

## Praise - The Secret Weapon Against Evil

True Worship in the Davidic Order Returns

*Val Brinkerhoff 9/27/2021, 10 pages*

King David was a man after the LORD's own heart (Acts 13:22), and yet God did not want David to build Him a *physical* "house" in Jerusalem to dwell in. Instead, God chose David's son Solomon to do that (2 Sam. 7:4-13). The LORD had something different in mind for King David. His blessing and duty was to create a *spiritual* house where "true worship" would invite the blessings of heaven. It included much music and singing.

In the Old Testament we read of this *spiritual* house, where the focus was "true worship". Such a spiritual house was raised up at least seven times in Israel's history, and each time it was accompanied by great blessings. There are three scriptures that tell us that this same form of music-centered worship will return in our day. They are Amos 9:11, Acts 15:16, and Isaiah 16:5.

What is "true worship"? How and why was it implemented under King David? And why should we care today?

Prior to David, Saul was made Israel's first king. The LORD gave Israel a king like the nation's surrounding her because the covenant people had rejected the living God as their true King. Though He was their Creator, Redeemer, and repeated Deliverer, the LORD gave the covenant people what they wanted - a mortal king - when they forsook Him (see 1 Sam. 8:7-9). Many of these substitute kings would oppress and curse the people for their own gain. Saul was Israel's first king. He was frequently troubled by evil spirits during his reign. David comforted King Saul with his beautiful music. It drove the darkness in king Saul away.

Young David was raised a simple shepherd boy. He possessed great courage as a youth, slaying a bear and a lion, predators that tried to take the lambs he was charged to protect. Later young David defeated an even more powerful enemy, doing so with just a single stone. The enemy was the great Philistine champion and warrior, Goliath, a giant. David then took his head with the Philistine's own sword, bringing it to king Saul.

David's greatest asset wasn't courage, however, it was his yearning heart – his love - for the living God. He desired a close, personal relationship with God, like a Bride for the Bridegroom. David's heart and his worship practices, including his understanding of the power of music, led to fulfillment of his dream to **know** God. He shared his insights with us all through the Psalms, that we too might turn our hearts to God. Our heartfelt **love** and "honor" for God is the source of God's "power", as addressed in D&C 29:36.

After David was made King, one of His first goals was to bring back the Ark of the Covenant to the Holy City. It was captured by the Philistines, part of a disastrous losing battle for Israel's army. The Ark was lost because wicked priests at the temple, including the sons of Eli the High Priest, were committing fornication with women who gathered at the temple's gates (1 Sam. 2:22). This was one of many signs revealing that the state of righteousness of Israel was fading, as the sins of the surrounding cultures were being embraced by the LORD's people. This is happening again today. Once valiant in battle, the power residing behind the Ark was no longer present among Israel's army and its people. The Ark itself was never the source of Israel's power. God was. He alone brought victory, favor, and blessing to Israel, but only when there was righteousness among the people, a sign of real love for God, and one another, found in the two great commandments. **True worship** features the pure love of God as expressed from the heart, along with clean hands (our actions). Psalm 24 tells us that only those with these two qualities "will ascend the hill of the LORD", the great mountain where God dwells.

Around 1000 BC, and with the aid of the Levites, King David finally brought the Ark back to Jerusalem. It symbolized Israel's return to God. David wanted the LORD's presence to be with Israel once again. Those bringing the Ark back sang songs of praise to the LORD and performed joyful music to Him as the Ark was carried through the gates into the Holy City. King David danced before the LORD at this time, wearing priestly clothing, including the linen Ephod. He was filled with joy and thanksgiving. David then created a new tent or "Tabernacle" for the Ark at Jerusalem. It was positioned originally near the Gihon Spring, the city's source of living waters (see 2 Sam. 6:3-10). Unlike the older and more complex Tabernacle built by Moses in the Sinai desert (residing at Gibeon at this time), King David's special worship tent was simpler. Its focus was loving God, and praising Him in continuous

24/7 worship and thanksgiving. Its special form of worship was an invitation for God's glory to once again dwell among the covenant people. Today we refer to this special tent of worship, "The Tabernacle of David."

### What is True Worship?

The LORD Jesus revealed how important worship was and is to the Father in 1 Sam. 13:14 and 2 Chr. 16:9. Scripture emphasizes the great value of worship, especially that done "in the Spirit", or according to God's will (see Mark 1:35; 6:46; Luke 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 Thess. 3:10; 5:17, 25; 2 Thess. 1:11; 3:1; 1 Tim. 2:8).

The LORD Jesus defined "**true worship**" in John chapter 4 as He spoke with the Samaritan woman at the well.

"And the hour cometh, and now is, when the **true worshippers** shall **worship the Father in spirit and in truth**: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. For unto such hath God promised **his Spirit**. And they who worship him, **must worship in spirit and in truth**" (JST John 4:25-26; see also Alma 43:10).

