

WORSHIP STUDIES

MUSIC - WHY MUSIC?

A. Original Worship Leader – Lucifer

Isaiah 14:12-15 “How you are fallen from Heaven...”

Ezekiel 23:13 Settings/Socketts/Engravings
 Tabrets – (Tambourine) Rhythm
 Pipes – Melody

Lucifer set to guard the throne of God Ezekiel 28:14

ROLE: To guard the throne and lead the heavenly hosts in worship
(musical pipes and tabrets)

Through pride and arrogance and a hard heart Lucifer the Chief Worshipper was cast out of heaven.

This should speak to us to be aware that as worshippers/leaders/musicians we must not become proud/arrogant/hard hearted, but remain humble/teachable. Vs 15 ‘...Till wickedness was found in you...’

Many times in worship God reveals motivations of our heart and exposes wickedness. At this point repentance and humility are required or we will become hard hearted towards our Maker

B. Music – A Vehicle to Hearing God Speak

II Kings 3:15 ‘...bring me a minstrel...while the minstrel played, the hand and power of the Lord came upon Elisha...’

I Sam. 16:23 ‘...David would take his harp and play...and the evil spirit would leave him (Saul)’

The heart of a true worshipper / leader / singer / musician will bring about a sweet tender spiritual atmosphere and create an environment for God’s Spirit to speak – which often leads to healing and deliverance amongst those in that particular group of people.

Hearts prepared and open to God are what the Lord requires – Mic. 6:8 ‘...to do justly...love mercy...walk humbly with your God’.
(This is relevant criteria for all worshippers)

C. Music – Hearts focused on God in worship results in God’s Presence

II Chron. 5:11-14 – The people worshipped God with singing and musical instruments – results?

The people could not stand to minister because the cloud of the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

COMMUNION WITH GOD SAFEGUARDS AGAINST CARNALITY IN MINISTRY

Prior to ministering to the Lord it is important to:

A. Look honestly at ourselves

If we are dry, burned out, hold hate, competition or jealousy in our hearts towards others in the church, we will have to cover up for our powerlessness and our worship will not be in truth – Jn 4:24

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If we are honest and openly acknowledge the true state of our hearts and find that wrong motives or attitudes are there – then let us fall to our knees in humility and repentance so that God's love and power may be released in and through us again. *1 Pet 5:5-7*

B. The heart of the matter is our relationship with Jesus Christ – everything else is the overflow of that relationship

Ez 44:10-12, 13 '...they shall not come near to Me to do the office of a priest to Me...'

This scripture speaks of the result of Priests who had focused only on serving the people and had neglected their communion with God. The priests who served the people wore hot, heavy woolen garments – speaks of striving in our own strength

The result of this neglect is that God gave them over to this service however they were not to enter the Holy Place to minister to God.

When the priest ministered to God he was dressed in cool, clean linen garments – speaks of waiting on God and receiving His grace, mercy and righteousness.

C. Carnality in Ministry

Envy, jealousy and competition are the symptoms that surface when we place our expectations and agendas on Jesus.

If we climb the spiritual ladder of successful ministry we run the risk of getting caught up in a competitive spirit – subtly our eyes are off Jesus and immediately our relationship with Him suffers.

We can all get trapped in this way as fallen mankind evaluates their worth and value by what they do and not by who they are in Christ.

Often someone else's successful deeds can really threaten the core of our being.

D. Project orientated / Task orientated

If we as leaders / musicians / singers give ourselves over to projects and tasks as our primary means of establishing our identity in ministry – it will destroy us.

This is because we are operating from a worldly power base and not from a base of the Love of God.

E. Our tasks to be a moment by moment overflow of our relationship with God

Let us be careful of using our title or leadership qualifications as an excuse for competition, envy or jealousy in ministry.

Simply by focusing on our relationship with God and allowing the overflow of His love in our lives to affect our tasks, will see an end of striving, competition and jealousy in our lives.

By focusing on God and our relationship with Him, our lives will no longer be controlled by worldly, carnal agendas and motives, but rather be controlled by God's Holy Spirit – resulting in His love, mercy and grace being released in us and to others around us.

Ministry in the New Testament was not the measurement of somebody's self worth – it was simply the overflow of communion with God and relationship with one another.

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Ministry in the New Testament was the task by task spontaneous overflow of their communion with God and relationship with the apostles.

The New Testament disciples were not called to 'labels,' titles or functions – they did not attach their value or identity to their ministry – *we must not attach our value / worth / identity to ministry.*

We do not only want to be confined to serving people, we want to be able to enter into the Holy Place with God, to minister before Him, hear His voice and receive His nurture, encouragement, provision and discipline.

When we receive God's strength in the 'secret place' (*Ps 91*) – we will minister on the Heavenly Father's terms.

F. Achieving goals do not determine our identity

When we focus on God and our relationship with Him goals become simply measurements of obedience – nothing more, nothing less.

G. What this is all about is that God is calling us back to our 'First Love'

Rev 2:4 '...you have left / abandoned your first love...'

God is calling us as leaders / musicians / singers as examples to His people back to our first love – God Himself.

'First love' – absolute preoccupation / focus with who God is and responding to His calling to Himself and to His people.

