The Introductory Foundation Layer

This Study Goes Well With "Weapons Of Warfare- The Series, Part3: Get Your Praise On."

<u>Deuteronomy 10:12-14+17+20-21</u> "Now, Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you, but to <u>fear Yahweh your God</u>, to <u>walk in all his ways</u>, and to <u>love him</u>, and to <u>serve Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul</u>, (13) to <u>keep Yahweh's commandments and statutes</u>, which I command you today for your good? (14) Behold, to Yahweh your God belongs <u>heaven</u> and the <u>heaven</u> of <u>heavens</u>, the earth, with all that is therein. (17) For Yahweh your God, he is God of gods, and Lord of lords, the great God, the mighty, and the awesome, who doesn't respect persons, nor takes reward. (20-21) You shall <u>fear Yahweh your God</u>; you shall <u>serve him</u>; and you shall <u>cling to him</u>, and you shall <u>swear by his name</u>. [Only] (21) <u>He is your praise</u>, <u>and he is your God</u>, who has done for you these great and awesome things, which your eyes have seen."

Giving Praise to God and Jesus is much more than just showing appreciation and given them their due. It's more than acknowledging His efforts and blessings. God doesn't have low self-esteem, He doesn't forget who He is or His own glory. Nor does He need our constant reassurance to retain His authority and power. He is absolute in all these things. While it's a beautiful gift to give praise to God and is required from us, it is so much more than most have ever imagined. In order to understand the hidden, unseen power of Praise and what God really does with our praise, we first need to empower our understanding. So, let us take a strategic overview of the current field of battle we are in. The quick take away is this; Praise is an act of War- a nuclear bomb against the spiritual realm that builds God's kingdom.

I promise we are not praising God nearly enough!

~Now, let's understand why.~

The Hidden Unseen Power & Work Of Praise

A quick 50,000 feet view of some very inspiring and revealing verses. These verses require us to ask some of the most important questions that can be asked. We will answer these questions in our next study. Think of this as planting seeds in our minds for now. It is the ultimate destination for these studies.

We Are Told To Never Stop Praising God—No Matter What.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22 "<u>Rejoice always</u>. (17) <u>Pray without ceasing</u>. (18) <u>In everything give thanks</u>, for <u>this is the will of God in Christ Jesus toward you</u>. (19) Don't quench the Spirit. (20) Don't despise prophesies. (21) Test all things, and hold firmly that which is good. (22) Abstain from every form of evil."
 - **?** But The Question Is: Why Are We Being Told By God To Never Stop, No Matter What?

We Are Given The Recipe For Effective Prayer And Praise.

Philippians 4:6-9 "In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. (7) And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. (8) Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think about these things. (9) The things which you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: do these things, and the God of peace will be with you."

? But The Question Is: Why Does This Recipe Have Any Real Power At All?

@He Inhabits Our Praise!

Psalms 22:3 MKJV "But You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel."

Psalms 22:3 KJV "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."

💠 Strong's 3427 (inhabitest) יַשַׁב - yâshab - yaw-shab'

A primitive root; properly to sit down (specifically as judge, in ambush, in quiet); by implication to dwell, to remain; causatively to settle, to marry: - (make to) abide (-ing), continue, (cause to, make to) dwell (-ing), ease self, endure, establish, X fail, habitation, haunt, (make to) inhabit (-ant), make to keep [house], lurking, X marry (-ing), (bring again to) place, remain, return, seat, set (-tle), (down-) sit (-down, still, -ting down, -ting [place] -uate), take, tarry.

? But The Question Is: Why Does He Desire To Sit Enthroned Upon Our Praises?

Praise To God Is A Sacrifice!

Hebrews 13:15 WEB "Through him, then, let's offer up a <u>sacrifice of praise</u> to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which <u>proclaim allegiance to his name</u>."

Hebrews 13:15 NET "Through him then let us continually offer up a <u>sacrifice of praise</u> to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, <u>acknowledging his name</u>."

Hebrews 13:15 LITV "Then through Him let us offer up a <u>sacrifice of praise</u> to God always, that is, the fruit of the lips, <u>confessing to His name</u>."

Hebrews 13:15 YLT "through him, then, we may offer up a <u>sacrifice of praise</u> always to God, that is, the fruit of lips, giving <u>thanks to His name."</u>

? But The Question Is: Why Is Praise Considered A Sacrifice?