### Worshipping – "In the Spirit"

God restored true worship through king David, that it might be done "on earth as it is in heaven" (see the LORD's prayer in Matt. 6:9-13). The Apostle John ascended to heaven "**in the Spirit**" and saw **true worship** taking place there in the highest heaven. John's words reveal much in Revelation chapters 4, 5, 21, and 22. True worship is practiced there. It is to be done "**in the Spirit**" and with a fuller understanding of the **truth** of **who** our God really is and **why** He and His son are *worthy* of our loving **worship**. This is especially evident in chapter 5 where we read that "no man was found worthy" to open the Book of Life in the Father's hand, except His holy Son, the Lamb of God, "the Lion of the tribe of Judah. John tells us that "the root of David, [He] hath prevailed to open the book" and its seven seals. There in heaven, the four and twenty elders surrounding God's throne in heaven...

"fell down before the Lamb, every one of them having **harps**, and golden vials full of odors, which are the **prayers** of the Saints. And they sang a new **song**, saying thou art worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof; for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Rev. 5:8-9).

Christ the LORD as Savior is worthy of our worship. Heartfelt music with singing, along with praying with real intent, are two very effective ways to raise our own frequency of light and love. David knew this. His heart was full of love for the LORD. It is one of the reasons he danced joyfully before God when he brought the Ark back to Jerusalem. David's words of praise, joy, and thanksgiving in the Psalms are often very powerful. They accompany special music and instruments he created for worship of the living God (2 Chron. 29:25; Psalm 81:1-5). One of these is David's personal lyre (a special kind of harp with 22 strings, coinciding with the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet). It never left his side, including battle. He used it to serenade king Saul and the King of Kings. It was made of cedarwood. God most likely showed David how to make it along with the many instruments used by the talented Levite musicians in the Tabernacle of David (Amos 6:5). It featured continual worship services (24/7) in the Holy City Jerusalem.

The seven "Lectures on Faith" (once a part of the Doctrine and Covenants) are especially helpful in pointing us to the "**truth**" part of *true worship* addressed in John 4:23. **Lecture 1, verse 1** of the Lectures on Faith tells us that they are "the doctrine of Christ". It is in this first lecture that we also informed of what "**Faith**" is - in reference to *power*. **Faith** is *the First Principle of the Gospel*, a gospel in which we may become conduits for God's power in blessing the lives of others in preaching the gospel, casting out evil, healing the sick, and raising the dead – the charge given Christ's disciples in Matthew 10:8.

Lecture 2 helps us understand "**Who**" the object of our Faith is in – the **God** of love. He gave His Son who gave His life as the Good Shepherd, that we might be saved or redeemed (see John 10). Lecture 3 further defines God's character, attributes, and perfections, while Lecture 4 reveals God's unique knowledge, power, justice, judgment, mercy, and truth. All of these qualities (Lectures 2, 3 & 4) give us good reason for "**Why**" we worship **Him** and His

**Son** with love and honor. Lecture 5 then defines who makes up the Godhead. Lecture 6 informs us of the willingness true worshippers have in sacrificing all things to know God and obtain the promise of eternal life. Lecture 7 concludes the book discussing the mental exertion necessary in the prayer of **faith**, where pure intention and *the passions of the heart* are on full display. With them and God's will, the veil to our LORD can be parted. Parting the veil to God is symbolized in words like "**overcome**" (used by John 7 times in Revelation chapters 2-3), "**wrestle**" (used by Jacob in Gen. 32:24), and "**prevail**" (used by Jacob in Gen. 32:28 and Joseph of Egypt in JST Gen. 48:10).

## The Tabernacle of David

King David received a revelation on how worship was to occur inside the "Tabernacle of David" – the tent or tabernacle housing his new order of praise, worship, and thanksgiving. Besides special "gate keepers", there were to be 4,000 musicians and 288 prophetic singers. All were to "**minister** unto the LORD" with beautiful music and the words of song and prayers found in the Psalms. The music, singing, and words were presented together in "continual" 24/7 worship - via 24 rotating "courses" of talented Levite musicians and singers. They "ministered unto the LORD". It included singing, giving thanks, praising God, and making petition to Him continually via prayer day and night (see 1 Chron. 15:1–17:27; 23:5).

The 288 singers were divided amongst the 24 hours of each day. Some say there were 12 singers in each course or hour (24 hours x 12 singers = 288 worshippers). Others believe David divided the singers in two courses of 144 musicians each – both taking 12 hr. shifts. Note also that King David had an army of 288,000 soldiers (24,000 soldiers x 12, see 1 Chron. 27). They were divided into two halves of 144,000, each working for six months. And note too that there is to be will a great army of two sets of 144,000 servants bringing souls to Christ in the last-days, one made up of 144,000 Gentiles (Rev. 14) and the other 144,000 Messianic Jews (Rev. 7). They are "virgins" or the righteous "Bride" of the Bridegroom Jesus Christ, preparing to enter His Bridal chamber as the "five wise virgins" (Matt. 25), having oil in their lamps.

