

## Worship Seminar - Introduction (Fri, 13 Jan 2006)

### ENTER HIS GATES (Psalms 100: 1-5)

The concept of "giving thanks" comes directly from the commands of scripture. God is directing us how to properly enter into His presence. In order to begin our pursuit of God, we must first learn to come before Him with hearts filled with thanksgiving! Before we can dwell with God, we must first learn that there is a proper way to approach Him. When you enter the Lord's gates, you should have not only a sense of worship and praise but an expectancy to hear from your loving Father. The Command to . .

**Shouting Joyfully.** Shout (Hebrew word) – **ruwa`** (roo-ah') meaning to shout, to raise a sound, to cry out, to give a blast, to sound a signal for war or a march and to shout (with spiritual impulse). Our faith is a shouting faith. Note that this word in **Psalms 100** verse 1 'shout joyfully unto the Lord' is a command. (Isaiah 12:6 )

David encouraged the upright in heart to shout for joy (Psalms 32:11). Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. "**Serve the LORD with gladness; . . .**" Serve in the Hebrew is the word: abad (aw-bad') meaning to work (in any sense); by implication, to serve, till, (causatively) enslave, to labor, to work, to do work, to work for another, to serve another by labor, to serve as subjects and to serve (God). He is our Lord, and therefore he is to be served; he is our gracious Lord, and therefore to be served with joy.

### **JESUS CHRIST WAS IN THE HAPPY BUSINESS. He gave us three cheers:**

"Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world":

"Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven":

"Be of good cheer, it is I, be not afraid."

A sacrifice of praise will always cost you something. It will be a difficult thing to do. It requires trading in our pride, our anger, and most valued of all, our human logic. Most of the verses written about praise in God's Word were penned by men and women who faced crushing heartaches, injustice, treachery, slander, and scores of other intolerable situations. . . . .Come before Him ("Presence") with joyful singing." Singing is an important part of the believer's life. Christianity began with angels singing over the Bethlehem manger. According to Revelation, eternity will begin with the saints of God singing the song of the redeemed. "**Presence**" - the face, countenance, atmosphere and favor. (Psalms 16:11)

The Command to. . . **Sing Joyfully.** The Hebrew word for sing joyfully is renanah (ren-aw-naw') meaning; a shout (for joy), to overcome, to cry out, to shout for joy, to give a ringing cry , to cry aloud (in summons, exhortation of wisdom). God likes joyful sounds and singing. He exults over us with joy and rejoices over us with singing (Zephaniah 3.17).

**Psalms 100:3** -The Hebrew word for know is yada` (yaw-dah) meaning ; to know properly, to ascertain by seeing, to learn to know, to perceive and to know by experience. This is an emphasis on knowledge and what we can know and what we can comprehend about God but to comprehend God's control.

**Psalms 100:4** -The Hebrew word for Gate is "**Sha` ar** (shah'-ar) means an opening, a door or gate to meeting place, a city or town. "Gates" symbolize the entrance into a

palace, camp, temple, or the city itself. Gates represent jurisdiction, dwelling, strength, power, dominion. We enter God's gates on our way to His Throne. The phrase of scripture says, "**Enter His gates with thanksgiving.**" This means as you come into the place of worship, the public place of worship, you come with the idea of giving thanks. We cannot enter His gates with ungrateful hearts. Our first songs as we are entering into praise should be ones that express our heartfelt thanksgiving unto the Lord.

"**Thanksgiving**" - (towdah) an extension of the hands, avowal, adoration, a choir of worshippers, confession, a sacrifice of praise. And give thanks for everything that takes place in the worship service as long as it is to the glory of God. (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**). Gratitude is an attitude: a personal quality that molds us and shapes our lives – not just something we do or say. (**Hebrews 13:15**) . . . **And His courts with praise (Tehillah).** " (**Psalms 100:4b**). Once we have properly entered His gates with hearts filled with thanksgiving, our next stop and final destination is his courts, the place where we ultimately stand before our great King.

#### **There are seven Hebrew Words for praise:**

**Halal or Hallel** - Halal means "to be clear, to shine, to boast, show, to rave, celebrate, to be clamorously foolish." (**Psalms 113:1-3; Psalms 150:1; Psalms 149:3**)

**Yadah** – From the root meaning, "the extended hand, to throw out the hand, therefore to worship with extended hand." (**2 Chronicles 8:14; Ezra 3:10; Psalms 22:22; Psalms 63:5; Psalms 69:30; 2 Chronicles 20:21; Psalms 63:1; Psalms 107:15**)

**Towdah** - Towdah comes from the same principle root word as yadah, but is used more specifically. Towdah literally means, "an extension of the hand in adoration, avowal, or acceptance." By way of application, it is apparent in the Psalms and elsewhere that it is used for thanking God for "things not yet received" as well as things already at hand. (**Psalms 50:14; Psalms 50:23; 2 Chronicles 29:31; Jeremiah 33:11; Psalms 42:4**)

**Shabach** - means, "to shout, to address in a loud tone, to command, to triumph." (**Psalms 47:1; Psalms 145:4; Isaiah 12:6; Psalms 63:1-4; Psalms 117:1; Psalms 35:27; Psalms 106:47**)

**Barak** - means "to kneel down, to bless God as an act of adoration." (**Psalms 95:6; 1 Chronicles 29:20; Psalms 34:1; Job 1:21; Psalms 96:2; Psalms 103:1-2; Psalms 18:46**)

**Zamar** - means "to pluck the strings of an instrument, to sing, to praise; a musical word which is largely involved with joyful expressions of music with musical instruments. (**Psalms 21:13; 1 Chronicles 16:9; Psalms 57:8-9; Psalms 66:2-4; Isa 12:5; Ps 27:6; Psalms 149:3; Psalms 30:4**)

**Tehillah** - is derived from the word halal and means "the singing of halals, to sing or to laud; perceived to involve music, especially singing; hymns of the Spirit. (**Psalms 22:3; Psalms 33:1; Isaiah 61:3; Psalms 34:1; 1 Chronicles 16:35; 2 Chronicles 20:22; Deuteronomy 10:21; Exodus 15:11; Psalms 147:1-2**)