

CHIEF MINISTRIES

March 2009

Greetings to all in the Name above all Names,

That name is Jesus. I pray this month finds you rising above the wire in your spirit to the point where you realize you are not of this world. You have been bought with a price and hopefully you are allowing the transformation of the inner man to take place by the renewing of your mind.

Did you know the Father is seeking you? I wouldn't necessarily say He needs us, but He does want us to love Him and to worship Him. I've long said to know God is to worship Him. Are you at a place in your walk that you long to worship Him? Worship is something we give to something we feel is worthy of praise. Some of us worship our favorite football or basketball team season after season. Or we worship our physique and we "religiously" hit the weights. Or we worship food or our families. There are so many things that we can love more than God himself. Why is that? Ex 20:3 says "*You shall have no other gods before me.*" That was the 1st commandment. It looks like God knows us and knows what to tell us right off the bat.

John 4:23 says "*but the hour is coming and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him.*"

The Psalmist said in Ps 84:10. "*For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in tents of wickedness.*"

Are you hungry to find yourself in the house of the Lord or do we find ourselves criticizing the chaplain about "Who's in charge?" Or we don't like the songs they sing down at the service because they didn't sing a hymn or a gospel song or one of our favorite styles. Trust me, as a worship leader, I've heard every excuse in the book for men neglecting to meet together when they should be encouraging one another all the more as we see the day of the Lord drawing near.

Not staying away from our meetings, as some habitually do, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. Hebrews 10:25

We leave a service we've just attended and sit around talking about what we did and didn't like and say things like "Well on a scale of 1 to 10, I'd give it a 3 ½. What!! Shouldn't we be busy praising and worshipping our Father and asking Him what He thinks of our gatherings? How does it rate on His scale? Are we not going to give God the glory due His name?

Give the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness Ps 29.2

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and praise His name Ps 100:4

I will sing of faithful love and justice; I will sing praise to You, Lord. Ps 101:1

Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy name Ps 103:1

These verses speak of praising the Lord. Our lives should be a life of praise. What we do and how we act should praise the Lord. Does yours? This praising will indeed lead you to worship.

C h r i s t ' s H e a r t I n E v e r y F e l o n

We used to sing about God, but after you really get to know Him you'll be singing **to** Him and then watch what happens. He'll show up!

Indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever, "that the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God. 2 Chron 5:13-14

As the Levites were ministering to the Lord with song in 2 chronicles the glory of the Lord filled the temple. He inhabits the praises of His people. His presence surrounds us to bring us healing and deliverance. To make us aware of our wrongs so we can make them right. He loves to hear from us.

There are several definitions of worship given by Biblical scholars through the ages.

Jack Hayford says "Worship is the pathway and the atmosphere for people to discover their royal calling in Christ." John Wimber says "Worship is the love making expression between the bride and the groom. It is love freely given to God". Bruce Leafblad says "Worship is that process in which we make God first in our lives." My definition is that true worship somewhat defies definition "It can only be experienced."

When you begin to love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, there will be something deep within that longs to call out to the Spirit of God, to shower Him with everything you can think of that is good. Such immense thanksgiving, absolute adoration, luxurious love and powerful praise to our creator to Whom all praise is due. Mercy and grace he has given to us through His Son. Have you ever just stopped everything right where you're at and just began to tell Him how much you love Him?

No matter what you're going through, you can praise your way out of perplexity and worship your way out of worldly understanding. I challenge you to do just that! If you find it strange or uncomfortable then I think you know what you need to do. Make it a habit! I feel there's no greater response to your Maker than to learn to live the life of a true worshipper. Don't be like those "religious on outside" people Jesus was talking to in Matthew 15:8-9 when he said

This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. They worship Me in vain, teaching as doctrines the commands of men." Matt 15:8,9

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us hold on to grace. By it, we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire. Heb 12:28,29

A prayer: My Father, help me see you in everything, draw me closer to you so that I may worship you and love you more. May the fruit of my lips give You thanks and may my worship be a pleasing fragrance to You. I am in need of Your presence so I come before You, humbly, desiring to pour my love on You, for You alone are truly worthy of praise. I love You, Lord. Surround me with Your Presence more and more every day and I'll be sure to share Your joy and peace to all that I can. Let Your Glory shine on me and through me so that people begin to see how great and wonderful You are. O that men would begin to understand their rightful place as a victorious warrior for You, my King. If you can use anything Lord, you can use me. So be it. Selah. Amen.

Be Worshippers! Be Warriors! Be God's.

Your brother

Chief

C h r i s t ' s H e a r t I n E v e r y F e l o n