Any titles / terms / labels we may be called to 'wear' or have, must be the overflow of what 'First Love' means to us.

H. Any ministry we perform must be the overflow of our communion with God

Matt 6:33 '...but seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you...'

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PROPHETIC IN WORSHIP

'A definition of prophecy is communicating the heart of God in a tangible way'

'Music is a servant to the prophetic anointing of the Holy Spirit'

- A. Our whole aim in our Christian walk should be focused on hearing God's voice whether that be in our personal or public communion with God**

In our worship to God our thanksgiving, praise and petitions – let us be fully expectant in our spirits to receive God's words. In this way God inspires prophetic words through His people.

- B. The ministry of the prophet forms an important aspect of the history of God's redemption**

The apostle Paul urges the Corinthian Church to eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially prophecy – (*I Cor 14:1*)

- C. It is scriptural that people minister prophetically both individually and in groups**

I Sam 10:5,6,10 – Note the prophets came with harp, tambourine, flute and lyre, prophesying as they went. (See also *II Kings 4:38-44; Is 8:16; Jn 1:35; Acts 11:27-28*)

- D. What is the link between musicians and prophets?**

As music is a servant to the prophetic anointing of the Holy Spirit, so music facilitates prophetic utterance (*II Kings 3:15-16; I Sam 10:5*)

The greatest example of the relationship between music and prophecy was King David (*I Sam 16:23*)

David created an amazing array of musical talent in his court and the temple (*I Chron 16:4-7, 25:1-7*)

II Chron 29:25 reveals David had some help from his heavyweight prophetic friends – the prophets were obviously so keenly interested in the music ministry.

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E. New Testament encouragement of the link between prophecy and music

Eph 5:18-19 and Col 3:16 expressly join making melodies of praise with being filled with the Holy Spirit and with the Word of Christ.

F. Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

A variety of probable examples of songs sung in the New Testament letters are as follows:

Eph 5:14; Phil 2:6-11; I Tim 3:16; II Tim 2:11-12; Rev 5:9-10, 15:3-4

In the New Testament it would seem that new hymns and spiritual songs were being created under the unction of the Holy Spirit in the young churches.

A similar manifestation has occurred with each new move of the Spirit down through the centuries of the Church's history.

(A simple way to identify revival and renewal in all denominations is to locate the periods where there was an outbreak of new songs and hymns).

G. Portraying God's heart through prophecy and music

God is wanting to portray His heart to people and humanity.

He did this primarily through Jesus who went about doing good and declared to people
'This is the way God thinks of you.'

God has left the Church to be His mouthpiece and the Church needs to portray His heart.

Portraying the heart of God to humanity is a prophetic thing.

Two major hindrances to be aware of to the spiritual effectiveness of the music ministry are:

1. **Performance** – Musicians, leaders and singers must concentrate on God's heart and His concerns rather than give a 'concert' style performance.
2. **Adulation** – Always remember who we are worshipping and be careful to always give the praise and honour to our great King

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THE PROPHETIC IN WORSHIP – Psalms & Hymns

Ephesians 5:18-19 lists three categories of song and these are used in worship, especially that of a prophetic nature. These three categories are *psalms*, *hymns* and *spiritual songs*.

PSALMS

The first *is psalms*. A psalm is a *spiritual poem* or *ode*. It may rhyme or it may not; however, there is an element of *poetry* about it. It may be sung, chanted, or just recited. They are set in scripture as verses that *sing praises to God*, accompanied by *stringed instruments* (some references are Psalms 33:3, 43:4, 71:22). The New Testament Church accepted and used the worship literature of the Old Testament.

The Book of Psalms was Israel's prayer and songbook. The Scriptures were viewed as God's inspired Word, and worship from this source was first and foremost. Singing psalms was not only to sing the words of the text, but also to sing the inspired utterances of God.

Many of the Psalms were written by David, who had the Holy Spirit upon him, and they tell us what was happening to him – the tests and trials he was going through when that psalm was given to him.

Although some were given to him for his own special benefit, they bless us because they are Spirit-anointed and because we may be going through a similar experience.

As you face the trials of life and various battles, take hold of God's Word in the psalms and let them become your song in the *night seasons*. They will help to build faith in your heart.

Psalm singing was known to be God-glorifying because God's Word was breathed out through the songs. In a psalm, we sing the words of Scripture together around a melody that everyone knows and recognizes.

Discussion:

- 1) Read Psalm 141:1-5 and then discuss the following:
 - i) What do you pick up about prayer and worship from reading Verse 2?
 - ii) Discuss Verses 3 and 4 in the light of how we ought to live.
 - iii) Talk about verse 5 and what you think it means.

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- 2) The shout is an important expression in praise and worship. Look up the following Psalms and talk about what types of shouts you think there are and their significance depending on the type of service.
- i) Psalm 35:27, Psalm 47:5 and Psalm 66:1, Psalm 81:1 – Shout of
 - ii) Psalm 47:1, 47:5 – Shout of

HYMNS

The second category is ***hymns***. The word “hymn” is derived from the Greek *hymnois*, which is the word for a religious song. A hymn is a song of praise and worship addressed to and directed toward God.

