The Supreme Value of Prayer and Worship in God’s Kingdom

1. God’s zeal to be worshipped and the importance of responding to this
   1. Jesus revealed how important worship is to the Father (Jn. 4:23; cf. 1 Sam. 13:14; 2 Chr. 16:9).

23…true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. (Jn. 4:23)

9The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth…whose heart is loyal to Him. (2 Chr. 16:9)

* 1. ***Eternal***: The Lord established worship around His throne before the creation of the earth (Job 38:7). John described aspects of the heavenly worship order that were established after what God desired: *continual*, *musical*, *corporate*,and *God-centered* (Rev. 4:8; 5:9; 15:2).

9They sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy…11I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand…, 12saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb…” 13And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth…I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!” (Rev. 5:8-13)

* 1. ***Worthy***: Lord’s worthiness and majestic beauty demand expression or the rocks would cry out (Lk. 19:40). Proclaiming God’s worth in worship is an essential aspect of our priestly calling.
  2. ***Biblical***: David commanded Israel’s kings to honor the order of worship with singers and musicians that he received by revelation because it was God’s command (2 Chr. 29:25; 35:4, 15). Scripture emphasizes how Jesus and church leaders greatly valued prayer and worship (Mk 1:35; 6:46; Lk 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28; 21:37; Acts 1:14; 2:42; 4:31; 6:4; 9:11; 10:2-4; 13:3; 14:23; 16:16, 25; Rom. 10:1; 12:12; 1 Cor. 7:5; 2 Cor. 1:11; 9:14; 13:7-9; Eph. 1:17-19; 3:14-20; 6:18; Phil. 1:4, 9-11; 4:6; Col. 1:3, 9-11; 4:2-3; 1 Thes. 3:10; 5:17, 25; 2 Thes. 1:11; 3:1; 1 Tim. 2:8).

25…stationed Levites in the house of the Lord with stringed instruments…according to the commandment of David…for thus was the commandment of the Lord. (2 Chr. 29:25)

* 1. ***Prophetic***: The prayer movement is a major theme in end-time prophecy (Ps. 96:1, 9, 13; 98:1-9; 102:15-22; 122:6; 149:6-9; Isa. 19:20-22; 24:14-16, 23; 25:9; 26:1, 8-9; 27:2-5, 13; 30:18-19, 29, 32; 35:2, 10; 42:10-15; 43:26; 51:11; 52:8; 62:6-7; Jer. 31:7; 51:8; Joel 2:12-17, 32; Zeph. 2:1-3; Zech. 10:1; 12:10; 13:9; Lk. 18:7-8; Rev. 5:8; 6:9-11; 8:3-5; 9:13; 14:18; 16:7; 18:6; 22:17).
  2. ***Historical***: The Lord established 24/7 prayer ministries throughout church history.
  3. ***Current***: The Spirit is now calling many ministries worldwide to establish prayer rooms.
  4. ***Personal***: Many people worldwide are being called specifically to join prayer ministries.   
     The Lord rewards faithfulness to worship and prayer (Ezek. 44:15-16; Lk. 10:41-42; Mk. 14:9).

4“Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.” (Acts 10:4)

1. David’s revelation of worship
   1. The Lord revealed to David a new order for worship (1 Chr. 28:11-19). When Israel went astray, God raised up spiritual reformers with a vision to restore worship as David commanded. There are seven “revivals” in the Old Testament, each connected to Davidic worship being restored.
   2. Solomon established singers (about 970 BC) according to the command that God gave David.

14According to the order of David his father, he [Solomon] appointed…Levites for their duties to praise…as the duty of each day required…for so David…commanded. (2 Chr. 8:14)

* 1. Jehoshaphat’s reform (about 870 BC) included establishing singers and musicians.

21He [Jehoshaphat] appointed those who should sing to the Lord… 28They came…with stringed instruments…to the house of the Lord. (2 Chr. 20:21, 28)

* 1. Jehoiada the high priest restored temple worship in the order of David (about 835 B.C) with singers and musicians and enthroned King Jehoash (Joash) when he was only 7 years old.

16Jehoiada [high priest] made a covenant between himself, the people, and the king, that they should be the Lord’s people…18Jehoiada appointed the oversight of the house of the Lord to…the Levites…with singing, as it was established by David. (2 Chr. 23:16-18)

* 1. Hezekiah’s revival (about 725 BC) included restoring singers/musicians as David commanded.

25He stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with…stringed instruments…according to the commandment of David…27The song of the Lord began… (2 Chr. 29:25-27)

* 1. Josiah’s revival (about 625 BC) restored full-time singers and musicians as David commanded.

3He said to the Levites…4“Prepare yourselves…following the instruction of David…”   
15The singers…were in their places, according to the command of David… (2 Chr. 35:3-15)

* 1. Zerubbabel (about 536 BC) established full-time singers and musicians as commanded by David.

10The Levites…to praise the Lord, according to the ordinance of David. (Ezra 3:10-11)

* 1. Ezra and Nehemiah (445 BC) established full-time singers and musicians as David commanded.

24The Levites…give thanks…according to the command of David…45The singers and the gatekeepers kept the charge of God…according to the command of David… (Neh. 12:24, 45)

* 1. God commanded Israel to support the singers financially (2 Kgs. 22:3-7; 1 Chr. 9:33; 16:37; 2 Chr. 8:14; 31:4-16; 34:9-13; Neh. 11:22-23; 12:44-47). I believe that the Lord will again speak strongly to His people to support singers, musicians, intercessors and “gatekeepers” financially.

5The tithes…were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers...  
10I realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given them; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. 11So I contended with the rulers, and said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” I gathered them together and set them in their place. 12Then all Judah brought the tithe…to the storehouse… (Neh. 13:5-12)