

C. It is especially fitting to sing God's praises before all men and nations. It has never been intended exclusively for the ears of saints.

*Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. (Psalms 96:3)*

*He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD. (Psalms 40:3)*

### III. HOW SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?

We do not praise the Lord our way; we praise the Lord His way. And His way is clearly shown throughout the Scripture for our benefit. There is no such thing as an “undercover” praiser.

- A. The **lifting of our hands** is a common form of praise found in the Word of God. (Neh. 8:6; Ps. 28:2; 63:4; 141:2)

***Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD.*** (Psalms 134:2)

***I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.*** (1 Timothy 2:8)

- B. Another common form of praise is the **clapping of hands**.

***Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.*** (Psalms 47:1)

- C. Another form of praise is that of **standing**. (2 Chron. 5:12; 7:6; 29:26; Ps. 135:2; Rev. 4:9-11)

1. In the tabernacle of the Old Testament there was one piece of furniture for which God made no provision: a chair!

- D. **Kneeling and bowing** are highly appropriate postures for praise or worship to the Lord.

***Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;*** (Psalms 95:6)

***The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: "Amen, Hallelujah!"*** (Revelation 19:4)

- E. **Singing and playing musical instruments** are probably the most common forms of praise we use today. (1 Chron. 16:23; Ps. 30:4; 96:1-2; 98:1; 147:7; 150:3-5; Is. 12:5-6; Eph. 5:19-20; Col. 3:16)

- F. **Dancing** is a proper form of praise to the Lord. (Ex. 15:20-21; 2 Sam. 6:14-16; Ps. 30:11; Acts 3:8)

***Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp.*** (Psalms 149:3)

- G. **Shouting** is also a form of praise. (Ps. 66:1; 81:1; 95:1-2; 98:4-6; 100:1 - NIV)

***Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.*** (Psalms 47:1)