The number 288 is 2 times the scriptural number 144 (which is 12 x 12). And when multiplied x 1000 it may represent the 144,000 last-days servants of **light**. They will go forth gathering the virgin Bride of the Lamb scattered throughout the world in the last-days. Both numbers (144,000 & 288) have special ties to **light**. The number 144,000 is one of three ways to define the speed of light.<sup>1</sup> Throughout scripture, the number 12 has ties to the principle of "governance" throughout scripture.<sup>2</sup>

God desired that His people support the singers financially, as this new form of worship required continual service (see 2 Kings 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). Nehemiah stated, "The tithes...were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers . . . I 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. So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" I gathered them together and set them in their place. Then all Judah brought the tithe...to the storehouse . . . (Neh. 13:5-12)

## A Secret Weapon in Spiritual Warfare

Few understand the significance and purpose behind David's version of "**true worship**". It was put in place under God's direction and had tremendous power over darkness. During the estimated 33 years of Israel's continuous 24/7 worship services in Jerusalem, David's armies experienced complete victory over all enemies! It was a sign that God was with them. Later, six other kings practiced this same form of worship. They too had success in battle. In 870 BC, for example, King Jehoshaphat placed Levite singers in the front of his army. They recited the Great Hallel (Psalms 113-118). The singers praised and worshiped, aiding the defeat of the armies of Moab and Ammon. King Jehoshaphat later put this worship order inside the temple (2 Chron. 20:20-22, 28). The Apostle Paul tells us that this life is a continual battle between light and darkness, of things seen and unseen. Paul said:

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against **spiritual wickedness** in high places" (Eph. 6:12).

## Casting Out With Praise

The enemy's power is very real. Jesus frequently **cast out** evil throughout His ministry. It typically preceded other forms of healing. It in fact is the *first* of four signs tied to those that "believe" and follow Him as servants (see Mark 16:15). When God's servants cast out darkness or "devils by the Spirit of God" as He did, He said that then they may know that "the kingdom of God is come unto you" (Matt. 12:28).

When Christ the LORD **began His mission** *in the meridian of time*, He stood up in a Synagogue in Nazareth (His hometown) and turned in the Isaiah scroll. He then read all of verse 1 and half of verse 2 in Isaiah chapter 61. It addresses Him as the Messiah or "the Anointed One" and what He would do in as a result of having the Spirit of the LORD upon Him in this mission. The second half of verse 2 and all of verse 3 address what He will do at His Second Coming and thereafter. He comes in **judgment**. It is "**the day of vengeance**" (2<sup>nd</sup> half of verse 2), "**the Great Day**", or "**the great and dreadful day of the LORD.**" Then, it will be our LORD's blessing –

"To appoint unto them that *mourn* in Zion,  
to give unto them  
beauty for ashes,  
the oil of joy for mourning,  
**the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;**

that they might be called trees of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD,  
that he might be glorified."

*Isaiah 61:1-3*

## Praise as a Weapon Against Evil

Young David, before he became king, used music to combat the darkness and afflictions present in King Saul. Paul the Apostle and Silas sang praises to God while being held in prison. Both were miraculously released at 12 midnight by an angel (Acts 16:25). My wife and I have been instructed from time to time to "cast out" demons, devils, and unclean spirits among us. The afflictions they cause to come upon us can include a "spirit of heaviness" as well as physical pain. In answer to prayer, we were told to sing songs of praise. Evil spirits cannot tolerate love songs sung to the LORD. Those featuring lyrics that are sung **to God** rather than *about Him* are especially effective (see the 13 songs we sing to God at the end of this document). Emma Smith gave the LDS Church its first hymnbook. God told her husband Joseph the following about her sincere efforts:

"For my soul delighteth in the **song of the heart**; yea, *the song of the righteous* is a **prayer** unto me, and it shall be answered with a blessing upon their heads" (D&C 25:12).

Those who keep the first and great commandment – to **love** God with our whole heart, might, mind, and strength (Matt. 22:38) possess a great key in battling darkness. Their worship represents real **love** for God, love originating in the heart. It is the foundation of **true worship**, not ritual or duty. The heart is what connects us to God in relationship, not man's religion, traditions, or ritual. Worship "songs" and actions used to battle darkness are found in the following scripture examples.

Israel's righteous Kings used praise and worship by the Levite priests (singers and musicians) as part of their armies to battle their enemies. In 870 BC, for example, King Jehoshaphat placed Levite singers in the front of his army to help defeat of the armies of Moab and Ammon, reciting Psalms 113-118 (the Great Hallel). King Jehoshaphat later re-instituted the Davidic order of worship inside the temple (see 2 Chron. 20:20-22, 28).

Exodus 17:8-16 / Moses raised up his arms in praise of God with the rod of Jethro in his hand to defeat the enemies of the Israelites. Others then help Moses keep his arms up for this purpose (see Aramaic Targum for more on this rod which had "the Great and Glorious Name" [of God] written upon it. The rod was obtained from the "sapphire Throne of Glory" and was used by Moses and Aaron in cursing the false gods of Egypt. Moses got this rod from his father in law Jethro in Midian).

