

# From The Minister's Pen



## Worthy of Praise!

The preacher may make us ponder and the songs may make us weep. The fellowship may warm our souls and the communion may give us chill bumps. But if God does not enjoy the hour, the service failed. The goal of worship is to make God “high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour” (Deut. 26:19). “Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely” (Psa. 147:1).

If we had the tongues of angels, we could not praise God as He deserves to be praised. If we were born speaking praises and had breath to never cease, we could never adequately exalt His name in this life. If every rock could speak, it would praise God. If the stars could sing, their song would be in His honor. If the animals could write, their words would form new praises for their Creator. The very stones would praise Him if the need arose, and a thousand legions of angels would leap to do His will. “Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein” (Psa. 69:34).

### What Does the Bible Say About Praising God?

The word “praise” (in various forms) is used 268 times in Scripture. In Old Testament times, God's people took praising Him seriously. Leah rejoiced at the birth of a son and cried, “Now

will I praise the Lord” (Gen. 29:35). So she named the boy, “Praise”. (Judah). David organized a whole section of the Levites 'to thank and praise the Lord God of Israel' (1 Chron. 16:4). Hezekiah appointed courses of priests and Levites 'to praise in the gates of the tents of the Lord' (2 Chron. 31:2).

After nine silent months, when Zacharias' tongue was finally loosed his first words were praise to God (Luke 1:64). We long for the time when it may literally be said, “His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise” (Hab. 3:3). So much praise went up, that God was said to inhabit “the praises of Israel” (Psa. 22:3).

When Jesus was born, both exalted angels and lowly shepherds praised His Father (Luke 2:13; 2:20). When He died, the very sky above Him bowed its head in reverent submission. Wherever Jesus went between these events, it seems that men were led to praise Jehovah (e.g., Luke 18:43). It seems no accident, therefore, that Jesus came from Judah, the tribe whose very name means “praise” (Gen. 49:10).

Ever since Jesus ascended to the Father, His followers have been “continually in the temple, praising and blessing God” (Luke 24:53; cf. Eph. 3:20:21). The early church praised God and had favor with the people (Acts 2:47). In a beautiful prophecy, the church is said to have

walls called, 'Salvation,' and gates, "Praise" (Isa. 60:18).

Christians are to "think on' praise" (Phil. 4:8), since we have been adopted "to the praise of the glory of his grace" (Eph. 1:5:6; cf. Jer. 13:11). Our very purpose in life is to show forth the praises of God (1 Pet. 2:9; cf. Isa. 43:21). God clothes His people with the "the garment of praise" (Isa. 6:13).

## When Should God Be Praised?

God deserves to be praised every day (Psa. 145:2). One praised him twice a day --in the morning and in the evening (1 Chron. 23:30). Another praised him seven times a day (Psa. 119:164). A third topped them all: "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised" (Psa. 113:3). But another's ambition was even greater: "I ... will yet praise thee more and more" (Psa. 71:14). Paul and Silas sang praises unto God "at midnight" (Acts 16:25). More to the point of this study, He deserves to be praised on the Lord's day --Sunday (Acts 20:7)— in public worship: "In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee' (Heb. 2:12). We should not forsake His worship (Heb.10:25).

## Why should We Praise God?

*We should praise God for who He is.*

"I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies" (2 Sam. 22:4). Those who have learned of Jehovah agree: "For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods" (1 Chron. 16:25). A wise man wondered, "Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?" (Exo. 15:11). We praise God for His **power** (Psa. 21:13). We praise the Lord for the beauty of His **holiness** (2 Chron. 20:21) and for His **goodness** and **mercy** (Ezra 3:11; Jer. 33:11).

## *Praise God for what He has done.*

"Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness" (Psa. 150:2).

*He has made us:* 'I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well' (Psa. 139:14).

*He has delivered us* (Exo. 15:1:11; 2 Sam. 22:49:50; Jer. 20:13). When Israel's children learned that God had heard their cry and had sent a deliverer (Moses), they "bowed their heads and worshipped" (Exo. 4:31). When Moses learned that God kept 'mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,' he "made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped" (Exo. 34:7:8). Worship, distilled, is thanksgiving for salvation (Psa. 69:30:32).

*He has blessed us.* When we take time to count our blessings (James 1:17), it makes us worshipful. It is an unthankful heart that shuns worship. When the eldest servant of Abraham's house played matchmaker for young Isaac, he devised a plan to determine which girl the Lord approved. When the sign was given, with a thankful heart he "bowed down his head, and worshipped the Lord (Gen. 24:26, 24:48, 24:52).

*He has given us His truth* (Psa. 138:2). "In God I will praise his word" (Psa. 56:4). "I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth" (Isa. 25:1).

*He has answered our prayers* (Psa. 118:21).

So, "praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people" (Rom. 15:11). Yea, "let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord" (Psa. 150:6)."Therefore let us offer the sacrifice o praise to God continually" (Heb. 13:15).

*Let us exalt the name of the Lord!*

# Church News and Views

## FAMILY DAY THIS SATURDAY!!

The church's 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary celebration begins **THIS SATURDAY, July 18<sup>th</sup>**, with our **Family Activity Day**. This annual event is planned for the participation of the entire church family. There will be something for everyone! Included in the planned events are:

- **Health Fair**

*Man Van*

*Blood drive and bone marrow registry*

*Body mass index measurements*

*Blood pressure check*

*Breast examination/education*

*HIV testing*

*Saliva testing*

*More than 50 Vendors!!*

- **Sports and Games**

*Bounce house*

*horse shoes*

*Plan flying contest*

*Hoola Hoop contest*

*....AND MUCH MORE!!!*

- **Free Delicious Barbecue**

Plan to come and help make Saturday a wonderful day of Christian fellowship!! The time will be from **10:00AM** until **3:00PM**.

