

How To _____ Your Way To A _____

2 Chronicles 20:18-30; Selected Scriptures

By

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1. You must learn to _____ and _____ The LORD in response to _____ from Him.

2 Chronicles 20:18-21 (ESV) - Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. ¹⁹ And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice. [DESCRIPTIVE, PRESCRIPTIVE OR BOTH?] ²⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed." ²¹ And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say, "Give thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Worshipping – שָׁחָה; **Transliteration:** shāḥâ; shaw-khaw'.

Praise – הָלַל; **Transliteration:** hālal.

Believe – אָמַן; **Transliteration:** 'āman.

Give THANKS – יָדָה; **Transliteration:** yādâ.

Psalms 95:6-7a (ESV) - Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷ For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

1 Chronicles 23:30 (ESV) - And they were to stand every morning, thanking and praising the LORD, and likewise at evening,

Psalms 150:1-6 (ESV) - Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! ² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! ³ Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! ⁴ Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! ⁵ Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! ⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

2. You need to realize what God can _____ when you give _____ and _____ to The LORD.

2 Chronicles 20:22-25 (ESV) - And when they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed. ²³ For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an

end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another. ²⁴ When Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, they looked toward the horde, and behold, there were dead bodies lying on the ground; none had escaped. ²⁵ When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take their spoil, they found among them, in great numbers, goods, clothing, and precious things, which they took for themselves until they could carry no more. They were three days in taking the spoil, it was so much.

A. Your worship and praise of The Lord can _____ God to _____ on your behalf.

Deuteronomy 32:43 (NRSV) - Praise, O heavens, his people, worship him, all you gods! For he will avenge the blood of his children, and take vengeance on his adversaries; he will repay those who hate him, and cleanse the land for his people.

Psalm 68:35 (ETRV) - God, you are awesome in your Temple! The God of Israel is the one who gives strength and power to his people. Praise God!

B. Your worship and praise of The Lord can _____ your _____

Judges 7:20-22 (ESV) – Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the jars. They held in their left hands the torches, and in their right hands the trumpets to blow. And they cried out, “A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!” ²¹ Every man stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled. ²² When they blew the 300 trumpets, the LORD set every man’s sword against his comrade and against all the army. And the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath.

Psalm 66:3-4 (ESV) - Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you. ⁴ All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.” Selah

3. You must _____ and _____ the _____ The LORD provides.

2 Chronicles 20:26-30 (ESV) - On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Beracah, for there they blessed the LORD. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Beracah to this day. ²⁷ Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat at their head, returning to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them rejoice over their enemies. ²⁸ They came to Jerusalem with harps and lyres and trumpets, to the house of the LORD. ²⁹ And the fear of God came on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. ³⁰ So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest all around.

Valley of Beracah – from <H1288> (barak);

Blessed – בָּרַךְ; **Transliteration:** bārak.

Joy – שִׂמְחָה; **Transliteration:** śimḥâ.

Rest – נִחַ; **Transliteration:** nûah.

Psalm 4:6-8 (ESV) - There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!" ⁷ You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. ⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 30:11-12 (ESV) - You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, ¹² that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

Questions to Consider

1. What is the relationship between prayer, worship and praise?
2. Do you think you should *praise* when you *pray*? Explain.
3. What do you think the people sang as they marched out to battle? (20:21)
4. What happened as the people sang and praised The LORD? (20:22)
5. Why do you think God moved when the people sang and praised The LORD?
6. How did the surrounding nations react when they heard the outcome of the battle? (20:29-30)
7. How can your trust in the Lord during difficult challenges be an effective witness for the Lord to those around you?
8. How can *worship and praise* be a response to, or a defense against, trouble?
9. What percentage of one of your prayers is *petition* and what percentage of that prayer is *praise*?
10. What would it take to make you march into battle greatly outnumbered, singing praises to the Lord?
11. How can prayer, worship and praise help you turn your battles over to The Lord?
12. What literal song of praise (gospel song or hymn) will be your "battle song" in the difficulties you will face this week? If you don't know any songs or hymns, find one (ie. Google) and commit it to memory. Yes, the entire song. You might need to sing it to yourself some time.