

WORSHIP AND THE POWER OF MUSIC – Erica Ketchum

1: WE WERE CREATED TO WORSHIP AND GLORIFY GOD

Scripture:

- Isaiah 43:7 Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”
- Isaiah 43:21 The people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.
- 1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, his own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- 1 Corinthians 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
- Psalm 66:4 All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.” Selah

Adam in the garden. The first priest. Not a farmer.

- Genesis 2:15 says God placed Adam in the Garden “to cultivate it and to keep it.” The two Hebrew words for “cultivate and keep” (respectively, ‘ābād and šāmar) are usually translated “serve and guard.” When these two words occur together later in the OT without exception they have this meaning and refer either to Israelites “serving and guarding/ obeying” God’s word (about 10 times) or, more often to priests who “serve” God in the temple and “guard” the temple from unclean things entering it (Num 3:7-8; 8:25-26; 18:5-6; 1 Chron 23:32; Ezek 44:14)
- Ministry to God (priestly duty) was the role of the “First Adam”. Now, the honorable position belongs to the “second Adam”, Jesus Christ, our high priest forever. (Ps.2)

God does give us dreams and divine individual purposes and assignments for time here on earth. He gives us gifting and anoints us for specific things. But **WORSHIP is eternal**. Glorifying God is primal and foundational. It will go on, and other ministries will cease (1 Cor. 13:8). It is a core identity and purpose for our lives.

2: WHAT IS WORSHIP?

The English word “worship” comes from worth ship. That is, worship is showing, or displaying the worth of God.

Other definitions:

- A Focus or fixation - of your mind, heart, will, body, emotions, eyes, time, money, all encompassing life
- Response to revelation of God
- Whatever you adore or treasure (where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matt. 6:21)
- Whatever you exalt as high or lofty
- A reverent honor or paying homage to a God

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Biblical Worship has an inner essence, and an external expression:

Matthew 15:8–9: “These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me.

We worship God authentically when we know him truly and treasure him rightly **in our hearts**. Then the word “worship” refers to that inner valuing, becoming visible in the world in two basic ways in the New Testament.

- 1) **Acts of the mouth:** acts of praise and repentance in worship services, small group gatherings, or in personal time with the Lord.
- 2) **Acts of love with the body and the hands and the feet:** acts of love that show the supreme value of God by what we are willing to sacrifice for the good of others.
Hebrews 13:15–16. Romans 12:1

John Piper’s summary of worship: “The inner essence of worship is to know God truly and then respond from the heart to that knowledge by valuing God, treasuring God, prizing God, enjoying God, and being satisfied with God above all earthly things. And then that deep, restful, joyful satisfaction in God overflows in demonstrable acts of praise from the lips and demonstrable acts of love in serving others for the sake of Christ.”

God designed us to worship HIM because we will reflect the one we worship. We end up becoming what we behold.

- 2 kings 17:15 (NLT) They rejected his decrees and the covenant he had made with their ancestors, and they despised all his warnings. **They worshiped worthless idols, so they became worthless themselves.** They followed the example of the nations around them, disobeying the Lord’s command not to imitate them. Also (Jeremiah 2:5)
- Roman’s 1:21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking and darkened in their foolish hearts.

Idols of self:

“Friedrich Nietzsche could have been describing Adam, the king of Tyre or all self-centered people—including contemporary humanity, who exalt the self above everything else—when he describes what he calls the “master-morality”:

The noble type of person feels that he determines value, he does not need anyone’s approval, he judges that “What is harmful to me is harmful in itself,” he knows that he is the one who gives honor to things in the first place, he creates values. He honors everything he sees in himself: this sort of morality is self-glorifying.”

This is, in reality, none other than the description of an idolatrous race who makes idols of themselves.”

— G.K. Beale, We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry

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Biblical worship is in SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH

John 4:21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

New revelations to me through meditation in this verse:

- 1) True worshippers worship the Father. They have revelation of their identity as Children of God
- 2) They worship with their spirit, or in spirit. The next verse says God is spirit, and those who worship Him, MUST worship in spirit. It is right and necessary to worship Him in this way.
- 3) They worship in truth. Jesus declares himself as the way the TRUTH and the life. No one comes to the Father except through him. So those who are true worshippers worship “THROUGH” Jesus. Hebrews 10:19 says we enter the most holy place through his blood and the veil of His flesh, and we are cleansed from an evil conscience.
- 4) Also, true worship is based on a right understanding in the truth of God’s nature, and it is a right valuing of God’s worth.
- 5) The Father is seeking out THESE worshippers. He’s looking for you

Worship in SPIRIT:

The contrast Jesus is making to the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4 by this statement is this: you no longer have to be in a physical place, and do specific outward actions of sacrifice to worship God like it was required in the old testament. You now honor and worship him by engaging your spirit. A spirit that has been redeemed to God by the power of Jesus sinless life and His, once and for all, perfect sacrifice.