In other words, they are songs about HIM. The hymn category goes much farther than the old hymns we're used to. Old or new, a hymn is simply a song with both melody and lyrics that originated in some human being's heart and that the body of Christ has learned to sing together.

While Psalms are praises to God, many of the hymns remind us of God's attributes, what He has done for us, and who He is. They are full of doctrinal teaching and give a lot more depth spiritually than some of the worship choruses that we sing.

Question for Discussion:

Do you think there is a place for regular inclusion of hymns in our worship? If so how often?

Either psalm or hymn can strike us with prophetic force when the Spirit of God moves in the midst of a congregation with prophetic anointing.

It can happen when the worship leader follows the leading of the Spirit to do a psalm or a hymn in a certain way, arranging it to lead us deeper into the presence of the Lord, building up a crescendo, taking us into quiet places responding to the direction of the Spirit of God.

The point is that suddenly that song we've sung so many times before becomes infused with a new anointing that penetrates us in a new way so that we feel things we've never felt before. There comes a new revelation to our hearts of the meaning of the words. The very atmosphere becomes charged with the presence of God and He begins to deal sovereignly with individuals in a revelatory way.

We must always seek to have worship that is Spirit inspired.

Without a Holy Ghost dimension, our worship will be lifeless and be of little effect in bringing people to a fresh encounter with God.

A.C. Dixon says, “When we rely on organization, we get what organization can do. When we rely on education, we get what education can do. When we rely on eloquence, we get what eloquence can do. But when we rely on the Holy Spirit, we get what God can do.”

Group Exercise

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Each person in the group select one or several favourite verses from the Psalms and rephrase them to sing to well-known melodies. The well-known song can be hymns or choruses or other songs that you are totally familiar with.

Example No 1 - Psalm 34:1-4 to the tune of "Amazing Grace". Interpreting it into words to fit the melody would be something like this:

Verse 1

I'll bless the Lord at every time: His praises in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in Him: the humble shall be glad.

Verse 2

O magnify the Lord with me and let's exalt His name. I sought the Lord and He heard me, and saved me from my fears.

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THE PROPHETIC IN WORSHIP - Part 2

THE SPIRITUAL SONG

Previously we considered what psalms and hymns were. This time we will look at the 'Spiritual Song'.

The term 'song of the Lord' (Spiritual Song) is referred to in the Old Testament in 2 Chronicles 29:27. The spiritual song (the New Testament) or *song of the Lord* (which is another name for the spontaneous song), is a powerful way God can speak to us during times of worship.

They can be for praise, prophecy, warfare, healing or deliverance. The Song of the Lord is prophecy in song. It may contain a word from the Lord to man, or from man to the Lord.

It is the Holy Spirit speaking or singing in the midst of His church (Ps 22:22). In other words, it comes as a song from the Spirit of God and not from the heart of man - although it may come *through* a human vessel and be coloured by the heart through which it comes.

This differs from a Song of Praise, which is your evaluation of God and according to your limited knowledge, you then express yourself. It is how the individual feels about God. The Song of the Lord is very much what it says it is – the Lord's Song.

It must be based upon the Word of God, so it is therefore important to learn the Word so that the Holy Spirit can quicken it to you in times of worship.

The content of the Song of the Lord is going to be only as powerful as the Word of God in your life and the outworking of the life of the Spirit in your daily life.

Everybody can sing the Song of the Lord all at once and there should be a time in all our times of worship where we allow expression of the Song of the Lord. A spiritual song is usually not a song we have sung before or that we all know.

Sometimes the words declare what God is doing among the people in that moment. Often, the prophetic song imparts blessing in some area of our lives. God Himself dictates the spiritual song in the moment, in the flow of our worship, because He Himself has something to say or to accomplish in us. It is prophetic because it goes forth with a purpose.

Quite often in our services, the spiritual song doesn't seem to develop beyond the level of an individual expression into that of a corporate expression and participation.

The spontaneous part of the worship service can consist of a few individuals successively singing or playing songs of praise or prophetic exhortation while the others recede into a position of audience.

The musical texture is often a single line melody sung by an individual with perhaps the accompaniment of the rhythm section or a single instrument. Thus the basic musical elements are under the control (or limitation) of one or two individuals at any given time.

It is understandable why this music would soon exhaust its freshness, since it would probably lack the contrast that makes music interesting.

In I Corinthians 14:31 we read, "that all may prophesy." This is consistent with passages such as Numbers 11:29 and Joel 2:28, which indicate God's plan that His people be a prophetic nation.

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~~God wants to place a prophetic cloud upon all people who dwell in Zion, the place of worship (Isaiah 4:5). In I Corinthians 14:32, Paul states that “the spirit of the prophets are subject to the prophets.” Thus, God places the burden of responsibility on the individual to administer the prophetic message properly.~~

Job 32:8 says that God’s spirit gives us understanding through inspiration.

1 Chronicles 25:6 points out that the elements of music were governed under chief musician/prophets in the Jewish temple. This same principle can be applied today as we learn skill in the ‘Song of the Lord.’

