

## **HABITATIONS OF PRAISE**

### **“The Entrance of the King”**

*Our aim in this series is to better understand Biblical praise and worship; psalmic worship. To this end, we are progressing to where we can discuss the practices of praise instituted by David to bless the Lord at the tabernacle he pitched in Jerusalem for the ark of the covenant. Because this tabernacle is referred to in Scripture as “the tabernacle of David,” we need to understand what God wants to teach us about Himself through David. We have to examine David’s life.*

*A thorough examination of David’s life would be a series all in itself. To give us some idea of the weight of David in Scripture, it is useful to compare how much ink he receives compared to the other patriarchs.*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Chapters</b>	<b>OT Uses</b>	<b>NT Uses</b>	<b>Total Uses</b>
Abraham (Abram)	14	216	68	284
Jacob	11	332	26	358
Joseph	14	195	8	203
David	66	953	58	1011

*Because of the purpose of this series, we are not going to be able to take a very detailed look at David’s life. My wish is that the information that we do impart would be the catalyst for deeper, personal study into the life of this fascinating servant of God from whom, on the earthly side, our Messiah came.*

#### **Saul’s Rebellion-**

1 Sam 15:22-26

22 But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

24 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the LORD's command and your instructions. I was afraid of the people and so I gave in to them.

25 Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the LORD."

26 But Samuel said to him, "I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel!" NIV

*Because of Saul’s disobedience of the Lord, He rejected him as being king. Samuel was dispatched by the Lord to anoint another in his place. Samuel went to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem and had all seven sons presented to him. None were chosen. On closer examination, the existence of an eighth son was revealed and he was sent for.*

#### **I. The three anointings of David-**

*The First-*

1 Sam 16:11-13

11 So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

12 So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one."

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah. NIV

*David received this anointing at an early age. Guesstimates range from 10 (Josephus) to 15 years of ages. This is the first of three anointings that David would undergo. The oil was poured out on his head from the horn. The lesson of this is that without a sacrifice (the horn) there can be no anointing (the oil). Samuel was aware of the purpose of the anointing as was David (1 Chr. 11:3) and possibly Jesse. But his brothers did not. The immediate implication of this anointing to them would have been that David was being anointed to be among the company of prophets that Samuel trained. When the Spirit of the Lord first came upon Saul after his anointing, he prophesied. We do not know if David prophesied on this occasion or not. But we do know that he was a prophet.*

Acts 2:29-30

29 "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day.

30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. NIV

*Even as the Holy Spirit changed the heart of Saul, he enhanced the character and skill of David. In the next section of the narrative, we learn of the impact of the anointing on David.*

1 Sam 16:14-23

14 Now the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him.

15 Saul's attendants said to him, "See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.

16 Let our lord command his servants here to search for someone who can play the harp. He will play when the evil spirit from God comes upon you, and you will feel better."

17 So Saul said to his attendants, "Find someone who plays well and bring him to me."

18 One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the harp. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the LORD is with him."

19 Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep."

20 So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them with his son David to Saul.

21 David came to Saul and entered his service. Saul liked him very much, and David became one of his armor-bearers.

22 Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, "Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him."

23 Whenever the spirit from God came upon Saul, David would take his harp and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him. NIV

*David's playing was not only skillful, it was anointed. The report of him was that he was a brave man and a warrior. The KJV reads, "a mighty valiant man, a man of war." I believe that this is a center quality of David's character. It is his warring spirit that is the contiguous arc through all his skills and accomplishments as a shepherd, psalmist, soldier, king, and architect. In all of these pursuits, David showed himself a "man of war." In this respect (as well as others) he was a man after God's own heart, for "the Lord is a man of war." (Ex. 15:3)*

*By the time he entered Saul's service, David had proven himself a brave shepherd. He delivered his lambs from the mouth of the lion and the bear. In his playing the harp for the king, we see him subduing a demonic power. Later, he challenges the champion Goliath and kills him, taking out a principality that was holding the Israelite army captive by intimidation and terror. His victory over Goliath made Saul jealous and he sought David's life from that time forward. The Lord protected David and prospered him through much trial.*

