

**A BIBLICAL STUDY ON PRAISE**  
**LESSON EIGHT: PRAISE AND GLORY**

**by Sandy Harber**

**"Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me; and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God." Psalm 50:23**

Why did God create man? For His glory (Col. 1:16). What, therefore, is man's purpose for existing? To bring glory to God (I Cor. 10:31). We use that word "glory" frequently in reference to God. But what exactly does this word mean?

The Greek word "doxa" signifies "an opinion" and is derived from a root word meaning "to think." It is what you think of God, your good opinion of Him, that results in honor, worship, and reverential fear of Him. Another Greek word translated "glory" is "kleos," which signifies "reputation," coming from a root meaning "hearing." Reputations rise and fall as the result of what people hear others say about someone. People who do not know God will form an opinion based on what they hear others say about Him. Does your speech enhance God's reputation? People are listening.

God said, "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me." You praise God. Others hear your praise and form a good opinion of Him, bringing His reputation up a couple of notches. This is the correlation between praise and glory. Remember that God inhabits your praise (Ps. 22:3). He sits enthroned in your words of commendation. As a result, His fame and renown spreads. Don't keep quiet about what God has done in your life. Praise Him loudly and He will be glorified.

God said "whoso," that is, anyone can offer up praise to Him. There are no special qualifications. You don't need a degree in theology. You don't have to be employed in full time Christian service. Any old sinner can praise God! God used the word "offer." Praise is an offering. It is voluntary. We don't sacrifice animals any longer because Jesus became the ultimate sacrifice (Heb. 10:10-12). Instead, we offer the sacrifice of praise (Heb. 13:15). The Hebrew word translated "praise" in this verse means "an extension of the hand." Holding out or up our arms in adoration, our praise becomes a thank-offering for the blessings God has bestowed on us. Thus is God glorified. The Hebrew word translated "glorifieth" means "to be hearty" in a good sense or "cause to make weighty." Our praise makes God's reputation stronger, more worthy, more valuable. He receives more honor with each praise uttered.

There appears to be a correlation between the one who offers praise with "him that ordereth his conversation aright." The word "conversation" means "conduct," that is, the way we behave. The person offering praise to God is conducting himself appropriately. And God has promised that He will show that one His salvation. When a Christian sees that word "salvation" he immediately thinks of deliverance from hell (i.e. eternal punishment). We're conditioned that way because deliverance from hell is the most important way in which a person can be saved. However, God delivers us from or through various trials and tribulations as long as we live on this earth. God saved David many times from his enemies. He will do the same for those who praise Him, those whose conduct is "aright," that is, in line with God's Word. And, in so doing, God will give the one who praised Him even more reasons for praise. Each time God saves him he will want to lift up his voice in praise once more. He will have more reasons to offer the sacrifice of praise.

Now that you know the importance of praising God look for opportunities to do so. It is your purpose for existing.

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."  
I Corinthians 10:31