True Worshipers will worship everywhere, not just in a place of worship. This is what I believe brother Lawrence speaks of in his book “practicing the presence”. Or What John 15 calls “abiding”. This is a continual, moment by moment, learning to worship in my spirit as a lifestyle.

How do I worship with my spirit?

What I understand is that Awareness and Faith are the beginning of access to your spirit.

Gaining an awareness is crucial to worshipping with my spirit: Often I do not engage my spirit because I am not aware, or do not believe that communion with God is available and I think I have to wait for a specific moment for God to engage me. YOU can engage anywhere, and anytime.

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You also must believe, or have faith that you can enter into the most holy place, where God is. That you have been given access to the God behind the veil. It is real. Your spirit and His spirit are one. Him in me, and I in him. My spirit is sealed for redemption, it's the rest of me that is trying to catch up.

When we see him, hear him, feel him, gain revelation of him in our spirit man and our spiritual eyes are opened, It is so natural and easy to worship with our spirit.

Worship in TRUTH:

- 1) Jesus is Truth. Worship through him and according to his word.
- 2) Worship from a place of truth in your own being.

JESUS says I Am TRUTH: Worship through him, And according to his words. What does he say is true worship? What does he call great? Are you measuring your life up to the measuring stick of the word of God? Are you resting in the confidence of what Christ has done to purify you and bring you close to him through his sacrifice and blood, or are you striving in your own strength? What does he say is “pleasing” to him?

Worshiping in truth also means worshiping from a place of truth. No lies. No deception in your inner man. That prayer that David prays in Psalm 51 about having truth in the inward parts in a great place to start.

4: THE POWER OF MUSIC

- God Loves music
- Heaven is filled with music (Rev. 4,???)
- Music moves the heart differently than speaking. It awakens emotions
- Your voice, your music, matters and is different from any other.
- Music is powerful, Especially when you use it for worship.
- Music has the power to cause you to connect, feel, heal, & impacts memory.
- Thus, the Enemy wants to silence your worship through singing and music.

Have you ever thought about Jesus being an excellent singer, song writer, and musician?

- Zeph: 3:17- Tells us that our God sings over us.
- Psalm 29 reveals that His voice is powerful and majestic.
- Revelation 15:3-4 tells us that Jesus has his own special song called “the song of the Lamb”.
- Job 38:7 tells us that music existed in the heavenly realms even before creation.
- The whole book of Psalms was inspired BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

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Mike Bickle- “Anointed music has and always will be a means of communion and connection between God and His creatures above and below. It moves Human affections in the deepest way.”

Throughout the scriptures we are exhorted to sing. YOU yourself have to sing. Only you can give God the song of your heart and the unique sound of your voice.

Musicians:

Prophetic musicians bring power, revelation, and anointing for the spirit to move.

Prophetic Musicians Matter:

The scriptures exhort the instruments to play skillfully before God.

Also, When David had his heavenly blueprint of the place of meeting with God (or the tabernacle) he employed 4000 full time musicians and 288 singers. David himself is one of the most anointed musicians (or Minstrels) we see in scripture. Just by playing, not singing a word, he was able to cause the evil and oppressive spirit on Saul to depart.

In 2 kings we read of Elisha the prophet being sought after to give a word from the Lord as to what ought to be done on behalf of three kings who bonded together to come against Moab. He had a holy indignation against two of the unrighteous kings and only was going to do it for the sake of the one righteous king, Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah. So he wasn't in the best frame of mind. What does he do?

2 Kings 3:15- “But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him.”

Musicians also have a unique ability to uncover mysteries.

Ps. 49:4- I will turn my ear to a proverb; with the harp I will expound the riddle”-NIV
New king James says “ I will disclose my dark saying on the harp”

**THE HEART OF WORSHIP FLOWING THROUGH MUSIC = POWER, CLARITY, and
PROPHETIC ANOINTING**