

# REACHING BEYOND IN



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30 JANUARY 2022

# INTRODUCTION

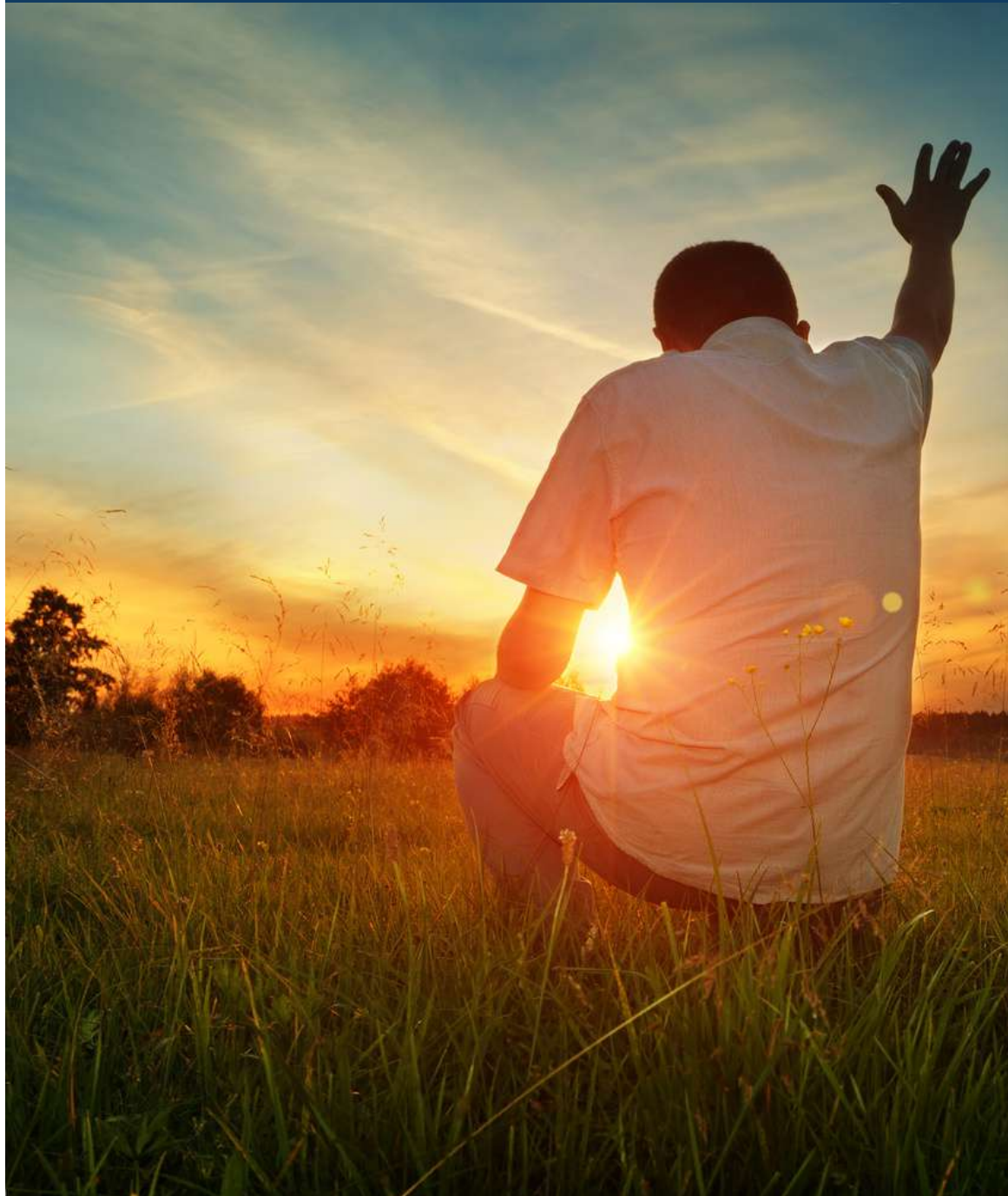
One of the reasons for our existence in this world is for us to worship our Creator. However, the most misused/ misunderstood abused word in Christendom happens to be WORSHIP or PRAISE & WORSHIP.

Words like worship songs, worship leader/Pastor, worship music, worship service define what worship is for us.

Worship, in terms of songs and concerts, take priority over prayer gathering for some people. They spend hours playing or listening to worship songs but it becomes a struggle to pray. For us as believers, it is important to Praise and Worship God. When we get our minds off of ourselves and our circumstances and onto God and His greatness and might and begin praising Him with our whole heart, we are loosed and set free. The chains of doubt, fear and confusion are broken and we are set free by the power of praise



# PRAISE



## Praise - Appreciate/ Physical act

Praising God means describing His beauty, His mighty power, His greatness. Praising Him for the creation of His hands and His words.

The book of Psalms is a wonderful guideline that we are gifted with which helps us to Praise Him. It talks about

Praising God for *His love that endures forever*

Praising God for *His eternal promises*

Praising God for *His marvellous deeds*

Praising God for *His protection and provision*

Praising God for *His plans in defeating our enemies*

The Bible teaches us in **Psalm 100:4**, that we should “*Enter His courts with Thanksgiving and Praise*”. Praising God can only happen when you understand who He is on the basis of what He has done for you.

