

## I. Introduction

1. Testimony of Praise
  - a) Praise is a powerful tool.
    1. Psalm 8:2 Praise silences the enemy.
    2. 1 Corinthians 10:3-6 Spiritual warfare.
    3. Psalm 149:1 Praise is a response to the command to “praise the Lord”.
  - b) When I would give my all in praise, it brought healing, deliverance, joy and restoration.
2. Testimony of Worship
  - a) Pastor Hines did a message series on worship **that changed my life**.
  - b) He came from 2 Chronicles 20:1-30; He used this example of scripture to teach us how to press in to the presence of God, how to seek the face of the Lord.
  - c) From then on, I was determined to see God in this new way and I pressed in.
    1. It took me from an outer praise to an inner worship.
    2. It showed me how to hear from God better.
    3. It humbled me and blessed me.
    4. During times of hardship, it helped me enter a place of peace and warfare.
3. Benefits of Worship
  - a) APT 1 or Ministering Spiritual Gifts class teaches us “that true praise and worship creates an atmosphere that welcomes the Holy Spirit and God moving among us”.
    1. 2 Kings 3:15 Elisha says bring me a minstrel, a musician. (Need an atmosphere to hear the voice of the Lord to do ministry)
    2. Acts 13:1-3 One day as these men were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said ... (God responds to our worship)
    3. 1 Peter 2:5 *“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.”* (We offer it up and God receives it.)
  - b) *“In the atmosphere of true heart-felt worship manifested by God’s people, we can expect to do things we could not do before.”* ~ Bill Hamon

## II. What is Worship?

1. Looking at a very familiar passage of scripture (Woman at the well)
  - a) John 4:19-24 NLT *“Sir,” the woman said, “you must be a prophet. So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim, where our ancestors worshiped?”* Jesus replied, *“Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in*

*Jerusalem. You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”*

- b) Worship not in a place, but from a place; our inner man: spirit and in truth (real, not an act, not out of fear or religion, but a pure heart)
- 2. Worship (definition)
  - a) To perform or take part in reverence toward a divine being or supernatural power.
  - b) A lowly state, give up all of oneself for lifting up another. From inside out; without concealing (unhidden).
- 3. Worship (Strong's Concordance H4352)
  - a) (to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand); to fawn or crouch to; prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore): worship (make to stoop; bow down)
- 4. Spirit (Strong's Concordance H4151)
  - a) The rational soul, mental disposition (inner man)
- 5. Truth (Strong's Concordance 225)
  - a) Not concealing
- 6. God is looking for such, desiring for us to worship him with everything we have
  - a) Physical – bow down, prostrate
  - b) Spiritual – inner man
  - c) Soul (mental) – not concealing, not hidden, open to him

### III. God is a God of Worship

- 1. John 4:23
  - a) The father wants worship from us.
  - b) Seeketh such to worship Him (Looking for)
- 2. Malachi 3:15
  - a) God listened as the people who feared him spoke of Him and thought about the honor of His name
- 3. Revelation 5:14
  - a) Worship going on 24/7 in heaven
- 4. Luke 17:12-19 NLT “As he entered a village there, ten lepers stood at a distance, crying out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” He looked at them and said, “Go show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, “Praise God!” **He fell to the ground at Jesus’ feet**, thanking him for

what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, “Didn’t I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned **to give glory to God** except this foreigner?” And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.”

5. Comparison of a father
  - a) Daughter and dad’s birthday present.
  - b) He just wants to be appreciated.
  - c) God the creator of all, has done it all, is looking for worshippers to give their all.

