

3. Worship & the Tabernacle of David

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Sub-title: Prophetic Worship

We are currently studying God's Word about worship, in connection with the Tabernacle of David.

- Worshipping God is the highest expression of our faith
- Worshipping God is/will be a major feature of the end-time church
- We sense a renewed drawing of God's Spirit into the place & practice of worship
- The Tabernacle of David foreshadowed the worshipping church

James 4:8 (NKJV) *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you ...*

- The level & intensity of God's presence in our lives is determined by the level & depth of our worship

Amos 9:11–12 (NKJV) *On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and **repair its damages; I will **raise up its ruins**, and **rebuild it as in the days of old**; 12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name,*" says the Lord who does this thing.**

- The Tabernacle of David was primarily about:
 - God's Presence (Ark of the Covenant)
 - Unrestricted & continuous Worship

1. The Ark of the Covenant is transported to the Tabernacle of David

1 Chronicles 15:16 (NET) *David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint some of their relatives as **musicians; they were to **play various instruments**, including **stringed instruments** and **cymbals**, and to sing loudly and joyfully.***

- Our worship of God should be loud (mostly) and joyful (always)
- Our worship services are celebrations of God's goodness and mercy

1 Chronicles 15:19 (NKJV) The singers, Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, were to **sound the cymbals of bronze;**

- Cymbals were/are a percussion instrument that were struck together to make a rhythmic sound

1 Chronicles 15:20–21 (NET) *Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah were to **play the harps** according to the alamothe style; 21 Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-Edom, Jeiel, and Azaziah were to **play the lyres** according to the sheminith style, as led by the director;*

- King David designed many of these musical instruments (1 Chron 23:5)
- Harps & lyres are stringed instruments

1 Chronicles 15:22 (NKJV) *Chenaniah, leader of the Levites, was **instructor in charge of the music**, because he was skillful;*

1 Chronicles 15:24 (NLT) *Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer—all of whom were **priests**—were **chosen to blow the trumpets as they marched in front of the Ark** of God. Obed-edom and Jehiah were chosen to guard the Ark.*

- This procession was a very noisy & joyful celebration

1 Chronicles 15:25,28 (NLT) *Then David and the elders of Israel and the generals of the army went to the house of Obed-edom to **bring the Ark of the Lord's Covenant up to Jerusalem with a great celebration** ... **28** So all Israel brought up the Ark of the Lord's Covenant **with shouts of joy**, the **blowing of rams' horns and trumpets**, the **crashing of cymbals**, and **loud playing on harps and lyres**.*

2. David organised continuous praise and worship before the Lord

1 Chronicles 6:31–32 (NLT) *David assigned the following men to lead the music at the house of the Lord after the Ark was placed there. **32** They ministered with music at the Tabernacle until Solomon built the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem. They carried out their work, following all the regulations handed down to them.*

- Continuous worship at the Tabernacle of David lasted about 40 years, until the Ark of the Covenant was moved to the newly-built Temple of Solomon

- 288 musicians were organised in 24 groups, to play their instruments in shifts, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for 40 years
- 4,000 singers were organised in choirs to worship the Lord in song
- Israel as a nation reached the pinnacle of its greatness, peace and prosperity under David's leadership and system of day & night worship

1 Chronicles 9:33 (NKJV) *These are the singers, heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites, who lodged in the chambers, and were free from other duties; for **they were employed in that work day and night.***

Psalm 134:1 (NLT) *Oh, praise the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, you who serve at night in the house of the Lord.*

3. David instructed members of the worship teams to prophesy

1 Chronicles 25:1–3 (NET) *David and the army officers selected some of the sons of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun to **prophesy as they played stringed instruments and cymbals.** The following men were assigned this responsibility: **2** From the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asarelah. **The sons of Asaph were supervised by Asaph, who prophesied under the king's supervision.** **3** From the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah—six in all, under supervision of their father Jeduthun, **who prophesied as he played a harp, giving thanks and praise to the Lord.***

- The worship style at the Tabernacle of David was strongly “prophetic”
- This prophetic worship style foreshadowed the prophetic worship style of the New Testament church
- Prophetic worship creates a prophetic atmosphere & environment
- David selected some of the musicians to prophesy as they played their instruments before the Lord
- Those selected were Asaph, Heman & Jeduthun & their respective sons
- They operated under the leadership of Chenaniah
- All of them served under the command & direction of king David
 - David was strongly prophetic
 - Chenaniah was strongly prophetic
 - Asaph, Heman & Jeduthun were strongly prophetic
 - Therefore, all of their sons learned how to operate prophetically

1 Chronicles 15:22 (NKJV) ***Chenaniah, leader of the Levites, was instructor in charge of the music, because he was skillful;***

- Skilful – perceive, have discernment, insight & understanding
- Prophetic
 - Spirit-led & anointed
 - Revelatory & authoritative
 - Current & cutting-edge
 - Possessing foresight & foreknowledge
 - Speak forth & declare God's will
- N.T. prophecy is: Exhortation, edification & comfort (1 Corinthians 14:3)
- N.T. Prophets
- If the whole church of NZ had been truly prophetic in the leadup to the Covid fiasco, the greater portion of the church would have not been caught out by the lies & deception

4. Understanding the Times – to know what to do

1 Chronicles 12:31–32 (NKJV) *Of the half-tribe of Manasseh eighteen thousand, who were designated by name to come and make David king; 32 of **the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do**, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command;*

- The sons of Issachar had understanding of the times they lived in
- They were prophetic people