Praise brings Presence Wednesday November 20, 2024 Dr. Pete Norris

The purpose of praise is to get into your environment. The power of praise is the presence of God at work in your life. Praise acknowledges the reality of who God is.

And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him. (I Samuel 16:23 NKJV)

Saul had to call David continuously to bring the presence of The Lord.

(1) God's presence brings Joy.

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **(Psalms 16:11 NKJV)**

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness. **(Psalms 84:10 NKJV)**

The Spirit of heaviness that hangs on you will lift as God changes your altitudes and perspective with His presence and Joy.

(2) God's presence gives rest.

We wear ourselves out trying to meet responsibilities in our own strength.

And He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth." (Exodus 33:14-16 NKJV)

Rest means "to set one's mind at rest.

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV)

(3) God's presence brings peace.

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. (Isaiah 26:3 NKJV)

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. (I Corinthians 14:33 NKJV)

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all. (II Thessalonians 3:16 NKJV)

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6, 7 NKJV)

(4) God's presence brings blessings.

Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple. **(Psalms 65:4 NKJV)**

Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the Lord, And righteousness from the God of his salvation. (Psalms 24:3-5 NKJV)

(5) God's presence brings power.

When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed

from him. And when Peter had come to himself, he said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people." So, when he had considered this, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying. (Acts 12:10-12 NKJV)

The Saints were praying for Peter.

(6) God's presence brings wisdom.

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

(Ephesians 1:17-23 NKJV)