

RUSSELL SANDERS

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TO GIVE AND BE GIVEN – LESSON 21

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Psalm 100:4 says, we are “To give” God our praise and thanksgiving. He cherishes that because it shows our love toward Him. It says, **“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.”**

There is nothing quite like dwelling in the presence of God in His throne room. It is wonderful. But how do we get there? It is as we commune with Him from our “prayer closet,” the secluded place or time in prayer, when we pray, meditate, “listen” and envision in our “minds’ eye” (spirit) being in His “room” with Him at Heaven’s throne. We get there with praise and thanksgiving.

There are gates to Heaven. Furthermore, that heavenly city that shall come to the new earth, the New Jerusalem, has twelve gates of entrance (Revelation 21:12). As we give thanks to the Lord, enumerating all the things He has done for us, a gate to heaven opens for us to enter heaven (by the Spirit).

Then, as we give Him praise, citing His many attributes, that ushers us into His throne room which is only a portion of heaven. It is there that we find the “sweet part” of His glory.

Unfortunately, most Christians have never experienced it, yet it is available to all who earnestly pursue Him. Thanksgiving and praise in your intimate personal worship time is key. I have been there many times. You can be there too.

Psalm 149:6 says, **“Let the high praises of God be in (your) mouth.”** Psalm 149:1-3 says for us to sing unto the Lord, be joyful, dance unto Him, and have instruments of music. These things enhance our praise and worship toward Him, but do not replace the quiet intimacy of meeting Him in the “secret place of the Most High” your private time spent with Him.

Yes, we are “to give” thanks and praise to Him. He loves it. You will too.