

# Talk on Praise (Forsake Natural Understanding and Follow God's Way: Psalm 50:23)

by Hans R. Waldvogel

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*Praise is indispensable because it gives God a chance at our hearts and fills us with light, glory, and the power of His resurrection.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 22:3, Psalm 34:1, Psalm 50:23, Psalm 100:4, Psalm 150:6, John 4:24, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, Hebrews 13:15

**Topics:** "Praise", "Spiritual Understanding"

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## Description

Hans R. Waldvogel emphasizes the transformative power of praise in his sermon, explaining that true understanding of spiritual matters is beyond the natural man's grasp. He illustrates how praise not only glorifies God but also opens our hearts to His presence, allowing us to experience His light and salvation. Waldvogel shares personal testimonies and stories to highlight how praise can lead to liberation from darkness and defeat the enemy. He encourages believers to forsake their natural understanding and embrace the spiritual act of praising God, which brings about divine intervention in their lives.

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## Transcript

Selected Verses:

1 Corinthians 2:14. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Psalm 50:23. Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

Psalm 22:3. But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

Opening:

[Congregational singing: 'Tis Burning in My Soul]

All right, let it burn.

[Congregational praise]

[Tongues]

"You ought to rejoice greatly if the fire is burning in your soul, for that's what I came to do. 'I came to cast fire upon this earth' and it's been burning ever since I've conquered sin and the world and the flesh and the devil. And I've conquered these enemies for you, and I went on high and 'led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men.' Open your hearts wide, and let this fire truly burn and blaze and drive away all the darkness and all the filth that is still found there, and let it melt your heart in true sacrificial love in My presence."

[Worship and praise]

[Hymn: Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus]

The reason praise is so blessed is because it's indispensable. You can't get along without it. If you do, your loss will be an eternal loss. And the reason people don't understand it is because "the natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God." And when you live in the flesh--I mean in the natural, the natural. I know that the natural man has one thousand billion brain cells, but they're all sick. I mean, they're "dead," the Bible says. You've got to be quickened and made "a new creature."

I was so happy the other day to hear a saint testify whom I was permitted to lead to the Lord, or at least she got saved in one of our meetings. She was a woman--German woman--who was mad with God and man. She had been treated so badly that she didn't care about anything. She was just mad. And when we put up our tent in her vicinity, she came just out of curiosity. And so she sat down and listened to... The testimonies impressed her more than anything else. And after listening to the testimonies of people who were saved, she said, "Well, there must be something to it. I'm going to try it." So she came to the altar one night, and she said, "Jesus, if this is really real--if You are real--You must come to me." And He did, of course. He came into her heart, and she stayed a long time.

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Selected Quotes:

I have to laugh sometimes at the things God does. He does strange things because people come in here--not so much in here but Seneca Avenue--so impressed with their dignity, so deeply impressed with their imagined education. The Bible says, "knowledge puffeth up, but love edifieth." But the Bible says that "the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God," and "none of the princes of this world understood," "but unto us God hath revealed them by His Spirit."

...

And I was praising the Lord. I was saying, "Jesus I praise You, I praise You!" And then I stopped, and then I said, "Well, Jesus, do You care if I praise You? Does it mean anything if I praise You." And then He sweetly showed me why it mattered to Him that I praised Him. Why, it gives Him a chance at my heart, gives Him a chance to praise God in me, and through me. It gives Jesus Christ a chance to fill this body of mine with light, and with glory, and with the power of His resurrection. That's what praise does. It's a spiritual operation. It's God doing something that the natural man can't do, or doesn't want to do.

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But it's a good thing to discover this wonderful "receiving set" which is your heart, which was created by God for that very purpose: that Jesus Christ might use those lips of yours to praise the Father by--these lips that have been talking naughty things. No wonder you're naughty, no wonder your stomach aches, no wonder your kidneys are sick. But when you praise God, and Jesus Christ gets hold of you, there's contact with heaven. "God inhabits the praises" of who? Of you! Haven't you found that out? Did you praise Him tonight? Oh, when you praise God in the Holy Ghost, there's the current moving on the line.

...

And when I was unsaved, or didn't know the Lord, I was full of darkness. These dark, depressive thoughts, and criticizing, and fault-finding, and hating, and unforgiving--all these things lodged within me, and yet I looked very decent and very religious. But inside was darkness. But I tell you, since Jesus came in--and He came in when I praised Him, when I raised my hands and opened my mouth, and began praising the Lord--and since that time, my whole body has been full of light--the light of His presence.

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And if you go God's way, you'll first of all begin to give Him the glory. "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so." And when you begin to praise God, forgetting yourself, forgetting your past--"forget the things that are behind," seek Jesus Christ, hallelujah--and praise Him, I tell you, the enemy is defeated. What marvelous victories God gives today to people when they praise the Lord.

Illustrations:

Comments on cigarettes and transistor radios. "I made a discovery. When I lift my heart in thanksgiving to God, Jesus Christ sends--He broadcasts from heaven--glory and grace. And that's what praise does for me. That's why He says, 'Whosoever offereth praise' turns on this radio." (from 5:26)

A story of a minister in Wuppertal who was liberated from hypocrisy through praise. "'We're preachers, but we live in the flesh....' He said to himself, 'When they all lift their hands, I'm going to raise my hands. I'm going to see what'll happen.'" So he did. And a wonderful thing happened: He put up his hands, and the glory of God came down." (from 9:42)

The story of the drunken Swiss man and his top hat. "You don't get rid of the devil that way. You get rid of the devil by letting Jesus Christ come in and possess you--fill you, hallelujah! You open a door and let Him come in, praise God--why, the enemy's got to go! 'That's the way,' God says. That's the way." (from 11:44)

The story of a missionary who fought smallpox with praise. The story is also mentioned in recording 9B. "You ought to get your experience. And when you get an experience, you'll find out that 'God Himself inhabits the praises of His people.'" (from 14:43)

German at 6:54:

Psalm 50:23. Wer Dank opfert, der preiset mich; und da ist der Weg, [daß ich ihm zeige das Heil Gottes.]

Literally, "He who sacrifices thank-offerings honors Me and there is the way I will show him the salvation of God."

German at 12:29:

This is part of the Appenzellerlied.

Myn Vatter ist en Appenzeller

Er frißt de Chäs mitsamt em Täller

In German it would be:

Mein Vater ist ein Appenzeller

Er frißt den Käs mitsamt dem Teller.

My Father is an Appenzeller

he devours the cheese together with the plate.

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