

God is Great, Majestic, High And Lifted Up!

What Benefit Is That To Us?

By B. D. Tate

If God is Almighty, Great, and Majestic fully capable of doing anything what good does that do for us **if He does nothing to help us?** This would be like knowing that your buddy is a black belt in karate and has experience in defending himself against others; however, while we are being attacked, beaten, and robbed, he stands by exclaiming how capable he is to defeat our attackers.

We are commanded, encouraged, and admonished to praise and worship God. We are to proclaim His glory and power. We are to exalt the Lord together declaring His mighty works, power, and miracles.

Ps 96:9 Oh, **worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!**
Tremble before Him, all the earth.

Ps 99:9 **Exalt the LORD our God, And worship at His holy hill;**
For the LORD our God is holy.

Jesus quoted the Old Testament by saying, "You shall worship the LORD your God and Him only you shall serve."(De 6:13) If I'm in a bad way and my life is threatened, lacking, suffering, and in great need what good does **it do God** for me to praise how great He is **while I have no benefit of His greatness?**

I heard it taught and have said it myself; I will praise the Lord whether or not I receive His benefits. I will praise Him if He gives or if He takes away.

Job 1:21 And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb,
And naked shall I return there. **The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.**"

It is rather silly for someone who is poverty stricken, sick and diseased, and experiencing defeat, failure, and oppression all around to be proclaiming how great God is! God is great! God is good! Blessed be the name of the Lord! All the while this person may believe and see how great God is **but what good has it done him?**

When a child goes to school in fine clothes, the best provisions, and the best school supplies most of us think, “Well, that child comes from a well to do family.” Conversely, if a child comes to school in old ragged clothes, hungry, needy, and wildly out of control, most of us would think, “I wonder what kind of home life he has?”

Pr 29:15 The rod and rebuke give wisdom, **But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.**

A child reflects the home. An obedient son who performs well getting good grades and high marks brings honor to his mother and father.

The Honor Has A Purpose

This same type of honor is bestowed upon *an ambassador* depending on which nation he comes from. We would expect an ambassador from a wealthy and powerful nation to reflect it in his dress, manners, resources, and attitude. An ambassador from a very poor, weak, and failing nation would have little to offer except complaints.

When it comes to *ownership* if we let our car run down, become broken and sloppy it reflects on the owner. If we belong to God through Christ **but we cannot expect our relationship to reflect God’s glory something is confused.**

I think we have separated the two: our relationship to God and His glory in us. We walk around as if we are still under the curse and the law. We walk around as if we are still going *to get what we deserve*. We walk around as if God’s glory is for another time—in heaven.

The reason God wants us to glorify Him, praise His name, and magnify His power in our life is so **that we authorize and give permission for His will to be done in our life. We worship God and His glory becomes us!**

When we focus on the causes of our fears it keeps our eyes off of Jesus. What we focus on empowers it! Listen to this verse again:

II Cor. 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding** as in a mirror **the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

What we see has our attention and transfigures our ability to believe.
What we see in the Lord transforms our life into His!

The Power Of Praise Works Greater Than The Power Of Fear!

Our fears focus our attention on the problem, the hindrances, the obstacles, the natural things, and make us *mere* men; when we focus on Jesus we are translated from the *kingdom of darkness* into the **kingdom of grace** (Col. 1:13)! When we see the Lord high and lifted up we are embracing ***His divine nature within our own lives (II Pet. 1:4)!***

We have often praised the Lord out of ***obligation, duty, and fear***. We have worshipped from a distance, from a position of weakness, and as servants and slaves. We reason that He is worthy because He is the creator God. This is certainly true; however, God's command for us to worship Him is not because of His ego or need to be recognized and appreciated. We are not focused on the Lord just because God made us. We focus on His love, His nature, His grace, His presence, His will, and His glory because ***it becomes operational in our life through faith***.

God doesn't need us to acknowledge His greatness so that He can be satisfied with our worship. **God doesn't need our worship; we are the ones that need** to acknowledge His greatness and worship His holiness so that we can receive His benefits!

Ps 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, **Who daily loads us with benefits**,
The God of our salvation! Selah

Ps 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, **And forget not all His benefits**:

Ps 116:12 **What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?**

What Are These Benefits?