### Make Plans to Attend!

**New Golden Hts. Church of Christ**  
**71st Church Anniversary**  
**GOSPEL MEETING**

*Guest Evangelist*  
**Dr. Harvey Jackson**  
 Mound Bayou, MS

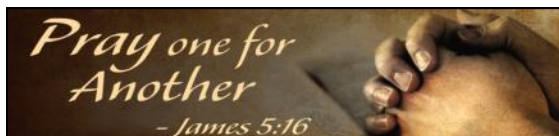
**July 19-21, 2015**



**Thank  
You!**  
for supporting  
**Vacation Bible School!**

### Broward Health “Man Van”

Have you signed up for the “Man Van” that is planned for our annual Health Fair? If not, please do it **TODAY**. To secure the Man Van, at least **25 people** (both men and women) must sign up. The Man Van is the first of its kind in South Florida and it offers a 30-minute health screening session that addresses numerous conditions. For individuals without insurance coverage, it is being offered for an economical flat rate of **\$75.00**. **Please sign up at the Hospitality Desk.**



**“Lord, He Whom Thou Lovest Is Sick”**  
(John 11:3)

#### Shut-In:

Charles Davis, Camille Ewers, Paul Facyson, Paul Frances, Ermine Mullins, Joyce Parrish, Marion Williams, Lillie Jackson

#### Prayer Requests:

Bobby Ace, Ethel Bess, Laura Blidge, Louise Bowman, Richard Brazil, Raf Campbell, Arnetta Cross, Ron Cullingford, Sydnee Crow, Aletha Denmark, Felisha Downer, Sharon Eason, Nelzene Edwards, Loerine Ellis, Shirley Evans, Bessie Everitt, Barbara Freeman, Hanley Freeman, Dudley Hill, Arbie Humphrey, Lois Hutchison, Jacquelyn Irvin, Veanna Irvin, Becky Johnson, Gloria Johnson, Annie Lee, Kevin Larkins, Nancy Logan, Suzanna Middleton, George & Sharon Monroe, Willie Mae Morris, Jennifer Neita, James Newson, Rosie Newson, Johnny Richardson, Shay Roache, Akiko Robinson, Shirley Seays, Richard & Jean Sherman, Arnold Smalls, Maxine Smith, Yvonne Stokes, Linda Stokes, Brandi Stroman, Alexander (Joe) Sutton, Ernest & Mae Thomas, Samantha Tobias, Rolinne Trompe, Roosevelt Tukes, Lewis & Jean Truttling, Johnnie P. Walker, Johnny Walker, Lillie Walker, Lucille Walker, Joshua Webb, Marie Webb, Annie Williams, Betty Williams, Charles Williams, Jackie Williams, Rosa Williams



*God, my heart is fixed;  
I will sing and give  
praise, even with my glory.*  
Psalm 108:1

# “We Come Into This House To Worship Him”

(John 4:24)

## MONTH OF JULY

	<u><b>MORNING</b></u>	<u><b>EVENING</b></u>
<i>Announcements</i>	Reginald Johnson	Reginald Johnson
<i>Song Leaders</i>	Xavier Snell	Xavier Snell
<i>Prayer</i>	Willie Hamilton	Henry Brown, Sr.
<i>Scripture (Reading)</i>	Raymond Thompson	Raymond Thompson
<i>Song</i>		
<i>Sermons</i>	Dr. W. F. Washington	Dr. W. F. Washington
<i>Call To Obedience</i>	<u><b>Counselors:</b></u> K. Hutchison / J. West C. Jean / W. Hamilton	
<i>Confessions /Prayer Petitions</i>	<b>Keith Hutchison</b> (Officiating)	<b>Keith Hutchison</b> (Officiating)
<i>Offering (1 Cor. 16:1,2)</i> <i>Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)</i>	<p><b>AM —<u>Officiating:</u> Keith Hutchison / Raymond Thompson</b></p> <p>(1) <i>Left</i>, J. Franklin                      (2) <i>Left</i>, B. Thomas  (3) <i>Left</i>, G. Barbee                        (4) <i>Left</i>, E. Holcombe  (1) <i>Right</i>, B. Byrd                         (2) <i>Right</i>, L. Frazier  (3) <i>Right</i>, C. Jean                         (4) <i>Right</i>, D. Edwards  <i>Alternate: T. Evans</i></p> <p><b>PM —<u>Officiating:</u> Keith Hutchison / Raymond Thompson</b></p> <p>E. Thompson    M. Hughes    J. Franklin  E. Holcombe    C. Jean         D. Stokes  <i>Alternates: B. Thomas, M. Strong</i></p>	
<i>Ministerial Announcements</i>		
<i>Doxology</i>	Dr. W. F. Washington	Dr. W. F. Washington
<i>Dismissal</i>	Davonte Gray	Terry Evans
<i>Worship and Praise Leaders</i>	<b>Keith Hutchison, Reginald Johnson</b>	
<i>Ushers</i>	<p><u><b>Head Ushers:</b></u> Tony Hugley, Booker Bess  <u><b>Auditorium:</b></u> Bros. T. Hugley, B. Bess, F. Williams, D. Adams,  E. Thompson, R. Johnson, J. Chance, J. Outler, M. Jeanty,  D. Gray, S. Wilson, D. Freeman, R. Rouse, C. Rouse</p> <p><u><b>Lobby:</b></u> I. Johnson, H. Penn            <u><b>Back Hall:</b></u> D. Brooks, J. West</p>	
<i>Hospitality Desk / Concierge</i>	Alice George, Sharon Evans	