

Praise The Lord!

Jesus said **Mark 11:22-26:**

Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

God's Word reveals His will for our lives, and it teaches us how to receive from Him and how to change mountains into miracles and blessings. It's very important for us as believers, to know how to appropriate the promises of God so that we can receive what we need from Him and have every one of our needs met.

Mark 11:23 is to be used to speak to problems in Jesus' Name. **(For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.)**

Mark 11:24 is known as "The Prayer of Faith". **(Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.)** This scripture is to be prayed to God in Jesus' Name. It is a requirement that when you pray the prayer of faith, you believe that you have received what you prayed for when you prayed. This prayer also requires that when you speak to a mountain and give the faith decree and command, you believe it is done, in Jesus' Name.

After a person has taken authority over a situation, or has prayed about the situation, it's very important that they stay in faith and not waver or wonder. The scriptures say:

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. 1 Timothy 6:12

I James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that

giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. James 1:1-8

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5

(For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 2 Corinthians 5:7

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; Ephesians 6:13, 14

It's our responsibility, as believers, to believe that after we have asked for or claimed something, it is finished and that it is a 'done deal'. We have the responsibility to continually fight the good fight of faith by resisting thoughts of doubt, fear, unbelief, and anything else that would cause us to doubt. Doubting is wavering. James says that when a person doubts, they're not going to receive anything from the Lord. So, to help us stay in faith until the blessing manifests, God gave us scriptures to stand on. These scriptures help us stay single-minded and in the arena of faith.

Abraham and Sarah are two of the best examples that we have in the New Testament of people staying in faith. This is found in Romans 4:17-21:

17(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

What did Abraham do to keep his mind on the promise that God had made him, and how did he continue to stand and keep himself in faith? He only considered what God said about the situation and he kept giving glory and praise to God.

In John 11:41, 42, it says, Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. For Jesus to keep His faith applied, He gave thanks and praise to God. When they told Him that Lazarus was dead, Jesus stayed in faith by maintaining an attitude of thanksgiving and praise.

Paul and Silas were in jail in Acts Chapter 16 for ministering to a woman and setting her free from the devil, as we read below:

16And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: **17**The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. **18**And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.... **22**And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. **23**And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison... **25**And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. **26**And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. **27**And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. **28**But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. **29**Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, **30**And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? **Acts 16:16-30**

Verse 25 says that Paul and Silas not only prayed, but they also sang praises unto God. Notice that their miracle and answer came while they were praising God. Sometimes, we believers can get behind in our thanksgiving to God. Psalm 22:3 says that God inhabits the praise of His people. Your habitation is where you live. When we begin to praise and thank God, there is something that expedites the hand of God in our lives and causes Him to move. We're not thanking God for the problem; we are thanking Him for His Word and that we believe He has heard our prayer. We are thanking Him that we believe we have the answer and that we're healed, delivered, and set free. We are thanking Him that we have whatever we've prayed for.

I became acquainted with praising God when I got saved . The church I was saved in put a lot of emphasis on praising the Lord. It was just a common occurrence to always hear people say, "Praise the Lord". I wanted to praise the Lord, but I didn't know how. I just didn't know what to say. So I got a hold of some scriptures that talked about praising God, and I began to quote and and memorize them. They were of great assistance then, as well as today, to help me adequately praise the Lord. Praise is to be offered up to God as a sacrifice and as an act of gratitude. It's a way that we can express our faith. Praising and thanking God is a way to keep us in faith, and it also

helps to keep our mind and our attention focused on God. Your mind needs something good and wholesome to think about and listen to. Otherwise, you become weak and distracted and lured away from faith into fear and doubt.

The Bible says in 1 Timothy 2:8, I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 111

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. Hebrews 13:15

As we lift our hands to God and sacrifice praises from our lips to God in Jesus' Name, we're showing God that we reverence Him. We're ministering to the Lord as well as to ourselves.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Colossians 3:16, 17

It's easy for us to drift away from believing God and to become critical and hard-hearted, but if one continually praises the Lord, their attention stays on Him, and their heart stays tender before the Lord. In Dr. Lilian Yeomans' book, 1Healing from Heaven, she has a chapter entitled, "The Praise Cure". In her book, she relates remedies and concoctions she heard about when she was a medical doctor that were supposed to cure anything. But, very few ever seemed to work, let alone always work. When Dr. Yeomans became a born-again, spirit-filled child of God, she found something that did cure everything: putting quality time into praising and thanking God and worshiping Him. She gave several testimonies of people who had incurable diseases, such as tuberculosis and small pox, who got healed through praising God and standing on His promises.

I can remember an incident in my own life when I was in Bible school and was suffering a severe financial trial. I was wondering why I hadn't yet gotten the money to pay my bills. I'd stepped out in faith to go to Bible school, because I believed God told me to, and that's seemingly when everything began to fall apart. Then, one day when I had left the administration office and was crossing the parking lot to get to my automobile, the Lord began to speak to my heart as He does to all of us. He said to me, "Son, if you really believed you had this money, you'd be acting like you do". I was acting as though I didn't. It was then that I began to realize that I was wavering because I had gotten over into unbelief. I had prayed according to Mark 11:24, and things only got worse instead of better. I hadn't really believed that I had received. I had gotten sidetracked from God's Word and was walking by sight and not by faith. If I had really believed that the Lord answered my prayer when I prayed, I would have been acting like it. I would have been rejoicing and thanking God.

So, I went back to my apartment and immediately got back to praising and thanking God that I believed I received every one of my requests. I thanked and praised God that I believed I had every one of my needs met, according to Philippians 4:19 and Mark 11:23, 24. One by one, as time went by, God met every need. I had prayed, but I had

gotten out of faith through wavering and wondering, instead of praising, thanking, and believing. It's easy to do, even for a 'Word person' if they are not constantly feeding on the Word and maintaining a fervent prayer life.