#### IV. How do we become a Worshipper?

1. Types
  - a) The Bible, especially the Old Testament is full of types.
  - b) Type – a natural event, person, object, or institution that foretells symbolically an important, usually spiritual, event or concept that is to come.
    1. For instance, Christ is the Passover lamb of Exodus.
  - c) A type will not accurately correspond to that which it represents in very detail?
2. Chittim wood
  - a) Bible study given on July 9, 1997. God spoke to me "shittim wood" while lying on a couch in preparation for a bible study. Testimony.
3. Shittim wood – acacia, the shittah tree (where wood is taken).
  - a) Exodus 25:8,9 *“Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you.”*
4. There was furniture in and out of the tabernacle that was made of Shittim wood.
  - a) **Ark** of the testimony – Ex. 25:10,11 – covered in pure gold
 

*“Have the people make an Ark of acacia wood—a sacred chest 45 inches long, 27 inches wide, and 27 inches high. Overlay it inside and outside with pure gold, and run a molding of gold all around it.”*
  - b) **Table** of showbread – Ex. 25:23,24 – covered in pure gold
 

*“Then make a table of acacia wood, 36 inches long, 18 inches wide, and 27 inches high. Overlay it with pure gold and run a gold molding around the edge.”*
  - c) **Altar** of burnt offering – Ex. 27:1,2 – covered in bronze (brass)
 

*“Using acacia wood, construct a square altar 7 feet wide, 7 feet long, and 4 feet high. Make horns for each of its four corners so that the horns and altar are all one piece. Overlay the altar with bronze”*
  - d) **Laver/Basin** for washing – Ex. 30:17-21 – made of bronze
 

*“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Make a bronze washbasin with a bronze stand. Place it between the Tabernacle and the altar, and fill it with water. Aaron and his sons will wash their hands and feet there. They must wash with water*

*whenever they go into the Tabernacle to appear before the LORD and when they approach the altar to burn up their special gifts to the LORD –or they will die! They must always wash their hands and feet, or they will die. This is a permanent law for Aaron and his descendants, to be observed from generation to generation.”*

5. Coverings
  - a) Brass/bronze – an alloy (mixture) of copper and zinc. An alloy is an admixture of something that debases or lowers in quality or value.
  - b) Gold – pure gold (no added preservatives) does not corrode, unlike silver or bronze.
6. Tabernacle – dwelling place, tent of meeting
  - a) God revealing Himself on earth in the midst of a chosen people
7. Outer Court
  - a) Start with the gate of entrance
    1. Ps. 100:4 *“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”*
  - b) The furniture in the Outer Court was bronze.
    1. Bronze represents man, perishes, need of a covering
  - c) Altar of sacrifice – ask for forgiveness of sins
    1. Romans 12:1 *“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.”*
  - d) Laver – washing away of sins, cleansing
    1. Ephesians 5:26 *“to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word.”*
  - e) Come in with thanksgiving and praise unto God. Wash away life’s residue.
8. Holy Place (Inner Court)
  - a) Table of Shewbread – covered in pure gold
    1. On it is the bread of the Presence
    2. This is a place of commitment
    3. Your praise turns into a hunger for more of Him
  - b) Altar of incense
    1. A place of prayer and intercession
      - i. From us on behalf of others
      - ii. From Christ on behalf of us
9. Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies)
  - a) This is a place of communion
  - b) The most important place...where before we talked to God, now it is time for

God to talk to us.

- c) Ark of the Testimony or Covenant - covered in pure gold
  - 1. Behold the splendor and the glory of God
  - 2. The Mercy Seat - no matter what we have done God's mercy covers us and wants to be with us. He desires to talk to us and share His heart with us. That alone will catapult you to a true heart of worship.

**V. Closing**

- 1. I believe God is wanting to take the HOF deeper in worship.
- 2. Notice what is happening in the worship lately.
- 3. There has been a shift in the atmosphere.
- 4. When we as a body come higher, God will meet us where we are and pull us even higher.

March 5, 2022 (Activation during APT 1)

*“What I am doing in worship is new. Brace yourself. It will not look like what you have seen before. Seek me. Seek my heart. I want a pure heart. Commit your ways to Me. To worship Me, I seek such to worship Me. Make it a lifestyle and see what I do. I am anointing you for greater; greater presence, greater power; see My glory. Run to Me when you are unsure. Come to Me in the midnight hour. I want to do a great work in and through you. My grace is sufficient for you. I want unity and My likeness. Kindness, Patience. Yes, the fruit of the Spirit. Love is what I am after. If you love Me, love them. See them. Know them. Open your heart to Me. I want to be made known.”*

My heart's cry, “to worship You I live”.