1 Sam 22:1-2

- 1 David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there.
- 2 All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their leader. About four hundred men were with him. NIV

*These pressed out of measure, indebted, and bitter-souled men became his army. For possibly as long as 10 years, David lived "on the run" from Saul while fighting the enemies of Israel at the same time. After Saul died, David inquired of the Lord.*

*The Second-*

2 Sam 2:1-4

- 1 In the course of time, David inquired of the LORD. "Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?" he asked. The LORD said, "Go up." David asked, "Where shall I go?" "To Hebron," the LORD answered.
- 2 So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel.
- 3 David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in Hebron and its towns.
- 4a Then the men of Judah came to Hebron and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. NIV

*This is David's second anointing. With this anointing, he was confirmed king over the house of Judah, commencing the fulfillment of the prophecy spoken over Judah by Jacob as recorded in Genesis 49:10. The civil war with the rest of Israel continued for 7 ½ years. Saul's son Ish-Bosheth was murdered and the men of Israel approached David.*

*The Third-*

2 Sam 5:1-3

- 1 All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood.

- 2 In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'
- 3 When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a compact with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. NIV

*This is now David's third anointing as king. The first had a prophetic tone, the second was kingly, and this third one will shortly take on a priestly flare. Once the tribes were consolidated behind him, David determined to conquer the citadel of the Jebusites, Jerusalem.*

2 Sam 5:6-12

- 6 The king and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites, who lived there. The Jebusites said to David, "You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off." They thought, "David cannot get in here."
- 7 Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David.
- 8 On that day, David said, "Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those 'lame and blind' who are David's enemies." That is why they say, "The 'blind and lame' will not enter the palace."
- 9 David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the supporting terraces inward.
- 10 And he became more and more powerful, because the LORD God Almighty was with him.
- 11 Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and carpenters and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David.
- 12 And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel. NIV

*David had arrived. He was king of Israel ruling from Jerusalem. When he was born, Saul had been king for ten years already and the ark of the covenant had been in Kirjath-jearim for nearly forty years. Neither Saul nor David had ever experienced the glory of God being at the Tabernacle of Moses. That tent was still being tended to by the priests and Levites. The sacrifices were still being performed. But no ark was present.*

## **II. Approaching God by the Flesh-**

1 Chron 13:1-6

- 1 David conferred with each of his officers, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds.
- 2 He then said to the whole assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and if it is the will of the LORD our God, let us send word far and wide to the rest of our brothers throughout the territories of Israel, and also to the priests and Levites who are with them in their towns and pasturelands, to come and join us.
- 3 Let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we did not inquire of it during the reign of Saul."
- 4 The whole assembly agreed to do this, because it seemed right to all the people.
- 5 So David assembled all the Israelites, from the Shihor River in Egypt to Lebo Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath Jearim.

6 David and all the Israelites with him went to Baalah of Judah (Kiriath Jearim) to bring up from there the ark of God the LORD, who is enthroned between the cherubim-the ark that is called by the Name. NIV

*It was revival time in Israel. The ark had not been sought after during Saul's reign. The people all agreed that it would be a good thing to bring up the ark to Jerusalem. Everything is present: right heart, leadership, unity of the people, priests and Levites, praise and worship and sacrifices.*

1 Chron 13:7-14

7 They moved the ark of God from Abinadab's house on a new cart, with Uzzah and Ahio guiding it.

8 David and all the Israelites were celebrating with all their might before God, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, cymbals and trumpets.

9 When they came to the threshing floor of Kidon, Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the ark, because the oxen stumbled.

10 The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah, and he struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God.