Acts 16:16-40 / Paul and Silas cast out darkness and are imprisoned for it. They sing songs of praise and at 12 midnight they are miraculously released from prison, their prison guard converted to Christ.

Revelation 4:8, 11 and 5:9-10 & 12-14 / The hosts of heaven (the four beasts and the 24 Elders) worship and praise God and the Lamb in heaven, using the words of these scriptures.

Various “new songs” have been sung in scripture focusing on praise. Two include Exodus 15:2-19 and D&C 84:96-102. Many if not most of the Psalms have similar purpose, like the great Hallel (Psalms 13-18). Portions of the book of Psalms is believed to be part of the original temple liturgy, now out of order in the Old Testament.

## **Who to Worship**

The great last-days battle between light and darkness is one tied to “who we will worship”. Lucifer, the advanced angel who rebelled against God, becoming Satan, was prideful and jealous of the worship, honor, and **love** given the Holy Son Jesus in heaven (see Revelation chapters 4-5). Some suggest Lucifer (meaning “light bearer”) may have been involved in directing worship to God at one point in heaven via music and praise prior to his fall (see Ezek. 28). In Moses chapter 1 (from JST Genesis 1), we read that two times Satan demanded that Moses worship him. The second time he did so claiming that he (Lucifer) was “the Only Begotten” (see Moses 1:12-23).

The LORD Jesus committed to follow the **will** of the Father and His great plan of salvation in His earthly mission, with all glory and honor going to the Father (Moses 4:1-4; D&C 76:25-29). Salvation would come to believers who turned their hearts to God in love and repentance. Great honor was showered upon the Only Begotten Son in Revelation chapters 4 and 5 for His love of the Father *and* for us, demonstrated in the Atonement. Lucifer offered a different plan, featuring salvation for all. His plan, however, eliminated man’s “agency” (accountability or responsibility, see Moses 4:3, 7:32). Lucifer and the third part of the host of heaven who rebelled against God were all cast down to earth. They have made war with Christ the LORD and His followers ever since. We need the return of **true worship** today as a tool to help us defeat the increasing darkness all around us. It will provide hope to a many people who will be downtrodden and hopeless. Equally important, heartfelt worship serves to invite God’s Spirit, glory, and power to be among us. It brings joy and hope in an increasingly dark world.

In time, the tent known as “the Tabernacle of David” in Jerusalem was eventually replaced with a grand “house of the LORD” built by his David’s son Solomon. He saw to it that his father’s unique order of worship was utilized within this new, stone “house” (2 Chron. 8:14–15). Worship there was carried out by many Levite and Aaronite priests, 24,000 of them at the “House” Solomon built (1 Chron. 23:4). At its dedication, the music and praise at “the House of the LORD” led to a great outpouring of the Spirit.

## **The Prophesied Return of David’s Worship Order in our Day**

The great battle between light and darkness rages on today. Satan demands worship out of pride, envy, and jealousy. Sincere praise and worship of the living God is a powerful weapon that can be used among the righteous. It is based on real love for God as found within the secret chambers of our hearts. It pushes away darkness (Psalm 8:2), while inviting the LORD to be with us. Three scriptures prophesy the return of the Tabernacle of David.

- Amos 9:11**    The old structure in ruins will be resurrected in our day, helping to bring again Zion
- Acts 15:16**    A great outpouring of God’s Glory and Spirit will accompany this second great gathering
- Isaiah 16:5**    The LORD’s special last-days Servant and God Himself will sit on David’s throne

The events of Acts chapters 1-3 (when many Gentiles were converted) symbolize the great outpouring of the LORD’s Spirit (Joel 2) that will occur in conjunction with continual worship in our day. It will be part of a second great gathering of believers around the world, and will occur among those with “clean hands and pure hearts” (Psalm 24:4). Sincere love of God will aid the creation of Zion as a place of peace and protection. God will dwell among us there.

## **True Worship for the Worthy Lamb**

God established worship around His throne before the creation of the earth (Job 38:7; Rev. 4-5). John described aspects of this heavenly order of worship, revealing that it was *continual, musical, and God-centered* (Rev. 4:8; 5:9; 15:2). Luke tells us that during Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His righteousness, majesty, and beauty demanded expression, and if not, the rocks themselves would cry out (Luke 19:40). Proclaiming God's worthiness in worship is an essential aspect of our priestly calling where we are to "minister" unto the LORD. John addresses this in chapter 5 of Revelation.

## **The Davidic Order of Worship (24/7) is Scriptural**

The LORD revealed to David a new form or order for worship, Jesus calling it "true worship" (1 Chr. 28:11-1923). David then commanded Israel's later kings to honor the order of worship he established, using singers and musicians. This order was received by revelation via God's command (2 Chr. 29:25; 35:4, 15). "Levites (were stationed) 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).