There are a number of different types of spiritual songs:

- i) **A Song of the Lord directed to the Body** – for edification exhortation and comfort. The Song of the Lord can be for the edification and encouragement of the people.
- ii) **A Song of Victory and Deliverance from the Enemy** – “Thou art my hiding place; Thou shalt preserve me from trouble and compass me about with song of deliverance” (Ps 32:7). This was the case when the enemy oppressed Saul, and David sang and played songs of deliverance over him. Also, Moses’ song of victory in Exodus 15:1-2.
- iii) **A Song of Healing** - “He sent forth His Word and healed them and delivered them from all their dross” (Ps.107:20).
- iv) **A Song of Love and Adoration from the Individual to the Lord**
When bringing forth the Song of the Lord, we must be able to distinguish between songs that are for our own personal edification and songs that will bless the Body as a whole.

OTHER TYPES OF SPIRITUAL SONGS

- Songs focusing on God’s sovereignty (King of Kings)
- Songs about God’s character (His love, His grace, All knowing etc)
- Songs praising God’s name (the name of Jesus)
- Songs about God’s Word (His Word as our daily bread)
- Songs in the Night (through the trials and difficult times)

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RESTORATION OF THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID

A. What is the Tabernacle of David?

The Tabernacle of David is the name given to the tent that King David set up on Mount Zion in Jerusalem to house the Ark of the Covenant. It was the center of a new order of joyful worship, which stood in sharp contrast to the solemn worship of Moses' Tabernacle.

- Instead of the sacrifices of animals, the sacrifices offered at David's Tabernacle were the sacrifices of praise, joy and thanksgiving (*Psalm 95:2, 100:4, 141:2*).
- The Tabernacle of David is a type of the worship of the Church. Jesus fulfilled the sacrificial system of the Old Covenant by His death on the cross (*Hebrews 1:3, 7:27, 9:12, 9:24-28*).
- The sacrifices of the Church, the New Covenant priesthood, are the sacrifices of praise, joy and thanksgiving (*Hebrews 13:15, 1 Peter 2:9*).
- In addition to the worship of the Church, the Tabernacle of David points to the proclamation and authority of Christ through His Church, thus foreshadowing the priestly, kingly and prophetic ministries of the Church (*Revelation 1:6, 5:10, 19:10, Acts 2:17, 1 Corinthians 14:1,3-5, 24-25, 29, 39*).

B. Wasn't the Ark of the Covenant housed in the Temple?

Not always. The Ark of the Covenant was originally housed in the Tabernacle of Moses (also called the Tabernacle of the Congregation).

In the year 1050 B.C., David brought the Ark to Jerusalem and placed it in a tent, the Tabernacle of David (*2 Samuel 6, 1 Chronicles 13-16*).

The Ark stayed in David's Tabernacle for 40 years until it was moved into the Temple built and dedicated by David's son Solomon in 1010 B.C. (*2 Chronicles 5-7*).

C. What does the Tabernacle of David have to do with us today?

Plenty. The prophet Amos spoke of the Church - he said "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old." (*Amos 9:11*) This prophecy was interpreted by the leaders of the first century Church as being fulfilled in their day.

"And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me: Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things. Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world." (*Acts 15:13-18*)

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~~James quotes from Amos 9 to show that the salvation of the Gentiles is a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, and that they were living during the time of the restoration of the Tabernacle of David.~~

- The Apostles knew that the Church was the restored Tabernacle of David, the place where Christ is worshiped, speaks prophetically and exercises His authority.
- The result of the Church flowing in Davidic worship, prophecy and authority was a great harvest of souls

D. What is meant by Davidic Worship?

The phrase "Davidic worship" simply means worship in the spirit of the Tabernacle of David, that is, worship that is an act of the whole person, not just the intellect.

The worship in David's Tabernacle included:

- Ministry of Singers and Singing (*I Chron. 15:16-27,25:1-7*)
- Ministry of Musicians with Instruments (*I Chron. 23:5,25:1-7*)
- Ministry of Thanking the Lord (*I Chron. 16:4,8,41*)
- Ministry of Praise (*I Chron. 16:4, 36*)
- Ministry of Psalms (*I Chron. 16:9; Ps. 98:6*)
- Ministry of Rejoicing and Joy (*I Chron. 16:10,16,25-31*)
- Ministry of Clapping of Hands (*Ps. 47:1, 98:8; Is. 55:12*)
- Ministry of Shouting (*I Chron. 15:28; Ps. 47:1,5; Is. 12:6*)
- Ministry of Dancing (*I Chron. 15:29; II Sam. 6:14; Ps. 149:3, 150:4*)
- Ministry of Lifting up of Hands (*Ps. 134, 141:2*)
- Ministry of Worship (*I Chron. 16:29; Ps. 29:1-2, 95:6*)

Davidic worship fulfills the command of Jesus to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength" (*Mark 12:30*).

