

The Garden of God

The Presence of God in Worship

Mike Rosenau with New Beginnings Church on Sunday morning January 27th, 2019

Isa 44:3-5 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. 4 They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams. 5 One will say, 'I belong to the Lord';... another will write on his hand, 'The Lord's'....

Rev 7:15-17 These are they who remain before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sits on the throne shall dwell among them. 16 They shall hunger and thirst no more;... 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them to fountains of living waters

Rev 21:22-23 "I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

Rev 22:1-5 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. 4 **They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.** 5 There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light.

Acts 2:17-18 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Acts 10:44-47 While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

Eph 5:18-20 "Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, 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;

Eph 3:16-21 "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through

faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages,

John 4:23-24 The time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for this is the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

I Cor 6:19-20 "Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

I Peter 2:5-, 9,10 "You are living stones, being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, so that you may show forth the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."

Think about this. When you consider the way of life of the people of this world around us, everything you have just read is not a normal behavior. The people of this world don't go around thinking about having God fill them with himself, or letting God take over their lives, or letting Him live through them. But that is exactly what God created us for.

The point I want to make is that the Christian life is not a natural thing. It is a very supernatural thing. By supernatural I mean the life that God has for us is tapping into a power source, and a knowledge source, and a heart, and a character, and a life that is way above and beyond us. That life is found in walking and living continuously in the Holy Spirit. God created and designed you with the ability to connect with and allow the Spirit of God to live through you.

There are a number of things that God has given us as tools to allow Him to live in us and through us – things like reading and meditating on the Word of God, the Bible, and prayer, and living in an attitude and heart of surrender to Christ. One of the main tools God has given us to encounter Him and be filled with Him is Worship.

I want to walk you through a few passages that reveal aspects of Worship and explore how the Spirit of God moves and manifests His presence in our lives through worship.

Ps 22:3 "But You are holy, O You who inhabits (who lives in) the praises of your people.

Now here is a very important question. Those of you who have been around a while should know this. Those of you who are young in God, you may know this, or you may be hearing this for the first time. When you as a Christian, open your mouth and begin to worship God, who is it that is singing and praising? Who is bringing honor and glory to God as we worship?

We may think, it is us. And that is true. But If God has come and taken up residence inside you and you are inclined to allow him to live in you, it is God who sings and praises and worships through you. Please hear this:

Real worship done by the true worshippers the Father is seeking, Jesus said, is worshipping God IN THE SPIRIT.

Or you could say true worship happens when it is the Spirit of God in us and us being in the Spirit who worships God. The kind of worship the Father is looking for happens when we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us and we allow the Holy Spirit to worship through us.

Listen to Ephesians 5:19 again:

“be filled with the Spirit. (How? – by) speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”

1 Cor 14:14-16 “For if I pray in tongues, **the spirit is praying**, but I don't understand what I am saying. Well then, what shall I do? I will do both. I will pray in the spirit, and I will pray in words I understand. **I will sing with the spirit**, and I will sing with words I understand.”

Notice who is praying and who is singing:

“I will pray in the spirit...I will sing with the spirit,

Heb 2:11-12 “So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers; **in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises.**"

When was the last time you heard Jesus sing? Have you ever heard Jesus sing? Yes! You heard him last singing praise to the Father when you heard a believer begin to worship and praise and adore God worshipping and surrendering to God they worshipped.

This is not some strange far out thing. This is the normal Christian life, and this is the life and the experience with God that God has called you to.

Gal 2:19-21 “I have been crucified with Christ. I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

When Elisha the prophet needed to bring a prophetic word from God He called for a musician to play, and notice what happened when the musician played:

2 Kings 3:14-16 And Eli'sha said, now bring me a minstrel." And when the minstrel played, the power of the LORD came upon him. 16 And he said, "Thus says the LORD,

This is exactly what we happened when the musicians played in the Old Testament

I Chron 25:1 “David and the captains of the army separated for the service some of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and cymbals.

Real relationship with God involves being filled with God, and worship and praise are two of the means that God has chosen for you to be filled with Him. Therefore we will never have anywhere near the kind of life with God that God designed us to have until we become worshippers. You may develop other parts of your spiritual life – prayer, bible study, serving God and others, but a part of your life will be atrophied and weak. Without worship in the Spirit and the Spirit in us we will walk with a spiritual limp.

Ps 89:15-17 “How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound!

The “joyful sound” here is one of the Hebrew Words for worship “teruw`ah”.

Teruw`ah is used of the shouts of praise of God’s people, it is used of the resounding sounds of instruments giving worship to God. It is used of the sounds of a great tumult of the praise of a great throng of people. It is used of a battle cry of an army. And the sounding of the alarm in calling together to battle. It is one of the sounds God’s people make when they are together worshipping.

Here are several verses in the Psalms that use the word teruw`ah

Ps 27:6 “at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with **shouts of joy**; I will sing and make music to the LORD.”

Ps 33:2-3 “Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre. Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and **shout for joy**.”

Ps 150:5 “praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with **resounding** cymbals.”

The King James translates teruw`ah in this verse as the “high sounding” symbols.

But one of the most interesting passages where teruw`ah is used is Ps 47:5-6. There we see the connection between the presence of the Lord and praise.

Ps 47:5-6 “God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.”

The New International Version puts it this way:

Ps 47:5 “God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.

We must understand that when we praise, God Himself ascends in our Praise.

God lives continually in those who have received Him into their lives as Lord and Savior, but He manifests His presence in them when we praise. God shows up when we praise. He inhabits the praise. He ascends in our praise.

Ps 89:15-17 “How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance.

The word “countenance” literally means in the presence of the face and refers to the heart of the one who’s face is revealed. It often speaks of the favor of the one who’s face is revealed. Those who know the joyful sounds of praise will walk in light of the presence of God’s face. In other words, what is in the heart of God that is revealed in His face will fill them and they will walk in it. Also, He will look upon them with favor.

Worship brings God and what God is into our hearts.

This is what is revealed in the rest of the verse.

Ps 89:15-17 “How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance. **In Your name they rejoice all the day,**

In the Scripture the name is not separated from the person, the name is the person. I don’t have time to take you through this in the scripture.

This passage is telling us that those who know the joyful sound will be in the presence and person of God as they rejoice all day long.

Ps 89:16 And by Your righteousness they are exalted.

They are exalted or elevated into the moral character of God “His righteousness” as they experience the joyful sounds of the praises of God.

Ps 89:17 For You are the glory of their strength

Glory here is like an ornament or beauty or honor that one has upon them. The beauty and honor of the strength found in those who know the joyful sound does not come from anything in themselves, it comes from the God who is filling them. Those who know the joyful sound of worship wear a beautiful strength, but that beautiful strength comes from the one who fills them, it has been imparted to them by Him.

Ps 89:17 And in Your favor our horn shall be exalted

The horn is a symbol of power. The meaning here is, God’s favor caused the power to be produced in them that caused them to be lifted up. In other words, everything that contributed to their exaltation and honor of those who know the joyful sound has been produced in them by God.

This same truth is found in 2 Cor 4:5-7

2 Cor 4:5-7 "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

As the first part of Psalm 89:16 says those who know the joy sounds of worshipping God are "blessed" by His presence and person filling them.

God wants to fill you with himself continuously, and one of the main ways He wants to do that in you is to turn you into a worshipper, but not just one who sings occasionally, one who offers unto God continuous praises, and excellent praises.

Heb 13:15-16 "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-the fruit of lips that confess his name."

Ps 113:2-3 "Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. 3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised."

Ps 34:1-5 "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.