The Answer To The Above Questions Are Vitally Important. These Answers Cannot Be Given Cleary Without A Foundational Understanding Of Key Concepts. One Of Which Is Our Current Situation, And How We Got Here. With That, Let's Begin:

Violence & War In God's Kingdom

In a forthcoming Bible Study, we will be covering the ongoing and current sacrifices of God on our behalf. The following series of events are a major sacrifice of God- To allow the defilement of Heaven by the works of the Devil, with a goal to save humanity. This brief outline cannot do it justice. These events are much bigger than any movie CGI could ever create. These were tumultuous and dramatic times, much like the carnage of the 1944 D-Day invasion of Normandy. This was all started with just words from the Devil to convince humanity and the angels of Heaven to rebel against God. We need to review the events closely. In doing so, we will start to understand the hidden, unseen power of Praise better.

God Had Given Man Dominion Of The Physical Realm On Earth.

Genesis 1:27-28 "God created man in his own image. In God's image he created him; male and female he created them. (28) God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

They Lost It By Disobedience, Giving It To Satan, And Were Forced Out Of The Garden.

Genesis 3:22-24 "Yahweh God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand, and also take of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever—" (23) Therefore Yahweh God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. (24) So he drove out the man; and he placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life."

See: Genesis Chapter 3 For The Full Story.

Satan Is The god Of This Earth. (For Now)

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 "Even if our Good News is veiled, it is veiled in those who are dying; (4) in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the Good News of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should not dawn on them."

Satan Had Authority To Still Appear In Heaven, Defiling It By His Presence.

Job 1:6-7 "Now on the day when God's sons came to present themselves before Yahweh, Satan also came among them. (7) Yahweh said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered Yahweh, and said, "From going back and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it."

The Defiling Of Heaven And The Great War.

Revelation 12:1-4 "A great sign was seen in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. (2) She was with child. She cried out in pain, laboring to give birth. (3) Another sign was seen in heaven. Behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven crowns. (4) His tail drew one third of the stars of the sky, and threw them to the earth. The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child."

Jesus Said During His Time Of Ministry.

Matthew 11:12 "From the days of John the Baptizer until now, the <u>Kingdom of Heaven</u> suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."

Jesus Came To Judge Satan & Cast Him Out Of Heaven.

John 12:30-32 Jesus answered, "This voice hasn't come for my sake, but for your sakes. (31) Now is the judgment of this world. Now the <u>prince of this world will be cast</u> <u>out.</u> (32) And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

John 16:7-11 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I don't go away, the Counselor won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. (8) When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment; (9) about sin, because they don't believe in me; (10) about righteousness, because I am going to my Father, and you won't see me anymore; (11) about judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged."

After His Resurrection & Death For The Sins Of Mankind, Jesus Must Return To Heaven And Cleanse The Temple In Heaven By His Blood.

John 20:17 "Jesus said to her, "Don't hold me, for I haven't yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brothers, and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Hebrews 4:14 "Having then a great high priest, who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let's hold tightly to our confession."

Jesus Goes To Heaven To Cleanse The Temple And Kick The Devil Out.

Hebrews 9:11-12+20-28 "But Christ having come as a high priest of the coming good things, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation, (12) nor yet through the blood of goats and calves, but through his own blood, entered in once for all into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption....saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." (21) Moreover he sprinkled the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry in the same way with the blood. (22) According to the law, nearly everything is cleansed with blood, and apart from shedding of blood there is no remission. (23) It was necessary therefore that the copies of the things in the heavens should be cleansed with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. (24) For Christ hasn't entered into holy places made with hands, which are representations of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; (25) nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest enters into the holy place year by year with blood not his own, (26) or else he must have suffered often since the foundation of the world. But now once at the end of the ages, he has been revealed to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. (27) Inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once, and after this, judgment, (28) so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, without sin, to those who are eagerly waiting for him for salvation."

Heaven Is Cleansed, Yet The Earth Is Still A Warzone. A Disputed Territory In Grave Conflict.

Revelation 12:5-13+17 "She gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. Her child was caught up to God, and to his throne. (6) The woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that there they may nourish her one thousand two hundred sixty days. (7) There was war in the sky. Michael and his angels made war on the dragon. The dragon and his angels made war. (8) They didn't prevail, neither was a place found for them any more in heaven. (9) The great dragon was thrown down, the old serpent, he who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (10) I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, the power, and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ has come; for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night. (11) They overcame him because of the Lamb's blood, and because of the word of their testimony. They didn't love their life, even to death. (12) Therefore rejoice, heavens, and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and to the sea, because the devil has gone down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has but a short time." (13) When the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child. (17) The dragon grew angry with the woman, and went away to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep God's commandments and hold Jesus' testimony."

