

New Testament Prayer: Praise

Prayer changes the believer

- I.** 'Praise' defined (Heb. 13:15).
 1. Praise is "confessing His name" (Heb. 13:15).
 2. The terms ending indict a quality of action.
 3. The uses of 'praise' in other passages indicate that praise is the result of some benefit that God has bestowed on the believer.
 4. Hence praise is: telling God about His character as the result of a blessing(s), a thankfulness attributed to an attribute of God—His character.
 5. Praise is different from thanksgiving.

- II.** Praise is given to God the Father (Lu. 2:13-14, 20; Acts 2:47; 3:8-9 *cf.* Jn. 16:23).
 1. Praise is given through Christ (Phil. 1:11).
 2. Praise should be given in a habitual manner, "always" (Heb. 13:15).

- III.** Praise has two modes.
 1. Is the result of the Spirit's enabling (Eph. 5:19-20).
 2. Verbal by lip, or by thinking (Heb. 13:15).
 3. By lifestyle (Phil. 1:11; Eph. 1:6, 12, 14).

- IV.** Praise is a sacrifice that the believer-priest can offer to God (Heb. 13:15).
 1. Praise is a priestly function (1 Pet. 2:5, 9).
 2. Praise pleases God the Father (Heb. 13:16).