

Stomp It Out! Part 2

Ephesians 5:19-21

Main focus of this series: This series is a formulation of key teachings and understandings from the book of Ephesians. It is the textbook for Christian living, affective church growth and unity. It is also a manual for harmony in the home and an affective lifestyle in our work place in the world. Ephesians draws many lines, it is clear and very defined. Why many Christians fail to live fully in the shadow of the cross is because they have never ventured into the truths documented in Paul's writings to the Ephesians. In an effort to decipher each statement of Paul in Ephesians we believe we will learn how to successfully operate in the three positions of the believer: to **sit (Ephesians 1-3)**, to **walk (Ephesians 4-6:9)** and to **stand (Ephesians 6:10-24)**. The first half of Ephesians (chapters 1-3) tells us what a Christian is and the last three chapters define how to live that out in harmony with other believer's and separately from non-believer's.

The importance of this message today: We are taking some additional time teaching on the importance and purpose of praise and worship. Until you have truly understood the power of praise and worship you have missed a huge weapon of the Christian Spiritual arsenal. Without having a healthy understanding of our opportunity to worship and praise God you can spend your whole life not realizing the awesome favor that God gives those who praise Him. Last week we discussed the beginning of the three areas of praise and worship, 1.) The Church determines it, and I will touch on it a little more today and then we are going to cover the additional key points two and three, 2.) Satan desires it and 3.) God deserves it.

Intro: Something that has gotten much recognition in the recent years is the power of the drum line. Silly movies have been made about this unusual talent but the commitment and discipline to pull off a great drum line is in the least impressive. I have been fascinated with recent groups that perform in the likeness of Stomp. It is a six piece group that uses various objects to create percussion sounds. On one of their first appearances that astounded the crowds they used trash cans as their choice instruments. When I watch them I am moved. Their rhythm and style demand a response. It is absolutely impossibility to sit still or think otherwise than to be mesmerized in a literal state of shock. There is something demanding and unusual at the same time. There is something significant and impressive...captivating. The same is true of praise and worship.

I believe that most people have a difficulty understanding worship. There are many answers to the question of what it is. Several thousand people were interviewed in a survey to determine the most likely definitions of **worship** held by people. The most common definition was one related is expressions of **praise or thanks to God (19%)**; **praying to God (17%)**; **attending church services (17%)**; having a **personal relationship with God (12%)**; a particular **attitude toward God (10%)**; or a way of living that **reflects one's spiritual commitment (9%)**. (Barna Reserch on Line; Worship) Some key discoveries are:

- **Enjoying or appreciating** worship is not synonymous with **experiencing** the presence of God. **Nearly two-thirds** of regular **attendees** say they **have never experienced God's presence at a church service**.
- **48% of regular church attendees have not experienced God's presence in the**

past year.

Do you know you were born to worship? We were created to worship. The question is not are you a worshiper, the question is what do you worship because we are all worshipers. We are worshipers of something.

"Death and Destruction are never satisfied, and neither are the eyes of man."

Proverbs 27:20

There is a desire in us that wants to be individually satisfied. This desire is set out to consume us with all that we want and all that we see. This desire is as strong as death and destruction, and it is never satisfied. It is like a parched heart that demands to be quenched.

"The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to man."

Psalms 115:16

God has taken the heavens for himself, and not that he does not concern himself with the earth, and persons and things there, but God has left the earth to man. To which He says the meek shall inherit. Not the violent or ruthless but the meek. But another thought to entertain is, God owns the heavens like He does the earth, but He has given man the right to reign here, to act as he would in the wild of his flesh or to call upon the guidance and presence of God here on this earth. As Jesus said, *"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* This earth truly belongs to the **sons of God**, and we have an incredible mandate to subdue it for our Lord Jesus, for He must reign and He will reign! How we respond here on this earth to that mandate will determine and even quicken the Lord's return for His children.

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 12:28-29

If you have fully transitioned from being **individually satisfied** to being **eternally satisfying** you will understand that God is to be praised. He is greatly to be praised or given the "highest" praise. Why? Because His Kingdom is "high." Many not sound like much but you could reign the whole earth but it would only be a flicker of a light of the eternity of heaven. You win this earth and you win little in what lies in eternity. God owns it all and He wins. God has given the earth to the children of men. God has not checked out, the earth is the Lord's, but he allows us to serve as His husbandmen to tend to the vineyard, which is His earth. God has given us the earth and His eye is upon us, and he will call us to render an account how we not only use it but how we bring the knowledge of Jesus Christ in it.

- **Going Green:** This is an time to address the very popular "green" conversation buzzing around right now. God did give us the earth and we are to take best care of it. Greed has destroyed and threatened much of the beauty and resources of the earth, but so has ignorance. Isn't it interesting that once someone learns of the misuse of things that the learned has a tendency to label those who were ignorant as tyrants and greedy men. I believe that it is most guided by in the beginning as plan old ignorance. Here in western Kansas is a perfect example of the thousands and thousands of buffalo who almost became extinct because of ignorance and greed. Now our earth are facing some true realities, devastation and corruption. We much respond confidently and learned. But the truth is, no matter how you save the earth, man will

still spend an eternity with or without God. God is higher. Our ignorance or greed will never lower Him from His throne in a massive bail out. He has already provided a process for the whole world to partake in a heavenly position. But we do have the rights to this world. And sometimes we are a little too comfortable knowing that this world will have an end and we know that all that is predicted if we do not heed to the cries of the “green” crowd are already predicted by God's prophets. The truth is, no matter what we try to change here on this earth, change all the light bulbs you want, God is on high. He will do what He said He will do and that is that!