It doesn't make any difference whether we are in Bible school every day, or in church every day, or even in full-time ministry-nothing takes the place of your personal time with God and time in His Word. When our prayer and Word time begin to suffer, we too, begin to suffer things God never intended for us to suffer.

If you're in trouble, begin to praise and thank the Lord that you're delivered, according to:

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: Col. 1:13

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

Psalm 91:14, 15

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

If you're experiencing sickness, pain, or disease, begin to thank and praise God that you're healed and whole, according to:

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:17

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. Hebrews 13:15

If you're facing a financial difficulty, begin to thank and praise God that every need is met, and that every bill is paid, according to:

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant. And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long.

Psalm 35:27, 28

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. Psalm 23:1

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8

Read Malachi 3: 10-12 (Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts). Remind the Lord that you're a tither and praise Him and thank Him that you believe that the windows of heaven are opened up to you, that blessings are being poured out to you, and that the one who is devouring your finances has been rebuked. Praise God that you're living in abundance and prosperity, according to:

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 10: 10

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 John 2

Praise and thank God that you are redeemed from poverty and lack, and that wealth and riches are in your house, according to:

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: Galatians 3: 13

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

2 Corinthians 8: 9

Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever. Psalm 112: 3

Thank and praise God that you're an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ Jesus and an heir of Abraham's blessing, according to:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8: 17

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3: 14, 29

Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern

the nations upon earth. Selah. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Psalm 67: 3-5

Thank and praise God that you have the mind of Christ, according to **1 Corinthians 2: 16 (For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ)**. When faced with a lack of ability, begin to thank and praise God that you can do all things through Christ, according to **Philippians 4: 13 (I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me)**.

When faced with worry and anxiety, begin to thank the Lord that you are carefree, worry-free, and that He has your problems because you have cast all your cares upon Him, according to:

Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. Psalm 55: 22

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 1 Peter 5: 7

When you don't know what to do about a situation that you're faced with, or how to pray about it, begin to pray in the spirit and quote **Romans 8:26-28 (Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose)**. Begin to thank and praise God that the Holy Spirit is giving you utterance and helping you pray for those things and areas that you don't exactly know how to pray for as you ought.

KNOW THAT THE MORE TIME YOU PUT INTO PRAYING IN TONGUES AND PRAISING AND THANKING GOD, THE MORE YOU GIVE GOD TO WORK WITH! The same principle is true if you're having difficulty overcoming the flesh, or getting the victory over some sin, or evil habit. Put quality time into praying in the Holy Ghost. Day and night, praise God and thank Him that you're forgiven, delivered, and set free, according to:

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, Jude 20, 24

I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified. Isaiah 43:25, 26

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. Psalm 32:1, 2

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Romans 6:14

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2

WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU NEED GOD TO DO FOR YOU, OR WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU NEED TO GET THROUGH, OR WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU NEED GOD TO HELP YOU OUT OF, EVERYTHING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH PRAYING IN TONGUES, STANDING ON THE PROMISES OF GOD, PLEADING YOUR CASE, HOLDING FAST TO YOUR CONFESSION OF FAITH, CASTING DOWN IMAGINATIONS, REBUKING AND RESISTING THE DEVIL BY SPEAKING THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD IN JESUS' NAME, AND BY CONSTANTLY PRAISING AND THANKING GOD FOR HIS GOODNESS, HIS MERCY, AND FOR YOUR DELIVERANCE/MIRACLE/BLESSING/HEALING/ BREAKTHROUGH OR INCREASE, AND THAT HE HAS HEARD AND ANSWERED YOUR PRAYER, AND THAT YOU ARE WHAT HIS WORD SAYS YOU ARE.

If you are unemployed, thank the Lord that you've got a job, according to Ephesians 4:28: (Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth).

If you are full of fear, begin to thank God that greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world, and the God hasn't given you a spirit of fear, according to:

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 1 John 4:4

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

When you are praising God and worshiping Him and thanking Him, you're not flattering Him or trying to manipulate Him, because He cannot be flattered, nor can He be manipulated. You're putting into practice what the Word of God teaches and you're displaying reverence to the Lord as you praise and thank Him.

Psalm 107:2, 20-22 says, Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions. Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

When we, as individual believers, as well as the whole body of Christ begin to praise the Lord and give thanks unto Him, and show forth His praises in abundance, the sooner we will begin to see the glory of the Lord manifest individually, as well as collectively.

I want to give you some scriptures that will assist you in your faith walk by helping you to learn to praise and thank God.

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1 Peter 2:9

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. Hebrews 13:15

I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies. 2 Samuel 22:4

For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods. 1 Chronicles 16:25

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. Acts 16:25

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Ephesians 5:18-20

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 1 Tim. 2:1, 2, 8

Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. 1 Timothy 4:3-6

I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people. Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the

prosperity of his servant. And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long. Psalm 35:18, 27, 28

Be thou exalted, LORD, in thine own strength: so will we sing and praise thy power. Psalm 21:13

I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:1-3

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Psalm 48:1

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God. Psalm 50:23

Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips: Psalm 63:3-5

Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Psalm 66:1

Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. Psalm 67:5-7

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: Psalm 92:1

Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation. Psalm 111:1

Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments. Psalm 119:164

I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. Psalm 138:2

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified. Isaiah 61:3

Whatever you have prayed for, begin to believe God that you have received it by faith, according to the written word of God. Thank Him and praise him that you believe you have what you have prayed for.

1 Yeomans, Lilian B. M.D. Healing from Heaven, Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing Co; 1994.

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