

A GUIDE TO PRAISE

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, His courts with praise."

Praise and thanksgiving please the heart of God. They are the most necessary ingredient in the life of prayer. They are expressions of gratitude, faith, love, and hope. They are the natural response to knowing God and His will and way.

Praise is adoring God for what He is. Thanksgiving is thanking God for what He has done; praise is making love to God; thanksgiving is expressing gratitude. God is to be praised for His character and to be thanked for His actions.

The following suggestions for praise are:

1. Read the Scriptures aloud to God.
(If you cannot do it aloud because of others, then do it in a whisper. But do it to the Lord God.)
2. As praise and thanksgiving arise in your heart, then let it flow spontaneously.
3. Do not try to read all the Scriptures every day. But, it is best to stay in praise and thanksgiving until there is an inner release of your spirit Godward by the Holy Spirit.

Here are some Scriptures that command this:

"Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise of God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His Name." Heb. 13:15

"Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. And He has lifted up a horn for His people, praise for all His godly ones; even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him. Praise the Lord!" Ps. 148: 13, 14

"Let the godly ones exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand, to execute on them the judgment written; this is an honor for all His godly ones. Praise the Lord! Ps. 149: 5, 6, 9