

PRAISING GOD IN SONG

On April 9th, 18 1960, the human voice was recorded for the very first time. Edouard-Leon Scott Martinville sang Au Clair de la Lune. While he sang, a phonograph recorded his voice for 20 seconds. But the first recording we have of someone singing is all the way back in the book of Exodus when Moses sang a song of praise to God. We cannot hear his voice, but we can read the lyrics of the song that Moses sang.

In Exodus 14, the Egyptians pursued Israel through the desert and trapped them on the shores of the Red Sea. All was not lost, for *“the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians”* (Ex. 14.25). God parted the Red Sea allowing the Israelites to pass. When the Egyptians followed, *“the waters returned and covered the chariots...Not so much as one of them remained”* (Ex. 14.28). Now safe on the other side of the Red Sea, Moses and the children of Israel offered praise to God in the form of a song. The lyrics are recorded in Exodus 15.1-19.

Since the first recorded song, the people of God have been singing praises to Him. After God defeated the Canaanites in Judges 4, Deborah sang praises to God (Judges 5.1-31). An entire book of the Old Testament is dedicated to songs of praise written by David, and it was the songbook used in the temple worship of the children of Israel (Neh. 12.8).

Even today, we praise God in song. The Hebrew writer tells us to *“continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name”* (Heb. 13.15). In context, reference is made to Jesus who sanctified His people with His own blood through suffering (Heb. 13.12). Having been sanctified by Jesus and having heaven in our future (Heb. 13.14), we are told to keep on giving praise to God through song.

Singing is how we express our hearts to God. The book of James tells us that if anyone is cheerful, *“let him sing psalms”* (James 5.13). The word “cheerful” is “euthumeo” Literally it means, “good passion.” When you are filled with good feelings, those feelings should be expressed by giving praise to God in song.

What a beautiful way to express to God our love and appreciation for what He has done for us. What a wonderful way to enjoy the blessings of fellowship by blending our voices together in praise to God.

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SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”

-Mark 16.15

September 4, 2022

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

ARE YOU WILLING?

Are you willing to let the Bible be your only rule of faith and practice? Are you willing to study the Bible and the Bible only with someone that wants to do the same thing in the same way? Are you willing to lay aside every man-made doctrine and creed and take the Bible for what it says in matters religion?

If you answer yes to the above questions then you and I ought to really enjoy studying together. I hope you will allow us to come into your home each week free of charge with no obligation to you in any way except to encourage you to study your Bible and see if the things taught by us are true according to the Word of God. We do not desire to teach anything in Bible studies that are not according to the Bible. First of all, we do not want to be wrong because of our own soul's salvation. Secondly, we do not want to lead anyone else astray from His word.

If any question or comment comes to your mind during our studies now or in the future, please contact us. Every consideration will be given to any question or comment you might have. We do want to encourage you to study with us on a regular basis.

May God bless you as you study His word to determine what He wants you to do and to be while you live upon this earth. CLP

“WHAT WILL YOU DO IN THE END?”

JEREMIAH 5:31

INTRODUCTION:

1. How did the people feel when the day of judgment came?
2. Jeremiah predicted a day of judgment for the nation of Judah and asked, “What will you do in the end?”

I. UNFOLDING THE CONTEXT

- A. There are words of warning.
 1. **Jeremiah 6.1:** “*Gather yourselves to flee*”
 2. Notice the geographical location. (Jer. 6.1)
 3. Why was this warning given? (Jer. 1.13-16)
- B. There are words of war.
 1. **Jeremiah 6.4:** “*Prepare war against her.*”
 2. Three word pictures are given to portray the nature of the war that was being waged. (Jer. 6.3,6-9)
- C. There are words of wrath.
 1. **Jeremiah 6.10,11:** “*I am full of the fury of the LORD*”
 2. This judgment came from God. (Jer. 6.12)
- D. Why was God so angry with His people?
 1. Because of how they treated each other. (Jer. 6.13,6,7)
 2. Because of how they talked to each other. (Jer. 6.13-15)
 3. Because of how they treated God. (Jer. 6.16,17)

II. WHAT WILL YOU DO ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT?

- A. There are words of warning.
 1. **Matthew 25.31:** The day is certain.
 2. **Matthew 25.31:** The day will be spectacular.
 3. **Matthew 25.32:** The day that will be serious.
 4. **Matthew 25.33:** The day will be about separation.
 5. **Matthew 25.34,41:** The day will be about destiny.
- B. There are words of war.
 1. Those who are of the world. (James 4.4)
 2. Those who have not obeyed the gospel. (Rom. 5.10)
 3. Those who think like the world. (Rom. 8.7)
- C. There are words of wrath.
 1. God is a God of grace, love, and wrath. (Rom. 11.22)
 2. He will give rest to His faithful, but to those who have not obeyed the gospel will suffer vengeance. (2 Thess. 1.6.7)
 3. If we sin, there is nothing waiting for us but, “*the fearful expectation of judgment*” (Heb. 10.27).

CONCLUSION: You have been warned. But there is still time to prepare for the day of judgment.

HOW IMPORTANT IS WORSHIP TO YOU?

The assembling of ourselves together is such a wonderful blessing. Our time together gives us encouragement, strengthens our relationships with one another, and gives us the ability to make it through another week. God, in His wisdom, commanded us to meet together every week (Heb. 10.25). This was not a commandment issued for His benefit. He desires our worship (John 4.23,24), but He does not require it (2 Sam. 7.5).

Hebrews 10.25 says that we are not to forsake the worship of the church, “*as is the manner of some.*” There were some even in the first century who did not make the worship of the church a priority. How serious does God consider our absence from worship? The very next verse tells us, “*for if we sin wilfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.*” The word “for” is a Greek word that means “because.” We are to assemble together as the church and not forsake the assembly because doing so is sinning willfully.

What is the consequence of sinning willfully? The next verse goes on to say that what is waiting for those who sin willfully is “*a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries*” (Heb. 10.27). When I miss the worship of the church because I have chosen to do something else instead, I am sinning willfully and I will suffer eternal condemnation on the day of Judgment.

God takes the worship of the church very seriously. Do you? How would you describe your attendance? Would you characterize it as consistent? Occasional? Is worship a priority? Do you make every effort to attend the worship of the church every first day of the week? Do you come to worship unless something comes up? Do you “*seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness*” (Matt. 6.33)? Have you let other things take priority?

In Nehemiah 8, Ezra the priest did not need to compel the people to come. The people came to him and “*told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the Law of Moses*” (Neh. 8.1.). Ezra read and explained the Law “*from morning until midday*” and “*all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law*” (Neh. 8.3). After he read, the people “*bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground*” (Neh. 8.6). Look at the desire, respect, and love they had for God and His word!

Worship is not something you do occasionally when you feel like it. Worship is required by God and is an expression of how we feel about God. Your brethren need you here (Heb. 10.24). God desires you here (John 4.23,24). And for the sake of your own spiritual welfare, you need to be here.

CLP