E. What are the Key Scriptures concerning the Tabernacle of David?

The establishment of David's Tabernacle is described in 2 Sam.6 and 1 Chron. 13-16. From these passages we see that:

- David prepared a place for the Ark (*1 Chr. 15:1*)
- The Levites sanctified themselves for their ministry (*1 Chr. 15:14*) which was to carry the Ark and minister to the Lord (*1 Chr. 15:2*)
- All Israel joined in the procession (*1 Chr. 15:3*)
- Marked by joyful instrumental and vocal music (*1 Chr. 15:16-21*)
- Marked by dancing (*2 Sam. 6:14, 1 Chr. 15:29*).
- Despite all of this, the celebration was not without its detractors (*2 Sam. 6:16, 1 Chr. 15:29*)

F. Singing the Psalms

- The majority of the Psalms were originally sung as prophetic songs in David's Tabernacle.

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- ~~• They account in detail the expressions of worship offered by the Israelites before the Ark of the Covenant.~~
- In addition, they describe the full range of human emotions revealed in the presence of God, from deepest despair to highest joy.
- The righteous kings of Israel that followed David reestablished Davidic worship within the context of Temple worship. These revivals of Davidic worship paved the way for spiritual renewal and military victory.

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G. Every revival includes Davidic Worship

- Times of revival and victory were under:
 - Solomon (2 Chr. 5-7) - 101 B.C.
 - Jehoshaphat (2 Chr. 20) - 896 B.C.
 - Joash (2 Chr. 23-24) - 835 B.C.
 - Hezekiah (2 Chr. 29-30) - 726 B.C.
 - Josiah (2 Chr. 35) - 623 B.C.
 - Ezra (Ezra 3:10-13) - 536 B.C.
 - Nehemiah (Neh. 12:28-47) - 446 B.C.
- The Old Testament prophecies that specifically mention the Tabernacle of David are:
 - Isaiah 16:5
 - Amos 9:1-12.
- Numerous additional prophecies concerning the coming of Messiah and His kingdom that refer to Zion, the mountain of the Lord, the glory of the Lord and other images that are obvious references to the Tabernacle of David:
 - Isaiah 2:2-5, 9:2-7, 35, 40:1-5, 60:1-3, 61, 62
 - Jeremiah 33:10-22
 - Micah 4:1-2
 - Haggai 2:6-7.

H. New Testament Worship

The New Testament contains many quotes by Jesus and the Apostles of passages from the Psalms and Prophets.

Several of these quotes contain prophecies concerning the coming of Messiah to reign on David's throne.

- In speaking of the incarnation, John writes that Jesus *tabernacled* among us (*Jn 1:14*).
- The Church is referred to as the temple of God (*1 Cor. 3:16, Eph. 2:19-22*).
- The Tabernacle of David is specifically mentioned in Acts 15:16-17 as being fulfilled by the Church.

I. Davidic worship not limited to the Old Testament.

The New Testament tells us:

- To sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (*Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16*)
- To offer to God the sacrifice of praise (*Heb. 13:15*).
- To sing in the spirit (*1 Cor. 14:15*)
- To lift holy hands in prayer (*1 Tim. 2:8*)

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J. Heavenly Worship

The book of Revelation records scene after scene of heavenly worship that includes:

- Shouting (Rev. 19:1)
- "Hallelujahs" (Rev. 19:7)
- Singing the new song (Rev. 5:9)
- Bowing (Rev. 4:10).

K. The restoration of the Tabernacle of David is a sign that we are in the Last Days

The Bible refers to the time of the Old Covenant as the *former days* and the time of Messiah, the New Covenant era, as the *latter days*.

The First century Christians understood that they were living in the last days, the age of Messiah's kingdom. Jesus came to build His Church, to gather a people out of every nation to worship and serve Him. Jesus continues to build His Church, the restored Tabernacle of David, and we continue to live in the last days.

While it is true the restoration of David's Tabernacle has received renewed emphasis during the second half of the 20th century, we must remember that there have been those throughout Church history who have embraced the principles of Davidic worship, proclaimed the word of the Lord and worked to advance His kingdom.

God has always had a people who ministered as prophets, kings and priests.

L. Is this restoration something all Christians can participate in?

The restoration of David's Tabernacle is not the exclusive property of Charismatics, Pentecostals or Messianic Jews. It is for Anglican, Assemblies of God, Baptist, Catholic, Evangelical, Lutheran, Methodist, Nazarene, Non-denominational, Orthodox and Presbyterian churches.

It is for Jews and Gentiles, Asians, Africans and Caucasians - Christians from every race.

Davidic worship is not for only one culture or ethnic group - Jesus has redeemed us from "every tribe and language and people and nation" (Rev. 5:9) to be a kingdom of priests to serve Him and minister to Him in worship.

Raising hands in worship is not a Charismatic style of worship, it is a Bible style of worship (Ps. 134:2).

Spirit-filled worship is not a Pentecostal way of worship, it is a Christian way of worship (Eph. 5:18-20).

The Father seeks worshipers who will worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24).

The restoration of the Tabernacle of David is a restoration of worship in spirit and truth.

M. How can I be a part of this Restoration?

- Study the scriptures relating to the Tabernacle of David
- Begin to practice the principles of Davidic worship in your own home.
- Add a time of praise and worship - ministry to the Lord - to your private devotional life of Bible reading, meditation and prayer

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- ~~• On a corporate level - come ready to do your part in offering the sacrifice of praise to Jesus.~~

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CLEANSSED WORSHIP

God's new temple today is no longer the temple in Jerusalem, nor is it a chapel, a sanctuary or a church building. "Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit", says Paul (1 Corinthians 6:19), and "You altogether are God's house (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Both individually and together as God's people, our lives make up his temple. But as the living Lord looks into the temple of your life and the life of your church fellowship, what does He see? Is He pleased? Is He grieved? Is He angry?

