

**Glory to God: Proclaiming God's Goodness**  
**How to Give God Glory - Offering Part 1**  
**1 Chronicles 16:28-31; Hebrews 13:15-16**

**1 Chronicles 16:28-31**~ <sup>28</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! <sup>29</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; <sup>30</sup> tremble before him, all the earth; yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. <sup>31</sup> Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

**Hebrews 13:15-16**~ <sup>15</sup> Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

I. Introduction

As we have looked at last week, the reason why God created us is for us to glorify Him. In fact, the reason God saves us is so that we can glorify Him. This glorifying of God is so woven into the fabric of every single book in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament that the Westminster Catechism codifies this essential and esteem teaching into one simple sentence ... "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever."

We have also looked at last week that the glory of God is the goodness of God revealed. When we are talking about the glory of God, we are talking about the goodness of God. When we give glory to God, we are displaying the goodness of God so that all can see how good and great this God is.

We saw that in Exodus 33 and verses 18 and 19 last week when Moses prayed to Yahweh, "Lord, show me Your glory." And the Lord said, "I will show you My goodness" or more specifically, "I will make all my goodness pass before you." The glory of God is the goodness of God.

Today, I would like to look at "How do we give glory to God"? If we are created to give glory to God, and if we are saved for the purpose of giving glory to God, how do we do it? If we can find our enjoyment, as the Westminster Catechism depicts, find our satisfaction and significance by glorifying God, how do we do it?

We really do not have to guess because David, whom the Bible describes as a "man after God's own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22), tells us plainly how he gloried God in an obscure book of the Bible that is seldom read ... it is in 1 Chronicles 16. If we want to glorify God, than we need to ask the man who knows the heart of God ... a man who has glorified God throughout his life ... a man whom God is pleased with. We need to ask him. We need to ask David.

I remember when I was in college ... in undergrad ... two of my friends and I took this class called "Probability and Statistics". I love the class. The class consisted of writing reports and turning them in to the Professor. That was basically our grade, the summation of all the grades

on our reports. Every two weeks, the Professor would give us a topic, and we were responsible for taking a sampling from a larger group and writing a report of our findings from that sampling. I would make all A's on my reports, not because I am smart or a fabulous writer, but because I understood the heart of the Professor. I knew his mind and I knew what he wanted. And I reflected his heart on my papers, and that was why I made all A's. One of my friends was making C's, and on rare occasion B's, on his papers. But my other friend was making F's on his papers. Now if you were making F's, who would you ask? The guy who knew the heart of the Professor and was making A's, or the guy who was making C's? We were all sitting in the UH library, second floor, brown wing, and instead of listening to me who knew what the Professor wanted, he listened to the guy making C's. (Sounds like I am working through some issues, huh?) Well, needless to say, he did not listen to me but the other guy and made a C on that paper. It was funny, when I was talking to him, I asked him why he did not listen to the guy who knew the mind of the Professor and making A's. His response was, at least it was not an F.

Let's not make that mistake. Let's ask David how he glorified God. With that, we turned to 1 Chronicles 16.

## II. Celebration of David

In chapter 16, David finally brought the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem. The Ark of the Covenant, the symbol of the presence of God and the covenant God made with Israel, had been taken captive by the Philistines, and then later, resided at the house of Abinadab for some twenty plus years according to 1 Samuel 7:1-2. David tried to move the Ark later, but God's anger broke out because of the irreverence that was done in moving the Ark. So the Ark remained with a man name Obed-edom for another three months (2 Samuel 6:9-11).

But finally, after years of waiting, David brought the Ark of the Covenant back to the City of David.

**1 Chronicles 16:1~<sup>1</sup>** And they brought in the ark of God and set it inside the tent that David had pitched for it ...

It was a joyous occasions. It was a celebration. And I notice four things that David did.

### 1. First, David Made Offerings (1 Chronicles 16:1-2)

So David made offerings of burnt and peace before God.

**1 Chronicles 16:1-2~<sup>1</sup>**... and they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before God. **<sup>2</sup>**And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings,

### 2. Second, David Blessed the people (1 Chronicles 16:2-3)

David blessed the people by giving them gifts. It is true that there is a word of blessing. But the word of blessing is accompanied by practical gifts.

**1 Chronicles 16:2-3**~ <sup>2</sup> ... he blessed the people in the name of the LORD <sup>3</sup> and distributed to all Israel, both men and women, to each a loaf of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins.

The cake of raisins is an aphrodisiac. It is part of the celebration. James talks about this kind of blessing where words of blessing must be accompanied by practical works of blessings.

**James 2:15-16**~ <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

3. Third, David appointed Ministers (1 Chronicles 16:4).

And he also set ministers before the Presence of the Lord to celebrate, thank, and praise God.

**1 Chronicles 16:4**~ <sup>4</sup> Then he appointed some of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the LORD, to invoke, to thank, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel.

These ministers were to invoke or celebrate. They were to give thanks to God. And they were to praise God.

4. Fourth, David Sung songs of thanksgiving (1 Chronicles 16:7)

Finally, songs of thanksgiving were being sung to commemorate this day.

**1 Chronicles 16:7**~ <sup>7</sup> Then on that day David first appointed that thanksgiving be sung to the LORD by Asaph and his brothers.