## **It is also Historical**

When Israel began forsaking the God, spiritual reformers were then raised up to restore worship as King David had implemented it in his revelation from God. There were six later "revivals" of King David's order found in the Old Testament (7 total). Each time this occurred there was a great spiritual renewal in Israel along with military victories for her army. King David was the first to implement it about 1000 BC. Note these seven times hereafter.

1. *The Tabernacle of David* In 1000 BC and under God's direction, King David instituted a unique order of worship inside a tent tabernacle at Jerusalem (1 Chron. 15:1-17:27; 23:5). The older Tabernacle of Moses was set up at Gibeon at this same time. It featured the traditional Altar of Sacrifice (1 Chron. 16:39; 23:26-32). When David brought the Ark of the Covenant back to Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:13-17; 2 Chron. 4), he set it up in his new tent, tabernacle near the Gihon Spring (1 Chron. 28:11-19). It was stolen earlier by the Philistines at the time of the High Priest Eli and his two wicked sons (1 Sam. 2:22). God never asked David to build a house for Him (2 Sam. 7). Instead, David would put in place a more spiritually-centered tabernacle. It featured continual worship, 24/7 day and night (1 Chron. 6:32, 15, 16:1, 4, 37; 2 Sam. 6:1). It was a fulltime occupation for those ministering in it. They included 4000 musicians, 4000 gatekeepers, and 288 prophetic singers (1 Chron. 23:5, 25:7). King David and the tithes of the people financed all the Levite ministers (1 Chron. 8:14, 9:33, 23:26-32, 31:5-16; see also Neh. 11:23, 12:5, 14-47, 13:5-12). God's presence thus moved from one Tabernacle to the other (1 Chron. 17:5-6; 2 Chron. 1:3-7; 5:4).

2. *Solomon's House of the LORD* In 950 BC, King Solomon built a "House of the LORD" under his father's direction (1 Chron. 28:11). It too featured David's unique worship order in association with it (2 Chron. 8:14-15). David said, "I have set my affections on the House of God" (1 Chron. 29; 17:10-14). This more permanent structure was set up near the Altar of Sacrifice, which had been set up earlier by David on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite (1 Chron. 21:28). King Solomon was anointed to become king at the Gihon Spring (1 Kings 2:28), which was also the setting of The Tabernacle of David earlier (1 Kings 1:33-40). The Ark was removed from the Tabernacle of David was put inside the "House of the LORD" built by King Solomon. This was around about 970 BC (see 1 Kings 8:4-6). Like his father, King Solomon utilized many singers and musicians for the worship services. "According 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).

3. In 870 BC, Jehoshaphat set up singers and musician like King David's worship order. He used aiding the musicians to help him defeat the armies of Moab and Ammon. The singers were set up in the front of the army reciting the Great Hallel (Psalm 113-118). Jehoshaphat latter put the Davidic order of worship in place inside the temple (2 Chron. 20:20-22, 28). / 870 BC). "He [Jehoshaphat] appointed those who should sing to the LORD...They came...with stringed instruments...to the house of the Lord" (2 Chr. 20:21, 28).

4. In 790 BC, Joash put in place David's worship order again (see 2 Chron. 23:1-24:27). The high priest Jehoiada restored temple worship featuring the Davidic order of worship about 835 B.C. It too featured singers and

musicians, as well as the enthronement of Israel's King Jehoshaphat (Joash). He was made king when he was only 7 years old. "Jehoiada [high priest] made a covenant between himself, the people, and the king, that they should be the LORD's people...Jehoiada 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).

5. In 725 BC, Hezekiah cleansed the temple, reinstating David's unique order of worship (2 Chron. 29:1-36; 30:21). His restoration included musicians and singers like in the days of David. "He stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with...stringed instruments...according to the commandment of David...The song of the LORD began..." (2 Chr. 29:25-27).

6. In 625 BC, Josiah instituted the Davidic order of worship again in the Holy City (2 Chron. 35:1-27). He restored the use of full-time singers and musicians typical of David's day. "He said to the Levites..." "Prepare yourselves...following the instruction of David..." The singers...were in their places, according to the command of David..." (2 Chr. 35:3-15).

7. In 536 BC, Zerubbabel also practiced this unique form of worship (Ezra 3:10-11). He too put in place full-time singers and musicians as did David. "The Levites...to praise the LORD, according to the ordinance of David" (Ezra 3:10-11).

8. In 445 BC, Ezra and Nehemiah put David's worship order in place after Israel's return from 70 years of captivity in Babylon (Ezra 3:10; Neh. 12:24-47). They employed full-time singers and musicians as did David. "The Levites...give thanks...according to the command of David...The singers and the gatekeepers kept the charge of God...according to the command of David..." (Neh. 12:24, 45).

Some historians believe that the Essenes in the Judean wilderness may have also put some form of Davidic worship in place as part of their unique lifestyle.

