

Worship God

The Theology and Practice of Worship (Part Twelve)

Sing Praises to God

Why do we sing?

- *God gave us singing to more fully savor and express His inexhaustible glory*
 - singing enables the word of Christ to dwell richly within us
 - singing enables us to respond fully to God and His works

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

- *Learning from the Psalms*
 - the book of Psalms is a collection of inspired songs of praise in response to God
 - the book of Psalms informs our praise of God but it does not exhaust it

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

- *“Praise” in the Psalms*
 - there are at least 16 different Hebrew words for praise used in the Psalms
 - praise in the Psalms is always vocal and public never silent and private
 - there are two forms of Psalms: *Praise Psalms* and *Lament Psalms*

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

1. Truth about God
 - a) Praise for who He is (*His nature*)
 - His attributes (especially “loyal love” – *hesed*)
 - His name – “*Yahweh*”
 - His incomparability

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

1. Truth about God
 - b) Praise for what He does (*His works*)
 - creation, sovereign rule, provision, protection, deliverance, forgiveness, healing, guidance, care, response to prayer
 - redemption/salvation – “the gospel”

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

2. Our response to God

- expressions of emotions – love, joy, delight, gratitude, fear, sorrow, peace
- expressions of the desire/commitment to praise the Lord
- expressions of longing for God, especially the cry for deliverance

Sing Praises to God

What do we sing?

3. Summons to praise God

- commanding others to praise God – commending the worth of God (“*hallelujah*” – command)

Sing Praises to God

How should we sing?

➤ *the moods of the Psalms*

- exuberant, excited celebration
- sober, humble reverence and adoration
- intense longing and desperation