

#245

Worship

To answer your question about praise and worship in church, I feel I should relate a testimony in my life.

I went to church today and as usual there were three choruses sung. They were modern worship choruses that had basically the same tune.

They had the words up on the screen, but with this modern way of singing, (you know, it fluctuates up and down, nothing you can sink your teeth into. (consistent melody) But then, this is the modern way)

The more flowery the tone pitch, the more spiritual you are, or at least that is the ONLY reasoning I can see for it. And of course you can't be modern without the banging of drums along with the Base beat.

The people that are up front are entertaining the audience and the audience is being entertained. Anyone that wants to truly worship the Lord through their singing is out of their league. Oh I know there are multitudes that are saying, YOU ARE OLD FASHIONED – get with the times!

To that, I will say that I have been to many different church gatherings and I have seen people raising their hands, jumping and clapping, supposedly happy. BUT, I have never seen anyone with tears of joy and worship, streaming down their face. Yet in assemblies where they still use the good old hymns and choruses. People spontaneously break into Divine adoration, where you see people lifting their hands and tears of joy running down their cheeks.

Now the worship leader (if they want true praise) needs to be in tune with the Holy Spirit, when the congregation is responding to the Lord's presence. You DON'T QUIT, I know they are on a strict time schedule,

BUT you CANNOT tell the Holy Spirit when and when not to bless the congregation at your will. The more people you have involved in selecting the songs and leading the saints into true worship with the Lord is very crucial. Not everybody is called to lead worship service. It is a calling or gift. But most religious organizations will not agree. They will say. "Anybody can lead song service..If the words are good, God will select the ones he likes and ignore the rest." After all, there is a time schedule.

Anyway, the pastor had a good sermon (2Ti 3:5*) with communion following. Before communion he had a song, "On Christ the solid Rock I Stand, all Other Ground is Sinking Sand." Nobody led it

outside of the organ playing and there were several people that raised their hearts in love, their hands toward heaven, and had tears of joy running down their cheeks, and I was one of them. NOW THIS IS SPONTANEOUS WORSHIP, too short though. When the saints start to praise the Lord, a song leader that is in tune with the Holy Spirit will continue leading praise songs that the Holy Spirit selects and gives them the THOUGHT. They will not be posted on the overhead, this is what is meant by spontaneous. I have seen the Lord move this way for over an hour, and as little as five minutes. It all depends on the Lord and how much time the leader allows him. (1Co 14:32)

The Lord does not minister the same way every time, it varies.

I attended one assemble where every Sunday morning, that had a worship service that lasted anywhere from 3/4 to 1 hour in duration. They would sing a chorus over and over again till you got sick of hearing it then they would pick on another one until you got sick of it and so on. It reminded me of the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel and the results were the same, NOTHING HAPPENED. (1Ki 18:26-29)

They probably experienced a great move of God one occasion, in a praise service similar to this and expect God to move the same everytime afterwards.

You cannot make people praise God, it comes from within their heart, BUT you can quench them from praising by not allowing them.

This is usually done through ignorance and in most cases this is what happens in the majority of churches. (1Ki 18:28)

You see, praise and worship comes from the individual. The song leader can LEAD the people in song and praise, but true praise comes from the congregation as the Holy Spirit moves within their heart and spirit. Thus it is actually the Lords presence that instills praise and worship. An individual can choose to praise and worship, BUT I have NEVER seen worship and praise for our Lord stem from Rock-n-Roll, screaming and hollering, pow wows etc, anything where the beat is loud and sensuous.

True worship produces Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness and Temperance.

(Galatians 5:22-23)

The bible says: 1Thessalonians 5:19* **Quench not the Spirit.** This happens in the great majority of assemblies, because of ignorance. TRADITION has taught us that singing a song or chorus is worship, TRUE TO A SENCE. But true worship of our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ comes from the HEART and whats in it.

We have to be taught though, if you have never openly worshipped the Lord, you don't know any difference. You don't just sit down and play a piano, you have to learn how to first This may be a poor example, as anybody can worship but not everybody can play piano. The point that it takes some effort on your part is the same.

How many people actually think about praising God, to sing a song is one thing, but how manny would just say thank you Lord, I praise you, I adore you just for the sake of saying it. But as we do, it becomes second nature and that my dear friends is WORSHIP.

I trust this gives you a better understanding?

Bro. Ken

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