### **Return of 24/7 True Worship in the Year 2000**

The future return of David's unique order of 24/7 worship is a subtle theme of end-time prophecies (see 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; Luke 18:7-8; Rev. 5:8; 6:9-11; 8:3-5; 9:13; 14:18; 16:7; 18:6; 22:17). Modern U.S. Pastor Mike Bickle brought back a portion of this worship at *the International House of Prayer* in Kansas City, Missouri on May 7<sup>th</sup> of 1999. According to Bickle, "The Spirit is now calling many ministries worldwide to establish prayer rooms." Worship at IHOP in Kansas City has been going around the clock for twenty years (1999 to present). Scripture tells us that God rewards faithfulness in worship and prayer (see Ezek. 44:15-16; Luke 10:41-42; Mark 14:9). "Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God" (Acts 10:4).

### **Lifting the Gates**

Psalms 24 is one of the key Psalms of King David tied to "lifting the gates" so that "the King of Glory" may come in. Ten of its verses focus on ascending into the LORD's presence in heaven.

<sup>1</sup> The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

<sup>2</sup> For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

<sup>3</sup> **Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD?** or who shall stand in **his holy place?**

<sup>4</sup> He that hath **clean hands**, and a **pure heart**; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

<sup>5</sup> He shall receive **the blessing** from the LORD, and **righteousness** from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup> This is the generation of them that **seek him**, that **seek thy face**, O Jacob. Selah.

<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O ye **gates**; and be ye **lift up**, ye everlasting **doors**; and **the King of glory shall come in**.

<sup>8</sup> **Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.**

<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O ye **gates**; even lift them up, ye everlasting **doors**; and **the King of glory shall come in**.

<sup>10</sup> **Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.** Selah.

**The Key of David** Does the phrase “the Key of David” have ties to the coming forth of 24/7 worship again in our day? This phrase is found in only two scriptures in the Bible, Isaiah 22:22 and Revelation 3:7. Other scriptures address “keys” generally, tied to knowledge, authority, and power. The word “key” indicates control, authority, or access to something. True worship of the heart, according to the Spirit, gives us access to God and His heart.

In Revelation 3:7, Jesus holds the key of David, revealing that **He is the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant**, the ruler over all, the LORD of Lords, the King of the Kingdom of Heaven and of Zion. He rules and reigns because of who He is, what He has done, and what He will do. Jeremiah prophesied that one of David’s descendants would bring salvation to the “blessed” ones who turn to Him in love and repentance, and thus He alone confirms the Eternal Covenant with them. He is Christ Jesus (Jer. 33:14-15, 26). The token of this covenant is the colorful rainbow.

Isa. 22:22 Key of the House of David (Isa. 22:22)

Rev. 1:18, 3:7, 9:1 Keys of Death & Hell (Rev. 1:18) to Open and Close the door to the Bottomless Pit (Rev. 9:1)

JST Luke 11:52 Key of Knowledge of God to enter into His Kingdom, via the fullness of the Scriptures. Also the discernment of things of God versus those of the evil one, via the gift of the differences in administration, and the gift of diversity of operations (D&C129:9; 46:15-16)

D&C 84:19, 128:14 Key of the Mysteries of God (D&C 84:19) by way of a Seer Stone and the New Name as a Key Word (D&C 130:11)

Numbers 12, 24, 144, 288, 444 A numeric key, “pitch”, or frequency of the music David employed via the usage of numbers associated with the number 12, as in 12 prophetic singers of light in 24 courses, making 288 total singers. Some believe the tuning of David’s musical instruments may have been 444 hertz (4+4+4=12). All the numbers at left are multiples of 3 & 12.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> **Why 288 Prophetic Singers?** This number has purpose beyond practicality. One is its connection to light. There are three different ways to measure the speed of light, one of them is tied to the numbers 144 and two times it - 288. The most common measurement of the speed of light is (1) 186,000 miles per second. A second is (2) 162,000 nautical miles in real-time per second. And a third way is (3) 144,000 minutes of arc per grid second, also called “the speed of light harmonic” (see Bruce Cathie, *The Pulse of the Universe – Harmonic 288*, Sphere Books Limited). God is light. He said, “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12). The musical instruments created by King David, and the singing of the 288 “prophetic singers” may have been carefully tuned to one another for proper harmonic frequency, that the LORD’s ears might be delighted within true worship. Visible light and audible sound are both made up of wavelength frequency, expressed in number. Some have suggested that it takes two times the speed of light (2 x 144 or 288) to transition out of traditional the space-time relationship, perhaps illustrated in Einstein’s equation  $E=MC^2$ . Even David’s army made use of the number 288, or two sets of 144,000 soldiers (1 Chron. 27). The first set was on active duty for one half of the year of 12 months, the other group were being made ready for the next 6 months of service. Note also that many believe there will be a great army of 144,000 last-days servants bringing souls to Christ, one of Gentiles (Rev. 14) and the other 144,000 Messianic Jews (Rev. 7). They are the “virgins” or the righteous “Bride” of the Bridegroom Jesus Christ, preparing to enter the Bridal chamber with Him as the “five wise virgins” having oil in their lamps (see Matt. 25).

