



I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart,
I will enter His courts with praise. Psalm 100:3

Entering the year 2018 with thanksgiving in our hearts will establish solid foundations for what the future holds for us. Are we looking at our circumstances with sorrow, doubt, or unbelief or through the lens of His Word and His promises? Do we expect to maintain, sustain, or grow and expand? Is the news driving us to frustration or even despair? Praising God in all things will “set the course” for a faith filled, productive life in Him, no matter how difficult or insurmountable the circumstances are.

Gates of Thanksgiving and Praise

1. When actively applying praise over the “doorposts” of our hearts, we choose to praise God in all things. Praising God in all things releases the provision for victorious living in Christ.
2. Psalm 18:46-50 ends in powerful praise as God deliver’s David from the hand of his enemies and of Saul.
 - a. The ultimate expression of praise is expressed in vs. 46, “The Lord lives! Blessed by my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted.”
 - b. As we move into a New Year, review your year. The successes, the failures, the trials, and victories...can you see God in all circumstances? Praise Him that He would be exalted in all things and He would be glorified.
3. Establishing gates of praise within us will foster and release:
 - a. Intimacy with God: Psalm 100:4
 - b. Character: Psalm 42:5-11
 - c. Release victory: Genesis 49:8; 2 Samuel 22:4; 2 Chronicles 20
 - d. Strength: Exodus 15:2; Psalm 28:7
 - e. Multiplication and expansion: Jeremiah 33:19
 - f. Deliverance/Release from captivity: 1 Chronicles 16:35; Jeremiah 20:13; Psalm 18:48-49; Psalm 30:3-4
 - g. Salvation and safety: Isaiah 38:18-21; Jeremiah 31:7
 - h. Healing: Jeremiah 17:14
 - i. Provision: Psalm 22:26; Joel 2:26; 2 Chronicles 20

- j. Empowerment
 - i. 2 Chronicles 31:2 And Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites according to their divisions, each man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and peace offerings, **to serve, to give thanks, and to praise in the gates of the camp of the Lord.**
- 4. The greatest expression and ultimate example of thanks:
 - a. Jesus, at the last supper, gave the ultimate expression of thanks. Knowing He would face death, Luke 22:19 records, “And He took bread, **gave thanks** and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Let us give thanks in remembrance of Him.

For further study a good reference, there are 7 Hebrew and Greek praise words [click here](#).

Word: “You don’t know the power of your praise!”

Several years ago, I was in a place of praise in a corporate gathering. As I focused on the Lord and raised my hands, I went into a vision. What I saw was a map of the globe over Europe and the Middle East. The borders were dotted with an angelic force looking over their various regions/nations. As I raised my hands in worship, the Lord spoke to me and said, “You don’t know the power of your praise.” The impact of the words stunned me and I pulled my hands down trying to understand. Astounded for a moment, I raised them again in worship, the vision reappeared and the angels shifted position and boundaries of nations were impacted.

Scriptural references:

- Nehemiah 9:5-6.
- Psalm 146