

Praise and Thanksgiving

Abraham's faith was proven to be true by his deeds. He was justified by what he did. His deeds showed that he had true faith (Jms 2:18-22).

1 Chr 23:30 distinguishes between what the priests would do each morning and evening. They would stand up and they would offer praise and thanksgiving. You distinguish between thanksgiving and praise.

Like when someone does your laundry all day long and folds it for you and puts it away nicely for you — you can't help it, if you are a human being that still has some resemblance to God and is not totally worthless and going to the second death, you can't help but be thankful. Thanksgiving is appreciation for something that somebody did for you. No one would take that for granted who still has some resemblance to God. Praise is higher. It speaks about a person's attributes and qualities. It speaks about how good a person is. Praise is lauding, telling Him how wonderful He is, speaking of all He does for you, how good He is in certain ways, how you love Him. We're being fully human when we do this. You have to experience salvation before you can praise Him. In the first church the disciples learned from our Master how important prayer is. After the edah was founded they knew prayer was essential. If you don't pray, you don't have eternal life, you don't know the Father — you are dead.

Prayer includes praise and thanksgiving. Paul said that prayer had to be continuous. "Pray at all times." It has to be continuous because of the spiritual warfare that's continuous. The chief weapon of our warfare is prayer (2 Cor 10:3-4). Prayer is our first priority. The enemy seeks to destroy us, to silence our prayer, our praise and thanksgiving. If that happens then Satan has done his job. He doesn't need to do anything else to us if he can keep us from praising our Father. We are dead. The dead can't praise Him (Ps 115:17).

If you don't pray you are dead. You are not doing any good here, not to our Father, not to our Master, not to the Body. You'll go to the second death. Even in the world people acknowledge God according to Rom 1. Worthless people, people that are less than human, don't acknowledge Him. They go to the second death.

We have been forgiven an insurmountable debt. Mt 18:21-35 — The debt here was the highest amount they could think of back then. Of course we are thankful, and salvation delivers us from the fear of death.

Prayer was their first priority because the enemy's first priority is our defeat. That's what he seeks for.

Eze 22:30 — Intercession is standing in the gap.

People who have no praise might as well be dead. Somehow they are not forgiven of their sins, which cuts them off from God.

Every one of our children who are saved pray. They have a relationship with our Father in heaven through Yahshua. They know Him. The Spirit has been put into them. They can't do anything apart from Him.

The children that were taken away from here, that were baptized and received the Holy Spirit, can't live out in the world, because the Holy Spirit can't be out in the world. Also the new children that were baptized talk about Yahshua. That's the only thing on their mind because they received the Spirit. They are not foolish. You can tell by their action. This is normal salvation. If we have normal salvation we have the kindling to start the fire. That's the incense that needs to be lit, the praise that goes to our Father.

Jn 14:21 — Since He reveals Himself to us we have the incense to give. If a person never shouts anything from the rooftop then nothing is being whispered into his ear. Everyone might not be able to share because we don't have the time to, but nobody comes without anything. That's what Paul said — everyone has something. Then if somebody came into our midst they'll see that God is among us. If we do not all have something we aren't even disciples. It's amazing, but some people didn't hear anything yesterday. Some did. Out of love those who heard need to share what they heard so that the oil would go to the edge of the robe. Otherwise it's like not assimilating the food. Right now we are being taught; later on we'll teach. Those who are inspired will teach.

We received the exhale of God and we inhaled it. That's why we need to pray for the Holy Spirit. The person who never brings anything to the sacrifice is cut off, because they never have anything go into their ear, down to their heart, causing something to well up and come out of their mouth. We have to have the Holy Breath breathed into us, the exhale. We need to inhale the breath, receive Him.

Eph 4:15-16 — We all do our part. We all will grow up into the head if we all speak to each other. That brings the proper growth.

If we never speak, we never heard. We are like the people Isaiah spoke of — Always hearing, never taking in. Our Master quoted Isaiah (Mt 13:15; Isa 6:10) and Paul spoke about it (Rom 11:8; 2 Tim 3:7).

Our Master wants the little sticks, the kindling. He wants us all to bring our little. Right now we only have little. Don't lose heart. Everyone has a little bit, everyone hears a little bit. Even the children have a little bit. They share after the prayer what they heard in training from the rabbi.

Whatever you have heard, what's been revealed is yours and for your children and your children's children forever. It's in your spirit. It never can be taken away. Even if they chop you into pieces it can't be taken away because it's in your spirit. That's what Jn 14:21 is trying to say.

We all have something. We all have the Holy Spirit. We are all in fellowship with Him. Otherwise we wouldn't be here, unless we are only pretenders and hypocrites. The sacrifice is all day long, and we don't give in to foolishness.

Well, our Master shouldn't have said Jn 8:51. He is holding us over death. Now we have to obey and shout from the rooftops. Well that's called the good news because death is already established, it's already there. He is trying to save us from death. There is no way how you can get out of death apart from obeying Him. Our Father made it impossible that we obey Him unless we love Him. If you only obey Him so that you wouldn't go to death, you won't receive grace. If you don't want to do His will, He won't give you grace.

If you love Him, you naturally want to obey Him. It's not even feasible that you'd disobey someone whom you love. If you love someone you want to obey him. Like our children. If you love them you'll diligently discipline them and they'll love you.

This morning we learned that there is a difference between giving thanks and praise. We need to really find out what is good about our Master, what you like about Him, what He has done for you and tell Him. The priests gathered every morning to give thanks and praise.

Ps 116:1-2 — “I give You glory, honor, praise, You're good, wonderful, kind, because You've heard my voice.” That's the response we should give.

We are here to please Him. He is the Creator, we are the creation, the creature. Our Creator made us to live for Him, not to be independent, not even to not be thankful. He didn't make us to curse Him, but to be thankful so that we can be one and can get His purpose done throughout the universe.