Heaven Is Cleansed, The Earth Has Yet Been Made New.

Revelation 21:1 "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth have passed away, and the sea is no more."

The Battle Is Real, Heaven Is Cleansed, The Earth Is Still Fallen.

Ephesians 6:10-13 "Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might. (11) Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (12) For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world's rulers of the darkness of this age, and against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (13) Therefore put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand."

We Are Now Ambassadors For God's Kingdom In The Fallen Field Of Battle.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away. Behold, all things have become new. (18) But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation; (19) namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation. (20) We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

For a better understanding of this, please go to www.weshallbelikehim.com and download the free E-book based upon 1 John 3:2.

We Are Now Tending The Spiritual Garden

As Adam And Eve Were Called To Be Fruitful and Fill The Earth.

Genesis 1:28a "God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it..."

We Are Now Called To Be Fruitful, Bear Fruit, And Fill The Kingdom Of Heaven with His children.

John 15:4-5 "Remain in me, and I in you. As the branch can't bear fruit by itself, unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you, unless you remain in me. (5) I am the vine. You are the branches. He who remains in me, and I in him, the same bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." **See also: Luke 8:9-15**

Adam And Eve Were Told To Take Dominion Over The Earth.

Genesis 1:28b "fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Jesus Has Again Given Us Authority For Spiritual Dominion.

John 17:1-3 "When Jesus had finished saying these things; he looked upward to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that your Son may glorify you – (2) just as you have given him authority over all humanity, so that he may give eternal life to everyone you have given him. (3) Now this is eternal life – that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent."

Mark 16:15-20 "He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. (16) The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned. (17) These signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages; (18) they will pick up snakes with their hands, and whatever poison they drink will not harm them; they will place their hands on the sick and they will be well." (19) After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. (20) They went out and proclaimed everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through the accompanying signs."

Here we can better see the duality of Adam and Eve over fish, birds, etc., now we have it over the spiritual side being represented here by snakes (Satan), scorpions and Bird.

Luke 10:17-21 "Then the seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name!" (18) So he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. (19) Look, I have given you authority to <u>tread on snakes and scorpions</u> and on the full force of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. (20) Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names stand written in heaven." (21) On that same occasion Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your gracious will."

Revelation 18:2 "He cried with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, and she has become a habitation of <u>demons</u>, a <u>prison of every unclean spirit</u>, and a <u>prison of every unclean and hateful bird!</u>"

Now that we have a foundational understanding of what's really going on in the earth. This has been a long, hard-fought war. This war rages on all around us. We are ambassadors for God on the field of battle. We are now working the labors of Adam and Eve- they did it physically, we are doing spiritually. Satan owns the physical realm for now, but God owns the spiritual realm. Yet, both sides compete on the field of battle of both. Praise has unique and hidden powers in our labor of tending this new spiritual garden of God. We will dive deeper into this in our next study.

We will reveal what God is actually doing with our Praise!

Here Is A Cliffhanger For You...

- We Are Told To Never Stop Praising God—No Matter What.
- ? But The Question Is: Why Are We Being Told By God To Never Stop, No Matter What?
- We Are Given The Recipe For Effective Prayer And Praise.
- **?** But The Question Is: Why Does This Recipe Have Any Real Power At All?
- He Inhabits Our Praise!
- **?** But The Question Is: Why Does He Desire To Sit Enthroned Upon Our Praises?
- Praise To God Is A Sacrifice!
- ? But The Question Is: Why Is Praise Considered A Sacrifice?

Lastly....

Psalms 150:1-6 "Praise Yah! Praise God in his sanctuary! <u>Praise him in his heavens for his acts of power!</u> (2) Praise him for his mighty acts! Praise him according to his excellent greatness! (3) Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet! Praise him with harp and lyre! (4) Praise him with tambourine and dancing! Praise him with stringed instruments and flute! (5) Praise him with loud cymbals! Praise him with resounding cymbals! (6) Let everything that has breath praise Yah! Praise Yah!"

How Do We Praise Him In His Heaven?
Why Do We Need To Do So?
What Is The Benefit For God And Us?

Stay Tuned.....