Does He see your temple as a place of prayer and worship, or has it become filled up with other things that will destroy your relationship with God or things that have crowded out prayer and the presence of God.

What are some of the things that can affect our lives as a place of worship?

i) *What We Read, Listen to, Watch and spend Time With*

There are so many things that can affect our spiritual lives if we allow them to. *Proverbs 4:23* "Keep your heart with all diligence for out of it spring the issues of life".

We can look spiritual; we look holy, **but what is inside?** How are the temple walls of our heart? What goes in, is what we become? (what do we watch on TV or video, what CDs do we listen to, what things do we read and meditate on and who do we spend time with?) Remember that what we watch through the 'eye -gate' we will eventually pursue.

Read Romans 12:1-2 and see what Paul has to say.

Discuss in the group, things that can become a blockage to a deeper relationship with God.

Has God been speaking to you in regard to any things in your life you need to get rid of?

ii) *Our Attitude Towards Others On The Team Or In Our Services?*

Matthew 5:23-24 By what Jesus is saying here, we can see, that as a barricade to bringing our offering of acceptable worship, is the lack of forgiveness towards another person.

Romans 12:18 "If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all."

Efforts of reconciliation must come before worship.

While we harbour a bad attitude towards another person, we are giving the enemy an opportunity in our lives to gain a foothold.

If we have anything in our heart towards someone else on the Worship Team or in the Congregation, we cannot expect God's blessing on our worship. We must immediately get that relationship right so that we don't allow a root of bitterness and so that our worship will not be hindered.

Read Eph. 4:31-32 and discuss in the group situation where God has helped you to overcome a wrong attitude towards another person.

Is there any one in the group that you need to be reconciled with?

iii) *Your Circumstances Or A Busy Life Style*

WORSHIP STUDIES

~~Don't use your circumstances or busy life as an excuse for not building the temple of your heart.~~

It is time to regain our focus and put off the things that distract or take our focus.

There will always be things that will try and rob us of our moments with God. See them as a distraction and make sure you don't allow anything to stop you building your life as a fit habitation for God.

Are there things in your life at present (maybe your job, your ministry, girl or boyfriend, your family) that are distracting you from building a deeper life in God?

Discuss this together and talk through ways of how you have been able to change the problem of distractions in your life.

It is time to build up the temple of our lives – A fit habitation for God through worship, prayer, a love for each other (unity of spirit), and constant renewing of the mind.

For this to happen, we must **obey** God's voice to begin to repair the temple of our lives. God considers obedience far more important than what we might achieve for Him.

It is time not to just talk about what we should be doing but to **act**. God can give us renewed desire, but we are the ones who must discipline ourselves into action. We must move beyond **desire into discipline**.

We have the promise that **He will draw near to us as we make a move towards Him.**
LET'S DO IT!

WORSHIP STUDIES

THE CHRIST CENTRED MUSICIAN

1. **Be sure of your calling and walk in a manner worthy of your calling.**
Is 30:21; Gal 5:13. Our calling is to be our lifestyle. It is who we are that worships God, and our fruitful lives.
2. **The key to worship is the real understanding of God and who He is.** Our worship will be a response based on that understanding. If we can learn more of God's grace, kindness, love, patience, mercy, love for us, then our lives as musicians and worshippers will change and the world will see Jesus through us. *Eph 3:18; Ps 66*
3. **Walk In Love.**
1 Cor 13 says love is the basis of our very life and therefore our worship. We need to revive our love for Jesus, love is always looking to give.
4. **Walk In Unity Phil 2:1-5**
 - Need a heart for unity – anyone can pour out problems – strive to be part of the answer
 - Encouraging one another – avoid criticism
 - Preferring one another – in humility regard others and their feelings more important than your own
 - Helping one another – look out for others needs spiritual and natural
 - Honouring one another – avoid gossip
 - FORGIVING one another – as we learn of Gods grace and forbearance for ourselves we can begin to extend it to others
5. **Walk of Sacrifice**
David was a true worshipper and said He would not offer to God that which cost him nothing. *2 Sam 24:2*
We need to sacrifice out time, energy, our opinions and talent so that we can fulfill our calling according to Gods ways for our life – not our own. *Heb 13:15-16*
6. **Walk of Commitment**
We need to honour God with the same commitment that Jesus displayed for us. Jesus was committed to sacrifice. There is no room for luke-warmness *Ps 103*. David starts off complaining but ends up rejoicing. We must learn to live our worship and not hide behind excuses.
7. **Walk in right Motivation.**
God needs musicians who will say and think “at last this is my opportunity to help God fulfill His mission in the Church. This was Jesus’ attitude and motivation on earth.