11 Then David was angry because the LORD's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah.

12 David was afraid of God that day and asked, "How can I ever bring the ark of God to me?"

13 He did not take the ark to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite.

14 The ark of God remained with the family of Obed-Edom in his house for three months, and the LORD blessed his household and everything he had. NIV

*Who was it that had moved the ark in a new cart before? The Philistines! Uzzah's death is proof that God is concerned about how we approach Him. David was trying to do a right thing the wrong way. His goal, moving the ark to Jerusalem, I believe was godly. But he failed to seek the Lord's wisdom in accomplishing it. By expecting success and not seeking God's wisdom, David shows a measure of presumption in moving the ark. By reaching out to steady the ark, Uzzah showed his over-familiarity with the ark. He had become numb to its holiness and he died. When we want to do God's work, we must do it God's way.*

*The ark was placed in the house of Obed-Edom. One wonders how he was convinced to take it! While David stewed about the Lord's anger (note that David was by no means pleased with the interference of his plan), the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all he had.*

2 Sam 6:12

12 Now King David was told, "The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God." So David went down and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing. NIV

*When David heard that Obed-Edom was being blessed, David felt it was safe to move the ark. I also think that David was proactive in pursuing the blessing of God. He made the effort to gain the blessing not just for himself, but the whole nation.*

### III. Approaching God According to the Spirit-

#### 1) A Prepared Place-

1 Chron 15:1-3

1 After David had constructed buildings for himself in the City of David, he prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it.

2 Then David said, "No one but the Levites may carry the ark of God, because the LORD chose them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister before him forever."

3 David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to the place he had prepared for it. NIV

*David didn't just expect God to show up. He prepared a sanctuary for the ark. He prepared a place for God to be worshipped by pitching a tent for the ark.*

#### 2) A Prepared Priesthood-

1 Chron 15:11-15

11 Then David summoned Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel and Amminadab the Levites.

12 He said to them, "You are the heads of the Levitical families; you and your fellow Levites are to consecrate yourselves and bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place I have prepared for it.

13 It was because you, the Levites, did not bring it up the first time that the LORD our God broke out in anger against us. ***We did not inquire of him about how to do it in the prescribed way.*** [emphasis added]" [KJV – *we sought him not after the due order; Heb. Did not worship him correctly!*]

14 So the priests and Levites consecrated themselves in order to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel.

15 And the Levites carried the ark of God with the poles on their shoulders, as Moses had commanded in accordance with the word of the LORD. NIV

*We are to worship God in spirit and in truth. If our worship of God is contrary to his revealed methods in Scripture, we are out of order. Our worship must be Biblical to be acceptable.*

*The priests and Levites prepared themselves to worship the Lord. They didn't simply go through the motions of ritual in carrying the ark. They sanctified themselves for the purpose.*

Ps 24:3-4

3 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. NIV

*If we are not clean, we must approach in repentance before we approach in worship. We must be consecrated, cleansed for our worship to be acceptable. This is why the brazen altar was the first thing the people saw when they entered the tabernacle of Moses. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sins. We need to be cleansed to approach God.*

*Up to this point, all David has done is to remind the Levites of the laws instituted by God through Moses. But the ark is not destined for the tabernacle of the wilderness. It is bound for the City of David. God is doing a new thing.*

### *3) Prepared Performers-*

1 Chron 15:16-24

16 David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their brothers as singers to sing joyful songs, accompanied by musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.

17 So the Levites appointed Heman son of Joel; from his brothers, Asaph son of Berekiah; and from their brothers the Merarites, Ethan son of Kushaiah;

18 and with them their brothers next in rank: Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom and Jeiel, the gatekeepers.