Under the old covenant they were mercy and pity; help from a distance. Under grace and the *new creation* (II Cor. 5:17) we are in Him, possess His divine nature, and authorized to use His name (John 14:14)! We have gone from being just natural and having temporary help to being made supernatural with permanent help!

2Co 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, **And in the day of salvation I have helped you.**" Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, **now is the day of salvation.**

When we consider how great God is and how good God is and what God has done in Christ for us; **we enter into divine presence and power.** We are activating the Holy Spirit to be all that God is to our lives. We are praising, promoting, and prescribing the glory of God to fit the need.

Ps 8:2 Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants **You have ordained strength**, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

Mt 21:16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have **perfected praise**'?" (Ps 8:2)

In Psalm 8:2 the word is translated strength in Matthew 21:16 Jesus translated it "perfected praise." If we are understand this truth **that**

praise produces strength in us then the purpose of praise **isn't for God it is for us!**

Our worship and praise has a purpose in taking us out of fear and naturalism into faith and God's glory. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty (II Cor. 3:17), power, freedom, deliverance, healing, protection, and provision—God's will!

If we knew a wealthy friend who is known for being generous, kind, thoughtful, loving, and aware wouldn't we expect help from him when we needed it? **How much more we should expect, reason, and realize that *through the worship of God, He has helped us?*** Our praise and worship changes us and turns the tables on our enemies. Our focus on God's greatness changes our circumstances and situations. It changes our attitude and reveals to us true believing.

"I do worship You! I do bless your name! I can trust your love and power to work in me and through me according the name of Jesus. I exalt your love and grace! I consider your divine nature and holiness! I magnify your care and help on my behalf. I praise the living God who is my God! My God supplies! My God healed! My God answered me before I asked. My God works all things for my good! My God made a way when there seemed to be no way. My God is glorified in my life! His glory fills my temple and I am shielded, protected, and kept from evil. I love knowing You! I love your favor and will done in my life! I love your love towards me that never fades. I am blessed just by having you in my life; having you in my life means I am supplied."

He told us to feed on His faithfulness!

Ps 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and **feed on His faithfulness.**

To feed on His faithfulness is to take in sustenance, strength, energy, food, and power! It means that gratitude and thankfulness in His faithfulness to us will be of great benefit!

Ps 107:8 Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, **And for His wonderful works to the children of men!**

Why should we give thanks to the Lord? If we are to worship God because of who He is but that does not affect our lives in any way, why give thanks? We give thanks because God made us, loves us, takes care of us, and **intervenes in our life through His grace in Jesus.**

Re 11:17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, **Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.**

Consider the final outcome when all sin, the curse, and evil are dismissed bringing in eternal peace in Christ Jesus! We will give thanks to the Lord God Almighty because with His great power He reigns! There will be no more sorrow, pain, suffering, tears, sadness, death, sickness or disease; because God's will is done—forever (Rev. 21:4)! His great goodness will manifest completely in our lives! Our worship of God has a purpose to reveal to us who God really is! He is compassionate; perfect in all His ways. He is loving, good, kind, supplying our every need and giving to us His very presence where there is fullness of joy (Ps. 16:11)!

Why Did God Reveal Himself To Us?

Was it so that we would have God to fear? Was it so that we'd know that He is an *Awesome God!* Was it so that we would worship and praise Him because of how great He is? No. It was for our benefit! God knows who He is and has no need for others to tell Him so. **God revealed Himself to us to help us!** Worship and praise are the natural responses to any created being seeing God! Worship is honest, truthful, inspiring, and real for us when we see God in His holiness and righteousness! Worship changes us! Worship strengthens us. Worship opens our eyes to our source, supply, redemption, purpose, and place. Worship brings the Most High God into our life to sustain, support, and deliver. Listen to the reasoning given by God for the *first* commandment in the Ten Commandments:

The first of the Ten Commandments is this:

Deut. 5:2 "I am the LORD your God, **who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.**

3 "You shall have no other gods before Me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;

5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. **For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God,** visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

6 **but showing** mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Why Is God, God?

