

The Power of Praise in Times of Trouble

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I. Introduction.

A. Praise is appropriate in the bad times, not just the good times.

B. Text: II Chronicles 20.

II. Results we can expect for praising in difficult times.

A. It focuses one's attention upon God.

B. It helps one to recognize God's sovereignty.

C. It recalls the mighty acts of God. It is vital to praise God for His past work. (Psalm 147)

D. It paves the way for dependence upon God in difficult times.

E. It enlarges one's vision of God.

F. It magnifies the presence of God. God has no favorites, but He has intimates.

G. It increases a person's faith in God.

H. It is oftentimes a prerequisite to knowing the will of God.

I. It will exalt the name of God.

J. It releases the power of God.

K. It unites the people of God.

L. It fills the heart with the joy of the Lord.

III. We all have a choice when in trouble to rejoice in the Lord.

A. A person cannot praise God without the Holy Spirit.

B. A person must be a believer before he praises God—he must confess his sins and believe that he is forgiven by the work of Christ on the cross.

C. A person who is a believer must make an effort to praise God to turn around his negative circumstances.

Application questions:

1. How would you communicate to another believer the importance of praising God?

2. Which result of praising God stands out to you? What strikes you about it?

3. How will you commit yourself to setting aside time to praise God every day this week in a practical and provable way?