If our goal is to please God then we can be teachable and open to change. *2 Cor 5:19*. If our motivation is toward self protection or being noticed then we will be self-centered in our worship.
8. **Walk in Humility**
Remember who we are in Christ – God usually starts with nothing - but in Christ we have to offer all we allow Him to give us.

1 Peter 5:6 & Rom 12:3 True worshippers walk in humility and know that they have no right to be on stage – they are there by God’s grace and calling and it is a privilege to serve the one true God.

WORSHIP STUDIES

~~As musicians this means listening to each other, not trying to sing or play louder than others.~~ If all we can hear is ourselves (and our own opinions) then we are not worshipping – we are making noise. Some indications or attitudes that ego is at the centre of our worship instead of Christ are:

- jealousy and competition
- critical spirit
- difficulty submitting
- loss of love for God and others
- discouragement and frustration
- “I’m not being used enough”
“the worship leader or others don’t listen to me”
“so and so doesn’t like me/the way I do something”
nobody notices me – I’m not as important as others”

These and other attitudes are self-indulgent and need to be dealt with, by allowing God to touch and heal us.

The solution to the ego-controlled life is:

- Confess our sin and idolatry of self, gifts etc...
- Yield our life and gifts to God again.
- By faith receive and recognize Christ’s right to control our lives, after all, that’s what we invited Him to do. God doesn’t make mistakes when He hands out gifts and callings, you are who you are to the glory of God!

9. **In humility let us always be willing and striving to improve our craft and skills.**

We are accountable to enlarge our abilities and ourselves as a reasonable and acceptable service to God. Rom 12:1, Heb 12:28.

10. **Walk of Faith.**

Obedience to God’s calling, God’s Word, God’s chosen authority can be difficult at times but with obedience comes great blessing.

Our faith is that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Phil 4:13, 1 Tim 1:12

Without faith it is impossible to please Him.

Heb 11:6

If we are walking a Christ centered life then we can have faith that God is pleased with us and will use us. If we encounter tough times in our calling then we can have faith that God works everything together for good for those that love Him and are called according to His purpose. Rom 8:28.

Eph 1:18 Let’s pray that God reveals to us the hope of our calling (to live in His wisdom & strength) and never cease to give God thanks.

WORSHIP STUDIES

Releasing Singers and Musicians into Ministry

To release others into God's best, it is important that we ourselves are secure and do not become intimidated by others who may have a better voice, musical skill, musical understanding than we do.

When we are leading God's precious people whether it be music ministry or other, it is helpful that we teach, instruct and admonish those in our team with kindness and courtesy – the way we would like to be treated.

To release those in your team into ministry:

- Encourage – People respond amazingly to genuine encouragement. Often those you least expect will rise to a challenge as a result of encouragement
- Create a safe place in your team – If people feel safe when involved in a team ministry they will more likely achieve goals and challenges. It is easy to be negative, however building a place where people are treated graciously will naturally encourage others to step out and accomplish goals knowing they won't be ridiculed.
- Use people with better skills to assist – Never be afraid to ask someone with better skills to show others how to sing or play a particular song. This will help that person as they give of their talent and also helps the team to achieve greater things.
- Practice worshipping together – Out of these times of worshipping God together will flow prophetic words for the Church, team or individual. By encouraging our teams to worship and being active worshippers ourselves, we position ourselves in God's Hands allowing Him to deal in our lives as He wants
- Encourage others to share goals, vision, new songs – In doing this we are able to support that person in their vision and help them move towards what God has shown them.
- Pray for that person – God will speak to them of those issues that He wants to deal with in their lives. Praying for others often changes our hearts towards others and a greater sense of unity can develop.
- Ensure music practices are fun as well as productive – People will naturally build a greater bond of unity when they are enjoying practicing music
- Always build the team member up positively – The team member will grow rapidly both spiritually and emotionally and be a greater help to others as a result – this is one aspect of building a leader

By building leaders we are discipling others and are being used by God to build the Church. In this way those we help will themselves be released into ministry and calling that God has called them to.

WORSHIP STUDIES

STEPS IN DEVELOPING A WORSHIP BAND

Introduction

- Why doesn't our music sound like the tape?
- Why don't we sound as good as the special groups that come in?
- We have good musicians, but why does the standard of our music not reflect that?

The things we should be looking for to answer the above questions are as follows:

- i) *contrast through use of dynamics*
- ii) *change of rhythm or style etc.*
- iii) *change of sound of the instrument and instrumentation*
- iv) *what pattern the drums & bass will play and are they playing the same pattern.*
- v) *physical location of the band members*
- vi) *clear and definite signals*
- vii) *use of accents*
- viii) *remembering the principal that simple is best*
- ix) *listening closely to each other and thinking how we can compliment the overall sound*
- x) *clear lines of communication – who is to play the intro, how will the song end, are there any key changes, rhythm changes or anything unexpected.*

Drums and bass

1. **The bass player & drummer are the foundation upon which everything hinges. They should talk about what they are going to do in a song. They should get together and analyze songs etc. Listen to each other.** Look for variation on snare and cymbals from verse to chorus eg. depending on the song - Hi hats first section then ride cymbal second section, or Rim shot first then snare second. **The principle should be to build the song so that everything isn't happening at once.**
2. **When you are changing styles** in a song but wanting to **keep the same meter**, make sure that the meter doesn't change even though the rhythm may change. This is **important especially when moving from half time to double time** and vice versa. Eg. "God is Great" (Hillsongs) (Chorus into Bridge then back to Chorus) or going from "God is Great" into "All Of My Days" (Hillsongs).
3. It is important to **practice with a metronome or drum machine** to develop good time. This is especially important for drummers. The drummer carries the responsibility for the time. The drummer also controls the intensity of the music. It is often noticed that drummers can lose time when they play softly, especially if they are not used to playing softly.
4. **When going into a rhythm change** whether faster or slower, it is **usually best if one person leads it in (usually the drums)**. Whoever leads in the change must do it confidently.