<sup>2</sup> **Governance in the Number 12** The principle of governance has consistent ties to the number 12, like the 12 Knights of the Roundtable in the Middle Ages, the 12 jurors in court cases today, or the 12 Apostles of Christ in the New Testament. God provides 12 commandments in the law governing His kingdom (the 2 great commandments, to love God, Deut. 6:5, 10:12 and to love one another, Lev. 19:18, 34). They summarize the 10 additional commandments given Moses in Exodus 20; the first 5 commandments are about loving God, the second 5 about loving each other). God gave also the 12 Beatitudes found in JST Matthew 5 and 3 Nephi 12. They represent the principles of His higher law, for those pronounced “blessed” that live them. God governs all things by His great light.

1. **Governing the Measure of Space** There are 12 inches to a foot in the English measure of *space* (the measure of the foot of King David of Scotland in 1150 AD). Ezekiel’s altar was 12 cubits square (Ezek. 43:16). Elijah’s altar was made of 12 stones, surrounded by a ditch having 12 barrels of water in it. John described New Jerusalem (God Tabernacle in heaven) as



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having 12 gates, 12 angels, 12 tribes, 12 foundations, 12 Apostles, 12 stones, and 12 pearls. He describes the measure of this city as a cube of 12,000 furlongs in 3 dimensions.

**2. Governing the Measure of Time** There are 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness at the 2 equinoxes, an equal measure of *time* in a day of 24 hours. There are 12 months in the year, and 12 zodiac signs rotating around the sun during “the Great Year,” also known as “the precession of the equinoxes.” It is 25,920 years, or 12 x 2160 years, the average time each of the 12 signs remains at the eastern horizon. Note also that 2160 is the diameter of the moon in miles. The Tabernacle of David featured 24/7 worship and praise of the LORD. In it there were 12 different singers for each of the 24 hours of the day ( 1 Chron. 25:9-31). Each solar “day” (24 hours or 1440 minutes) the moon cycle is separated by another 12 degrees from it on the 360 degree clock of time (10 minutes per day), resulting in the differing moon phases and the need for recalibration of the 2 time pieces in leap months or leap years.

**3. Governance via Light** God sends His light throughout creation to enliven and then govern it. God is the source of light. The number 144,000 (12 x 12 x 1000) has scriptural ties to beings of light and is one of three ways to express the physical speed of light. There is (1) 186,000 miles per second; (2) 162,000 nautical miles in real-time per second; And (3) 144,000 minutes of arc per grid second or “*the speed of light harmonic*” (Bruce Cathie, *Bridge to Infinity*, p. 8).

**4. Special Servants of Light** Like Paul, there are 12 special *servants* or Apostles called to be “*special witnesses*” of THE Light of the world - Jesus Christ. John tells us that there are 24 Elders (12 couples) surrounding God’s throne in heaven (Rev. 4:8, 5:7, 11:2, 19:3). They condescend into mortality for various purposes of the LORD and are close to the family of God. They are “the Noble and Great Ones” (Abraham 3:22-23), the “rulers in the church of God” (D&C 138:55), and the “Arc Angels” of the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> estate. They oversee the 12 hierarchies of angels, which are; 1. Thrones, 2. Arc Angels, 3. Seraphim, 4. Cherubim, 5. Dominions, 6. Virtues, 7. Powers, 8. Principalities, 9. Guardians, 10. Comforters, 11. Holy Animals & Creatures, and 12 Planetary Guardians.” making 120 total in Acts 1:13-15. There are to be 144,000 special last-days servants, or 12,000 in each of the 12 Tribes of Israel. These are thought to be Messianic Jews (Rev. 7). A second group of 144,000 servants is that of the Gentiles (Rev. 14). Both are the “virgins” or “Bride” of Christ, the Bridegroom, with oil in the lamps (Matt. 25). The mission of both groups of 144,000 is to gather those of light, the “elect” or “house of Israel” back to God through Jesus Christ as the light of the world. Moses set up 12 stones at the base of Sinai to represent the 12 Tribes. He also sent 12 spies (one from each Tribe) into the land of Canaan to investigate it and its current residents.

**5. Governance via God’s Law** John addressed God’s “throne” 12 times in Revelation 5, providing 12 Kingly titles for Him in the book of John (see #7 below). There are 12 total “commandments” given in God’s law (Deut. 6:4-5; Lev. 19:18; Ex. 20), with 12 blessings or 12 cursings tied to living them or ignoring them (see Deut. 27 & 28). The LORD taught 12 higher versions of this same law in the 12 blessed Beatitudes of 2 extra-Biblical texts. Luke addresses only 4 of them in Luke 6, while Matthew lists 9 of them in Matthew 5. Paul addresses 12 total gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians chapter 12. The first 3 are often not seen as gifts (verses 3, 4 & 5, leaving only 9). These same 3 gifts are also found in D&C 46, verses 13-14, 15 & 16.