19 The musicians Heman, Asaph and Ethan were to sound the bronze cymbals;

20 Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah and Benaiah were to play the lyres according to alamoth, [*treble or soprano*]

21 and Mattithiah, Eliphehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom, Jeiel and Azaziah were to play the harps, directing according to sheminith. [*an eighth, lower than alamoth thus base*]

22 Kenaniah the head Levite was in charge of the singing; that was his responsibility because he was skillful at it.

23 Berekiah and Elkanah were to be doorkeepers for the ark.

24 Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah and Eliezer the priests were to blow trumpets before the ark of God. Obed-Edom and Jehiah were also to be doorkeepers for the ark. NIV

*David organizes an entire choir and symphony to lead and follow the procession in worship of the Lord. Note in verse 22 that Kenaniah was in charge of the singers because he was skillful at it. Anybody can worship. It is a universal craving of our hearts and God's. But to lead worship, preparation and skill. Remember that David was skilled on the harp. His skill, anointed by the Holy Spirit, sent the evil spirit afflicting Saul away. One doubts that he would have had the same affect if he had been just learning the harp.*

### *4) A Praising Procession-*

1 Chron 15:25-16:1

25 So David and the elders of Israel and the commanders of units of a thousand went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed-Edom, with rejoicing.

26 Because God had helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, seven bulls and seven rams were sacrificed.

27 Now David was clothed in a robe of fine linen, as were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and as were the singers, and Kenaniah, who was in charge of the singing of the choirs. David also wore a linen ephod.

28 So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouts, with the sounding of rams' horns and trumpets, and of cymbals, and the playing of lyres and harps.

29 As the ark of the covenant of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David dancing and celebrating, she despised him in her heart. NIV

2 Sam 6:13-17

13 When those who were carrying the ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf.

14 David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the LORD with all his might,

15 while he and the entire house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

16 As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart.

17 They brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the LORD. NIV

*David behaved as a priest in the bringing in of the ark to Jerusalem. He wore an ephod, he sacrificed offerings. This is what gives his third anointing its priestly flavor. David danced before the Lord with all his might! This is a far cry from the staid austerity of the worship at the tabernacle of Moses. There the people went to sacrifice for their sins. The priests prayed and only they could approach the near the throne in the holy place. Here, all Israel celebrates exuberantly before God.*

*At Moses's tent, continual animal sacrifices are offered. When the Temple of Solomon was dedicated, hundreds of thousands of animals were sacrificed. Those sacrifices continued on a daily basis. Not so this tabernacle. Sacrifices were made at its dedication. Thereafter, only the sacrifice of praise was offered before the ark. The Lord Jesus was the **one** blood sacrifice offered to dedicate the church, His tabernacle. Thereafter, the sacrifice of praise is to be our offering.*

#### **IV. The Entrance of the King-**

*All the elements that were present at its institution would continue during its existence and extend themselves into the Temple system and ultimately the worship style of the Church of Jesus Christ. David wrote a Psalm to be used during this event and to commemorate it thereafter. It is the 24<sup>th</sup>.*

Ps 24:1-6 NIV

1 Of David. A psalm.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

2 for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

3 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

5 He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior.

6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob. Selah

*We are to seek the face of God with clean hands and a pure heart unadulterated and undistracted by idols. The selah bids us stop and consider the truths just proclaimed. While you do, imagine winding your way up to the city walls of Jerusalem. As they come into sight, you sing and shout with the Levitical choir:*

Ps 24:7

7 Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. NIV

*From the city you hear the voice of another choir inquiring why the gates should be open.*

Ps 24:8-10

8 Who is this King of glory? [*they ask*] The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. [*you sing out with all your heart*]

9 Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

10 Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty-- he is the King of glory. Selah NIV

*We know the King of glory. Scripture tells us in 1 Cor. 2:8 that if the rulers of the world had understood God's secret wisdom, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

1 Cor 2:8

8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. NIV

*His name is Jesus. He was anointed as the Prophet, the King, and the Priest by the Holy Spirit in the Jordan River. When he approached Jerusalem near the end of his earthly ministry, the disciples in the city exploded with joyful praise.*

Matt 21:1-11

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me.

3 If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

5 "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them.

7 They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them.

8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." NIV

Luke 19:37-40

37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." NIV

*Let us open the gates of our hearts and allow the King of glory to come in. Let us open our mouths and offer him sacrifices of praise in the prescribed fashion lest the stones be tempted to cry out in our stead. Amen!*