

WORSHIP OF OUR KING IS ETERNAL

I want to be transparent and share a portion of my life to illustrate my point. In year 2000 began another process of deep brokenness. It seems I was unsuspectingly enrolled into “the school of hard knocks.” It was a very dark time in my life. Questions? Pursuit. Searching for answers. Examining the depths of my soul. I was battling confusion and disappointment. Asking why? What if? And at the same time humbly saying “here I am Lord do whatever you what with me.” To be honest, here it is several years latter and I’m barely reaching the end of the process. Feeling like I’m in the wine press of God, the crucible of wrestling and struggle. I know you can relate? Well, in reality, we are always in the process of maturing to “the stature of the fullness of Christ.” The good news is: there is a light at the end of the tunnel. *“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”* (2 Cor. 12:9)

The darkness. My mother was being ravaged by cancer; my wife and I were in the middle of a hard transition in ministry; we were in the process of moving to another home; and internally filling discouraged, broken and disappointed. It was like God was a million miles away! We prayed our best prayers, fasted, renounced demonic influences, examined our hearts and repented for everything known and unknown. We were desperate for a breakthrough! We were surely walking through the “valley of the shadow of death.” In that hard place we kept holding on to faith and the grace of God to make it though day-to-day. The catalyst in this process was the “emotional rollercoaster” over watching my mother waist away before my eyes. Cancer was a cruel and ruthless foe! This shouldn’t be happening!!!? God is our healer! With every prayer, literally contending for mom’s life the results where increasingly more and more painful. My heart had become callus little by little, almost undetectable. No more tears, just numb. I noticed I became more sharp in my words and irritated. I felt death and the demonic breathing down my neck trying to sabotage everything I’ve stood for. Like wolves circling their prey before devouring it. This persisted for over six months!

Yahweh is faithful. Even though I was sitting on a pile of ashes, not exactly the “man of faith and power for the hour,” God showed up. An unsuspecting “suddenly” happened. It seems that in some of the most “fleshed out” and “unspiritual” times God moves. I was sitting on the couch talking to a friend about how everything is going wrong. We were basically complaining to each other about the ills of life and at that moment I got a “wild idea,” how about pray. We began praying and instantly I felt my heart begin to soften. Tears began to flow for the first time in six months. I felt a demonic weight tangibly lift off of me. Measures of freedom began to increase more and more. I was weeping and praying and worshipping all at the same time. My friend went to our little “cheesy” keyboard and made it sound like a grand piano! We worshipped and cried out fervently! The prophetic songs came and revelation was “downloaded” into my spirit.

The Lord told me about the power of worship. He said, “Worship is the principle thing.” He said, “What you lack is faith. And ‘faith worketh by love.’ (Gal. 5:6) Worshipping Me is the love expression of relationship. It’s a love feast. It’s spiritual romance. When you worship Me I will scribe more faith on the tablet of your heart.” I will never forget the simple yet profound revelation of what the Lord spoke to me that day. We increase faith by loving Him in intimate worship. The Word says, *“It is impossible to please the Lord without faith (trust).”* *“The just shall walk by faith.”* *“Walk by faith and not by sight.”* Through that encounter my entire perspective changed to give me courage and strength to walk through the challenges ahead. In the midst of many trials, less than a year later my wife and I walked mom into eternity where she finally received her healing. We can over come the worst of pain when we understand the power of being a worshipper.

Recently, the Father spoke to me and said, “Son, when you worship me it is like oil to help you in the midst of trials.”

Oil smoothes out the rough areas, it supplies a lubricant to loose that which is stuck. If you’re going through a hard time keep praising! If you are wrestling with change keep worshipping and the love of God will bring it to pass.

Worship and praise is eternal. Many “gifts” will pass away when the Messiah returns to physically reign as King in His Kingdom. *1 Cor. 13:8-13* says, “Charity (love) never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect (Messiah) is come, then **that which is in part shall be done away**... For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but **then shall I know even as also I am known**. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; **but the greatest of these is charity (love in action)**.” Also read Eph. 4:11-16. Notice the purpose of the five-fold assention gifts. Verse 13 says “till we all come...” In essence when we reach the maturity of Christ-likeness the wonderful gifts will no longer be necessary. “Then shall I know even as also I am known.”

When Ya’shua comes back and physically reigns we will no longer need the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher because the mission will be done. We will not need to cast out devils, heal the sick, have words of wisdom, miracles, etc. because we will be with **our King who completes everything**. The “gifts” are for NOW! With this understanding, to maximize our effectiveness “in the NOW” grab a hold of that which is eternal—worship! The functions of the gifts are designed to work by being connected to our Life Source—Ya’shua. From this perspective, as worshippers, we have revelation! “He inhabits the praises of His people.” (*Ps. 22:3*) “Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.” (*2 Cor. 3:17*). “In His presence is fullness of joy.” (*Ps. 16:11*)

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (*1 Pet. 2:9*)

Here’s my point: Other things will pass away but **PRAISE AND WORSHIP WILL NEVER PASS AWAY!** Heaven is full of love songs of worship, the angels are singing RIGHT NOW, holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty! LOVE will never cease! It is eternal; we will worship and love our King forever. Everything we do comes from the core revelation of worship. So I feel compelled by the Holy Ghost to “hold the line” with prioritizing the message, “BE WORSHIPPERS.” Worship isn’t some “add on” to our lives—it’s central. Its loving and being loved. It’s a “love feast” between you and your King. When we understand the significance of being worshippers, it will revolutionize your entire worldview. It’s like breath to our lungs, it’s like food to our bodies, it’s like sight to our eyes and it’s like life in our blood. We are and will rule and reign with Him in His Kingdom forever! We are not only bondservants, but we are citizens, friends and SONS. Heirs and joint heirs with Ya’shua the Messiah! Don’t miss it! Worship isn’t just some shallow song service; it’s our expression of love to the one who SAVED OUR SOULS. The One who redeemed us from “the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.” (*Col. 1:13*) Worship isn’t just “a Sunday thing.” It’s a lifestyle that requires a shift in our mindset and sacrifice.

There's a principle in hermeneutics (Bible interpretation) of "first mention." The first time worship is mentioned in the Scriptures, is when Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac. It required Abraham's total trust and prioritization of YAWEH in his life. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness..." This was a great sacrifice for Abraham and the Father looked at it as WORSHIP. Read the story in Gen. 22 for your own edification. It will bless you.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." (Ps 100:4)

I believe every time you sing a heart song to the Lord it is worship. Every time you give sacrificially it is worship. Every time you win a soul it is worship. Every time you love your brother or even an enemy it is worship. Every time you work hard "as unto the Lord" it is worship. Every time you exercise character it is worship. Every time you submit yourself to God fearing and righteous leaders it is worship. Every time you feed the hungry it is worship. Every time you pray for others it is worship. Every time you cry at the altar it is worship, etc., etc., etc. **EVERYTHING WE DO LETS DO IT UNTO THE LORD.** "For whether we live, we live **unto the Lord**; and whether we die, we die **unto the Lord**: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." (Rom.14:8)

A great example in the scriptures of a worshipper is King David. Read the account in the Book of 2 Samuel.

"And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. 15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. 16 And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart. 17 And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. 18 And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts." (2 Sam 6:14-18)

The entire Kingdom is full of love, praise and worship for our majestic King. As you continue to read, the urgency to hold on to Him will become clearer. "We will worship no other." We need to worship the Lord with everything in us and be enveloped in Him as we navigate through the troubled seas of life. We are called to overcome and be victorious. We are called to dominate!