It is because of who He is and what He's done! He is God because of His powers beyond naturalism. The sign given to us in the Old Testament again and again is the miraculous power of God. Only God can change the natural laws of the earth:

De 32:39 'Now see that I, even I, am He, **And there is no God besides Me;** I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; **Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.**

Isa 46:9 Remember the former things of old, **for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,**

God is not the God of the dead but of the living (Luke 20:38), Jesus said! God is not the God of the weak, poor, sick, and dying **but of the blessed, supplied, and helped!** God is not the God of the cursed! The curse comes from breaking the Law of Moses! The curse comes from disobedience! **The curse is the result of falling from grace!**

A Bad Reflection?

When we are cursed, sick, poor, defeated, fearful, and full of anxiety we simply do not know God (I John 4:18)! If we know Him and we are still suffering the fall, the curse, and being burdened by the Law of Moses, **we don't know grace**. When born again sons and daughters do not stand in and assert the new creation we bring a poor reflection of the new kingdom in us.

None of us want to be a poor reflection of God to others. We want to be a good witness of God's love and grace. We have often presented a very disengaged God who only manifests His power occasionally, almost reluctantly. We have presented the kingdom of God as if it is for another day; not now. What changed the world was the power of God demonstrated to confirm His Word (Mark 16:20). Jesus operated in the kingdom of God to heal multitudes of all manner of sickness and disease—His ministry was full of the power of God. Then the apostles did the very same thing (Acts 5:12). The kingdom of God is not in word but in power!

1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word **but in power**.

Conclusion

Our worship re-aliens us to see God in His glory so that His glory will be seen in us! *Worship isn't for God; it is for us!* Worship doesn't drain us so that God can somehow feed on it, taking from us; ***worship is God's divine nature being seen and taken in!*** We receive from Him when we worship! We live, breathe, and have our being through praise and thanksgiving! God is the giver, supplier; the one who always blesses! **When we worship we are the ones who are blessed! Amen.**

Worship and praise, giving thanks, looking to and seeing Jesus, all of these things are for our benefit! We are opened to the greatness of God and it activates His will done in our lives!

Remember this truth?

Eph 3:20 **Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,**

21 to **Him be glory** in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

We don't praise and worship God for nothing! The more we do worship Him in Spirit and in truth the more we'll see Jesus. The more we see Jesus the more faith we are in. The more grace we are in. The more divine life we are inviting to operate in our life. The more we see the Lord in all His glory, majesty, power and might, the more we'll experience it in our life!

The problem is that we have seen worship as our obligation, duty, and responsibility. We are afraid that God will *curse* us if we don't worship Him. We see ourselves as the created to worship God; as if God needed worshippers. **We have separated the real meaning and purpose of worship from worship!** We have misunderstood and been deceived about its purpose.

We are the ones who are blessed when we worship the One True God from our hearts, in our daily living; in the way we return His love. **Just as life is about God's love for us so is worship about God's power coming through us.** We worship because it empowers us to know God, stand in His presence, experience His love, and assert His grace. **Worshippers are full of God's glory and it shows. It shows by faith in His grace; through the supernatural life of Jesus manifesting to heal, deliver, set free, forgive, cast out evil, to bless, and redeem.**

We are to love God with all our heart so says the first and greatest commandment...is this God's punishment and control over us? It is just the opposite! When we through His grace engage in true worship and returning His poured out love for us, we are never more free and being what we were meant to be. We were meant to be the vessels, the conduit, and channels of God's glory and power to the world. **Our worship is the key to making God's dream for us come true. Our worship sets us free to be just like Jesus (1 John 4:17).**

When we read what Jesus said about the Father seeking worshippers we have often heard it through *sin natured ears*. We think He is like us and is selfishly seeking worshippers for His own glory. We think He is seeking worshippers for His own purposes. What is His purpose? It is that we would be just like Jesus and it takes being true worshippers of God for it to happen! When we worship God in Spirit and in truth we are empowered! **The worship of God is not for Him—it is for us!**

Joh 4:23 "But the hour is coming, and now is, **when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.**

If there is anything we can do to make our life more like Jesus it is entering into the **fullness of the Spirit to magnify, glorify, and worship the Father.** Our worship of God brings His glory to light in us.