**6. Governing the Human Body** God created our bodies with 12 governing systems. They are the Circulatory, Digestive, Endocrine, Integumentary, Renal, Lymphatic, Muscular, Nervous, Reproductive, Respiratory, Skeletal, and Vestibular systems.

**7. Governing with Love, Healing & Deliverance** The LORD Jesus is the Great *Healer* and *Deliverer*, bringing forth the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt at Passover. He has delivered His wayward people over and over again. Throughout the Psalms, David proclaims, “His mercy endureth forever.” The Tree of Life has 12 manner of fruits on it for the healing of the nations (Rev. 22:2). As the great healer, God also inspired “the 12-Step program” that provides healing and deliverance for those held captive to drugs, alcohol, pornography, and other additions. The first of the 12 steps addresses the need to place *faith* and *trust* in the living God, stating, “We admitted we were *powerless* over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable. Came to believe that a *Power greater than ourselves* could *restore* us to sanity. Made a decision to turn our will and our *lives* over to the care of God...” The LORD taught Moroni that there were 12 characteristics of Charity (Moroni 7:45).

**8. God’s Kingdom is set up on the Earth** Matthew addressed Christ as “King” 12 times, and with 12 references to His “gospel”. Christ said He could command 12 legions of angels to help Him if necessary (Matt. 26:53). John also provided 12 different “divine” titles for Christ:

The Word (John 1:1)	The Bread of Life (John 6:35)	The Good Shepherd (John 10:11)
The Creator of all things (John 1:3)	The great I AM (John 8:58; 18:6, 8; Ex. 3:14)	The Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
The Only Begotten of the Father (John 1:14)	The Light of the world (John 9:5)	The Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)
The Lamb of God (John 1:29)	The Door of the sheep (John 10:7)	The true Vine (John 15:1)

The 12 chapters of the “sealed” book of Daniel addresses true and false worship, God’s control over earthly kingdoms, and the final establishment of an everlasting Kingdom of peace, love, and justice under Christ as King of kings in the last-days. In Daniel 6 we read of 120 jealous princes who tried to trap Daniel in false worship. Daniel 12:9-13 provides a limited timeline of last-days rule by the beast and false prophet of 1290 total days. Daniel calls those who make it to 1335 days “**blessed**.” They will be part of God’s kingdom on the earth. Note that both numbers add up to 12 (or about 3.5 years, also known as “time, times, and a half”. Each “time” is 12 months – or 1 year.

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Three scriptures prophetically address the return of the “Tabernacle of David” in which “true worship” will return to the earth in our day (Amos 9:11; Acts 15:16; Isa. 16:5), like that seen in heaven. King David implemented it first in the Holy City via 24/7 worship, praise, and thanksgiving in the special tent or tabernacle that he first set up near the Gihon Spring. In it he employed 4,000 musicians, including 288 prophetic singers (24 courses of 12 Levite singers each). Many believe they used musical instruments tuned to 444 hz, providing healing qualities (these three numbers added together equals 12). See the connection the numbers 144 and 288 have to light in #3 above, “*Governance via Light*”. God governs by light.

For more 24/7 worship as part of Mike Bickle’s IHOP (the International House of Prayer), go to [www.ihopkc.org](http://www.ihopkc.org) It is located in Kansas City, Missouri and was established on May 7, 1999. See also, [www.MikeBickle.org](http://www.MikeBickle.org) for a free teaching library.

### 13 Songs of Praise Sung **TO JESUS**, *not* About Him

1. Create in me a Clean Heart <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGPmMcDeRpM>
2. I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy down in my Heart <https://youtu.be/LyIgwOEI7AY>
3. I Love Thee Lord <https://youtu.be/8hyBJwTKmQ8>
4. Give me Oil in my Lamp <https://youtu.be/Bopa6jHReqk>
5. Be thou my Vision, Irish Folk Melody Called “Slane”, Eighth Century <https://youtu.be/XiukM6WHQEQ>
6. How Great Thou Art <https://youtu.be/Cc0QVWzCv9k>
7. Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty <https://youtu.be/AgHrNNM23p8>
8. Shout to the Lord all the Earth, Let us Sing [https://youtu.be/gn5CMSSAx\\_c](https://youtu.be/gn5CMSSAx_c)
9. O Come Angel Band [https://youtu.be/oca\\_6WeER8](https://youtu.be/oca_6WeER8)
10. Hymn of Praise by the Gaither Vocal Band <https://youtu.be/kivDxsLYLPs>
11. Hear my Song Lord by Gaither Vocal Band <https://youtu.be/2xTXuc3ilfA>
12. Great is thy Faithfulness <https://youtu.be/0k1WhFtVp0o>
13. Just as I am by Charlotte Elliot 1836, music by William Bradbury <https://youtu.be/CxA0TFe3-Uo>