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- ~~5. The whole band (especially bass & drums) should be **physically located close to each other** so that acoustically each band member can clearly hear those around them. It is important that the bass player sets up his amp behind the drummer slightly to his left or right.~~
6. The bass player is also responsible for keeping time. A good bass player is not noticed until he is not playing.

Keyboard and Guitar

7. **Lead guitar** or other front line players must **not play too much over the vocal line**. If accompanying vocals, a lot of your licks & fills should be confined to the ends of vocal phrases.
8. Try accenting the **2nd and 4th in ballads**. The guitar should play a different thing to what the keys are doing.
9. When you have **two keyboards and a guitar** you have **three potential competing instruments**. So that they don't all get in the way of each other, they should all be doing something different or one of them drop out for part of the song. With two keyboards you should try to aim for 2 different sounds i.e. not 2 piano sounds or 2 pad sound. i.e. say piano & strings or piano & brass etc. or a single string line over the top.
10. As a keyboard player, get familiar with the sounds available to you. Don't use the same sound all the time. Variety is a key.
11. Beware of the **style of song** and **adjust your sound to suit**. Eg. Change of guitar from a rock number to a jazz number or a hard attacking sound on keys for rock to a soft Rhodes sound for jazz. You must have an appreciation for what sound your favourite guitar or keyboard player would use in that particular situation (listening is important).
12. With **keyboards set up** a sound with **higher frequency** so that the bass doesn't conflict. **Lay off playing too heavily in the left hand**.
13. **When guitar & piano are both playing** depending on the style of the song (whether suiting guitar or piano) **one instrument will play a stronger part and the other a lesser part**. That way they don't feel as if they are fighting against each other.
14. If keyboards are playing busily, guitar should perhaps play long sustained notes. As a keyboard player, **keep it simple**. Leave room for the melody to sung and heard and don't be afraid to be in the background.
15. **If you have 2 keyboards and one is playing strings make sure they play like a string player**. Interpret correctly the instrument you are trying to duplicate. Attack on the strings is important.
16. As a guitarist or keyboard player, **work on creating a solid beat**. The most important thing you can contribute, even more so than getting every chord right, is a predictable rhythmic foundation.

Other important tips

17. **Members of the band** should always **watch each other**.

WORSHIP STUDIES

~~Good eye contact is important. Don't be afraid to communicate with each other.~~
Remember; don't rely too heavily on foldback.

18. **Know your songs**, know the way the song works and where you can bring in changes. Try to learn songs (including all the chord changes) so that you can play them by ear. If you are caught up with reading chords, you won't be able to feel the song as well or flow with the other musicians.
19. **Listen to what the others in the band are playing**. If too much is happening cut out until there is a bit more space. Do not feel as if you should play in every song (keys especially). Make sure too as a keyboard player that you don't fill every available space or don't play too much in the mid range when there is say, a piano player and a guitarist.
In a worship service when the anointing comes, one of the dangers is that we explode in notes. **Leave plenty of space** especially for the vocals. Play together with unity, passion & colour.
 20. Always look for dynamics in the music - shadows or contrast.
In times of free worship aim for crescendos & diminuendos through instruments (drums & other instruments) entering & dropping out. When you build a crescendo realise that you don't have to add notes, you just add weight. From the start to the finish of a song try and make it build. Eg. 'I Give You My Heart' or 'Worthy Is The Lamb'.

There seems to often be a problem with playing dynamics. Why? It is because **very few people can really play technically the same at all dynamic levels** because **they don't practice at all dynamic levels**. You must practice how you play. Tempo varies too much, especially during dynamic changes. As mentioned earlier, practice with a metronome at different speeds.

21. The sound technician can make or break the music. He needs to know what you are trying to achieve in the music. He needs to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
22. Don't feel that because you are playing a rock song that it needs to be loud. You can still achieve the same energy without volume. This is where it is important that you communicate with your sound technician and have good foldback. In many situations the problem comes when one band member can't hear and turns up his volume. Before long everyone turns up to hear themselves.
23. Don't feel you have to play the melody line.
24. If using a brass section with winds make sure the woodwinds are mixed well and written up high so that their part cuts through.
25. Direct the frontline instruments as to when to play, especially if you don't have written changes for them.
26. When given a piece of music remember it's only an indication of what is required. Do not try and play it note for note. Play according to your ability and look for your own style in it. The most important part is that you pick up important accents, dynamics etc. Don't be afraid to add to or play less than what is written depending on the chart.

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