## THE 7 HEBREW WORDS USED FOR PRAISE

**HALAL:** To jump, dance, to be loud and clamorous (*Psalm 150:2*)

The root word for Hallelu(hallal)-jah(yahweh)

**YADAH:** To throw your hands up and forward while making a confession about God (*Isaiah 25:1*)

**TOWDAH:** To lift your hands in thanksgiving (*Psalm 107:22*)

**SHABACH:** A loud, joyous shout of testimony (*Psalm 145:4*)

**BARAK:** To kneel in reverence and submission (*Psalm 66:20*)

**ZAMAR:** To worship the Lord while playing an instrument (*Psalm 98:4*)

**TEHILLAH:** To sing a spontaneous, unrehearsed song of the Lord, from your spirit (*Psalm 22:3*)

So Praise involves expression, as we read mostly it is verbal or expressive.




Worship = Devotion/ Heart language

*"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth"  
(John 4:24)*

PRAISING GOD is on the basis of what I have heard about Him. Eg. You are Great, You are Good, You are Almighty, You are Omnipresent, You are the Alpha and Omega.

But the NEXT LEVEL of praising God is WORSHIPPING GOD, it is a state of surrender, a state of "His Will and not our will", fulfilling a life of satisfaction even in lowly moments of life and the valley experiences, without complaining.

If you stop your worship with only words, your worship to God is incomplete. If you are satisfied playing music and singing a song, your worship is incomplete.



We need to move up from the lack of understanding to the Revelation of God. You need to move from one level to another level to the inner chamber to have this intimacy with God. In other words, allowing God to work in us and through us.

WORSHIP rises from within out of the understanding of Who this God is.

*In order to praise God, you have to know about Him, but in order to worship God, you must know Him.*

God cannot be worshipped on the basis of what others tell me about God. It should be experienced through the relationship that we develop between Him and us.

The original text gives us the description for WORSHIP, that it is Worth-Ship. It is a declaration that God is worthy to be praised.

*Revelation 5* describes the worthiness of this God...

*Psalms 96* says, "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His (God's) Name."



The Greek word for Worship is '**Proskuneo**' meaning 'to bow before', like a dog licking the hand of the master, to fall prostrate.

Most of our understanding about worship is based on the MUSIC and not GOD. If the music is good, the worship is good. When the singer looks attractive, then it is worth buying his album and playing them on your devices.

*When the song or the instrument becomes more important than the ONE you are singing or playing to, remember it becomes worthless worship.*

Matt Redman's song "The Heart of Worship" was written at a time when his Pastor decided to get rid of the sound system and the worship band for a season and just had the congregation gather and worship together with just their voices.

***When the music fades  
All is stripped away  
And I simply come  
Longing just to bring  
Something that's of worth  
That will bless your heart  
I'll bring you more than a song  
For a song in itself  
Is not what you have required  
You search much deeper within  
Through the way things appear  
You're looking into my heart***

## EXAMPLES FROM THE BIBLICAL CHARACTERS FOR WORSHIP THAT REACHED BEYOND!!

- **IMPRISONMENT:** Paul and Silas singing in Prison(bondage) (*Acts 16:24-26*).
    - When we are faced with trials and hardships, let's remember that Satan may buffet our bodies but he can't imprison our praise
  - **THE IDENTITY:** The Woman with the Alabaster Box(an outcast) (*Luke 7:36-50*)
    - She pressed through fear, prejudices, shame, and created one of the most intimate moments of worship
  - **GIVING:** The Widow's mite (2 very small copper coins) (*Mark 12:41-44*)
  - **OBEDIENCE:** Abraham's willingness to Sacrifice His son (*Genesis 22: 12-14*)
  - **SACRIFICE:** Jesus' surrender to Father's will (*Luke 22:41-43*)
  - Zacchaeus worshipped Jesus when he made an effort to climb up on the Sycamore tree to see Jesus. But he reached beyond in worshipping Jesus when he decided to give back 10 times from whom he had taken money.
  - Samaritan woman worshipped Jesus when she was told about her life by Jesus. But her worship Reached Beyond when she testified Jesus to her neighbours and brought them to Him.
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## ABBREVIATION FOR THE WORD W-O-R-S-H-I-P

I worship Him because **He is Worthy** (*Rev 5*)

I worship Him because **He is the Owner** (*Gen 1:1*)

I worship Him because **He is my Redeemer** (*Isa 44:22*)

I worship Him because **He is the Supreme** (*Rev 1:8*)

I worship Him because **He is Holy** (*Lev 20:26*)

I worship Him because **He is the Incarnate** (*John 1:14*)

I worship Him because **He is Powerful** (*Jer 10:12*)

PRACTICE TO PRAISE! WORK OUT WORSHIP!!

# CONCLUSION

We are called to worship.

We are called to take the focus off our own lives and focus on Him.

We need to praise and worship God because of who He is, what He has done, and what He will do.

Are you a person who praises and worships God?

We were created to worship God. By lifting Him up in praise and worship we are surrendering our whole self to Him. Praising and worshipping God means that we are expressing our love to Him. This should be done all the time, when we are alone and when we are together.