The song started in verse 8 and ends in verse 36.

### III. Three Ways to Give Glory to God

Within this song of David, he reveals to us how to glory God. It is found in verses 28-31. Remember though that Hebrew poetry is written in parallelism.

Each culture has a different way in which they create poetry. Our western culture, poetry usually rhymes. If we listen to any western songs or raps, the ending words would rhyme. Vietnamese poetry does not rhyme. If you listen to Vietnamese songs, there is not ending words to do sound the same. Instead, Vietnamese poetry focuses on the beautiful, colorful words. They do not focus on rhyme but on imagery.

Hebrew poetry does not rhyme either. It focuses on parallelism where the first and second stanza say the same thing except in different words. That is the distinctiveness of Hebrew poetry ... parallelism.

**1 Chronicles 16:28-31~**

<sup>28</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,

{ ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!  
<sup>29</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;

{ bring an offering and come before him!  
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;

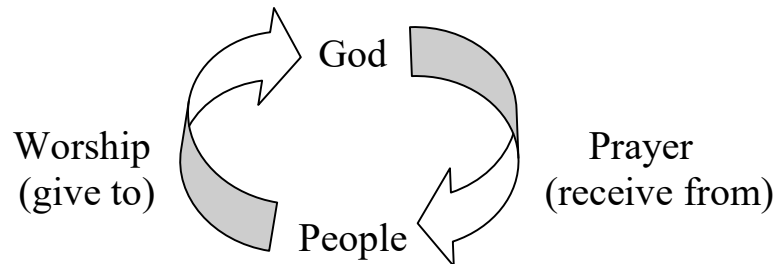
{ <sup>30</sup> tremble before him, all the earth;  
 yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

{ <sup>31</sup> Let the heavens be glad,  
 and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, “The LORD reigns!”

There are three things that we need to have and do in order to glorify God.

1. First, we are to give glory by bringing an Offering to God (1 Chronicles 16:29).

That is, we worship God. It is good that this starts the list of glorifying God.



Worship is synonymous with offering, with sacrifices. To give glory to God is to bring an offering and offer it upon the altar.

- a. Worship or an Offering involves a Sacrifice.

One main thing about worship is that it cost something. I wonder at times if my offerings are one of convenience instead of one that cost.

**2 Samuel 24:18-25~** <sup>18</sup> And Gad came that day to David and said to him, “Go up, raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.” <sup>19</sup> So David went up at Gad’s word, as the LORD commanded. <sup>20</sup> And when Araunah looked down, he saw the king and his servants coming on toward him. And Araunah went out and paid homage to the king with his face to the ground. <sup>21</sup> And Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his

servant?” David said, “To buy the threshing floor from you, in order to build an altar to the LORD, that the plague may be averted from the people.”<sup>22</sup> Then Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Here are the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood.”<sup>23</sup> All this, O king, Araunah gives to the king.” And Araunah said to the king, “May the LORD your God accept you.”<sup>24</sup> But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.<sup>25</sup> And David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

2. Second, we are to give glory by Trembling before God (1 Chronicles 16:30).

That is, we fear God.

3. Third, we are to give glory by Rejoicing before God (1 Chronicles 16:31).

Joy brings glory to God.

This week and next week, we will take the first part. The last two weeks, we will take the last two aspects of glorifying God respectively.

#### IV. Worship.

We do not sacrifice animals any more in the New Testament but there are three sacrifices that are being mentioned:

**Hebrews 13:15-16**~<sup>15</sup> Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.<sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

These are not optional. These are obligations.

1. First, a sacrifice of Praise.

Praise is a sacrifice. Maybe in our modern time we focus on the gospel and on the bible that praise and singing just seems to fade away. There is something about singing. Singing is an expression and a declaration of God's deliverances and dealings with his people.

- a. When God delivered Israel from Egypt, they sang songs (Exodus 15)
- b. During the Judges when God delivered Israel from their enemies, they sang songs (Judges 5:1-31)
- c. David sang songs when God delivered him from his enemies and from Saul (2 Samuel 22:1-51)

- d. Isaiah prophesized that during the time when the Messiah comes, His people will sing (Isaiah 12:1-6)
- e. When God told Moses that after he is gone, Israel will start to sin. So, Moses wrote a song to remind not to sin and encourage them when they do sin (Exodus 32:1-47)

2. Second, a sacrifice of Doing Good.

3. Third, a sacrifice of Sharing.

We will take a look at the second and third obligations of Offerings next week.

#### V. The Blessing

**Presider:** May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. May the love of our Lord Jesus Christ be unto you.

**Congregation:** And also to you.

#### VI. Forgiven Life (Life Application)

1. Praise is an essential part of glorifying God. Praise affects the heart and spirit. In the list below, list some reasons why we sing and praise the Lord.

a. Psalm 68:6: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Psalm 89:1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Colossians 3:16: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

d. Acts 16:25: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Now that we have some reasons why we praise and sing, let's start putting this into practice. Remember that are voice is produced by muscles. And like any muscles, the more we exercise them, the strong they get. This week:

a. Pick a praise song or two.

- b. Play the praise song while you are driving or relaxing or resting.
- c. Sing along with the song. Describe your experience, how you feel, etc. when praising God this week: \_\_\_\_\_

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