

LET THEM EVER SING FOR JOY!
EPHESIANS 5:15-21
JUNE 29, 2008

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Pastor Charlie said that the biblical pattern for worship is that the eyes see something of the reality of God, the heart rejoices in what it sees, and therefore the mouth sings in praise of God.
 - a. Read Psalm 5 and explain how this pattern of worship is seen there, especially in verses 10-12.
 - b. Read Psalm 28 and explain how this pattern of worship is seen there, especially in verses 6-7.
 - c. Read Psalm 42 and explain how this pattern of worship is seen there, especially in verses 7-8. (Also, who were the sons of Korah and why did they write this Psalm?)
2. The main word for “praise” in the Old Testament literally means “to confess,” and therefore to praise God is simply to confess the truth about God.
 - a. How often do truths about God strike you with reality and freshness?
 - b. When they do, do you “confess” what you see out loud? Are you in the habit of praising God in song for what you see of him? Why or why not?
3. What was the main purpose of the Exodus (Ex. 3:12) and what does this tell us about the nature of worship in the Kingdom of Christ?
4. Not only was David a prolific song-writer and an inventor of instruments (2 Chron. 7:6, 29:26-27; Neh. 12:36), but he also institutionalized the practice of singing into the life of Israel like it had never been before (1 Chron. 6:31-33, 9:33, 23:1-6, 25:1-8; 2 Chron. 7:6, 8:14, 20:21-22, 23:16-21, 29:27-30, 31:2, 35:15; Ezra 3:10-11; Neh. 7:1, 11:23, 12:24, 46-47). What does this tell us about the nature of worship in the Kingdom of Christ?
5. Read Revelation 5:6-14 and reflect on how prominent a place vocal praise has in the eternal Kingdom of Christ.
6. Knowing that singing praise to God has so prominent a place in the Kingdom of Christ, how often do you sing to him? Why do you sing to him? How can you fan this part of your life into flame?