## A Psalm of Worship

Psalm 33

Except for the prayer in verse 22, the entire psalm is devoted to praise and worship. It could be called "A Primer on Worship." It tells us...

- The of worship (v. 1).
- The of worship (vs. 2-4).
- The of worship (vs. 5-19).
- The of worship (vs. 20-22).
- I. The POSITION of worship (Psalm 33:1).
  - A. Their A . *"Rejoice IN THE LORD..."* NOT in the flesh... in education... in your income... in your achievements.
    9:23-24: Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD... 1 Corinthians 1:30— He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.
    - 1. The participants of worship—"*Rejoice IN THE LORD*…" If you are not "*IN THE LORD*" you are outside the perimeters where worship occurs. You cannot participate in worship if you are not "*IN THE LORD*."
    - 2. You cannot rejoice IN something that you are not in yourself!
  - B. Their A C D . <u>Two qualifications</u>: If you are going to *"rejoice in the Lord,"* you must...
    - 1. **F** , be "*IN the Lord*." A new song (v. 3) must come from a new heart. New songs are usually rejected by "*the old man*."
    - 2. , be RIGHT with the Lord!
  - C. Their **F G AD A** *−*"...for praise is comely..." →Worship is to due Him! It is
    - 1. ...who have been <u>saved</u> by grace to praise God for His grace.
    - 2. ...who have been <u>forgiven</u> of their sins to praise God for His forgiveness.

3. ...who have been <u>given eternal life</u> to praise God for giving them eternal life!

Something is very wrong with anyone who has been the recipient of God's blessings and does not continually praise God for those blessings!

## II. The PRACTICE of worship (Ps. 33:2-4).

- This is not private worship, but public worship of a gathering of people at the sanctuary.
- A.  $\mathbf{G}$  He deserves our all and our best.
  - 1. Skillfully. Most instruments require both hands when played skillfully.
  - Enthusiastically—"with a LOUD NOISE"—Like at football game.
     ▶You cannot tell by the loudness of the horn how much gas is in the tank, but a horn that doesn't sound is a good indication that battery is dead!
- B. **F** (v. 4a). Worship must be done according to the truth of God's Word (John 4:24).
  - Songs must be Scriptural— Not all religious songs are true. No singer should sing a "lie" anymore than a preacher should preach a lie.
  - Singers must live what they sing.
     God will not accept our singing if what we are singing is not true or we are living a lie.

## III. The POINT of worship.

• Attenders who ask after a church service: "

?" The <u>real questions</u> should be: "What did God think of the service? Was God pleased with my worship of Him today?"

- A. Worship must be God-centered, not man-centered. Our focus must be to *"worship HIM in spirit and in truth"* (John 4:24; Rev. 22:9).
- B. God is mentioned in every verse in Psalm 33 except one (v. 16).
  - 1. We worship Him for the **D** (v. 4). The greater your understanding of God's Word will deepen your

knowledge of God. And the greater your knowledge of God, the more manifest your worship experience will be (John 4:20-24).

- 2. We worship Him for the (vs. 4-9). We stand in awe of His creation!
  ▶vs. 6—God spoke the universe into being (Heb. 11:3; Gen. 1). v. 9—"*He spake, and it was done!*"
- We worship Him for the D (vs. 10-17). His counsel is sure. He is our *"wonderful Counselor."* We don't have to look at the alinement of the stars to know what career to choose... who to marry... what church to attend.

Dr. Craig Conner tells of a marriage counselor who called him seeking referrals. Upon checking him out, he discovered this professional marriagecounselor had been married four times. I've got a better counselor!

4. We worship Him for the A C -CA E (vs. 13-19). He keeps His eye on what the saints are doing—our downsitting and uprising (Ps. 139:2)—and what the sinners are doing to the saints! *"He considereth all their works"* (v. 15).

A (vs. 20-22): The Psalm ends as it begins, with rejoicing. Worship prepares our heart for the days ahead because true worship produces an inner joy. *"The joy of the Lord is my strength."* I have strength to face the trials of life by the joy I received from my worship of the Lord.

- He is my HELP (v. 20— ... he is our help... ).
- He is my HAPPINESS (v. 21— ...our heart shall rejoice in him...).
- He is my HOPE (v. 22— We hope in thee...).