Redirecting our thought again, John Calvin complained that in his day there were many who perverted this particular scripture by saying that God basically abandoned the children of men and didn't have anymore interest in them and they could do what they wanted. They believed that you just had to do the best with what you had and not matter what, God would not intervene on the behalf of man. What a deadly thought and a destructive belief. I think that that is somewhat the dreadful belief of those who believe the gifts have ceased. How in this world could you live accepting all that Satan throws at us and we are to smile and say that this is my portion in life? I believe that Jesus not only died for my sins, but I believe that He rose again to release the power of the Holy Spirit in my life that I might have a life “abundantly.” That is not to confuse with fulfilling my lust, it is to fulfill God's will. My God has not abandoned me on an universal island and one by one we get voted off through death or rapture. My God not only knows me, but knows the number of hair on my head. Yes he has given me the earth, but I am giving it back to Him on a silver plater and sometimes I need to remind myself of this through worship and praise. I need to remind others of that same thing, through songs and hymns and spiritual songs. And I need to remind the heavenlies of this incredible redeeming plan of God and that He is the Lord most HIGH!

“It is not the dead who praise the LORD, those who go down to silence...”
Psalm 115:17

“...it is we who extol the LORD, both now and forevermore. Praise the LORD.”
Psalm 115:18

The dead are incapable of praising him. But the souls of those who know their God, the faithful, who know what it's like to be delivered from the fears and burdens of this life know how to praise God, are still praising Him and will continue to praise Him forevermore. We that are alive will bless the Lord.

- **Matthew Henry's commentary** on this scripture stated, “We ourselves must shortly go to the land of silence; but, while we do live, we will bless the Lord, will improve our time and work that work of him that sent us into the world to praise him before the night comes, and because the night comes, wherein no man can work. The Lord will bless us (Psalms 115:12); he will do well for us, and therefore we will bless him, we will speak well of him. Poor returns for such receivings! Nay, we will not only do it ourselves, but will engage others to do it. Praise the Lord; praise him with us; praise him in your places, as we in ours; praise him when we are gone, that he may be praised for evermore. Hallelujah.”

There are many who do not have the ability to worship and be thankful toward God because their individual satisfaction is greater than their eternal satisfying God's desire upon this earth.

- **Francis Schaeffer** once said, **“The beginning of man’s rebellion against God was, and is, the lack of a thankful heart.”**

Worship is simply this, “Faith and Love Expressed.” You have to have the right things for worship to take place.

Faith

- First you have to have the right **attitude and that is Faith**

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”

Hebrews 11:6

- **Expression**- What is inside you needs to come out of you, exposed. It doesn't mean you have to express it like someone else.

All through the Bible worship was an expression of someones faith toward God. You can have faith but not express it and that is not worship and you can have expression and not faith and that is not worship. It is when the two connect is when worship is really released. Worship is simply this... “Love Expressed.”

Love

“Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always.”

Deuteronomy 11:1

“So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul...”

Deuteronomy 11:13

“If you carefully observe all these commands I am giving you to follow—to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways and to hold fast to him- then the LORD will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and stronger than you.”

Deuteronomy 11:22-23

Some would say the greatest thing to do is to **serve** God. But that is not true, the greatest thing to do is **love** God. **If you love God you will no problem serving God.** We really don't have a sin problem, we have a love problem. Loving Him is serving Him.

Our greatest need is to continually pursue God's presence through praise and worship and God's purpose through His Word.

- Have you ever looked at someone and thought, “I just don't love God like that person does.”
- Where does love come from? It comes from God.

“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

I John 4:8

The Distortion of Worship

According to Romans 1:21-25, the misunderstanding of worship is the basis of all perversion. Satan loves to distort your understanding of worship. He would have you confused or convinced that it is something other than what God has called it to be.

"For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles."

Romans 1:21-23

"Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator- who is forever praised. Amen."

Romans 1:21-25

What was the **basis** of the truth of God and the lie? It was their understanding of **worship**. It is possible that a person who entertains a distorted view of worship, all though they used to know God, can be released of God's protection over their hearts. They did not maintain their direct worship of God and God gave them over...a sign of God giving them over were two things, sinful desires for sexual impurities and worshiping nature itself.

The problem we find here in Romans is that the people that Paul is talking about does not have a love for their Creator, so they're trying to find it in the created. The created now becomes the object of their worship rather than the Creator. When the created becomes that which matters, as opposed to the Creator, I become an idolater.

That's the ultimate insult to God. It's like saying:

"God, I don't find you satisfactory. I don't find you all that you're cracked up to be. I don't want you to be God of my life. But thanks for all the stuff you made for me. Now get out of my way. Let me ignore you, and let me worship what you made."

- **White Lie Cake-** God's response to this is much like the lady named Jane who was supposed to bake a cake for the church ladies' group bake sale, but she forgot to do it until the last minute. She baked an angel food cake and when she took it from the oven, the center had dropped flat.

She said, "Oh dear, there's no time to bake another cake."

So, she looked around the house for something to build up the center of the cake. Jane found it in the bathroom ... a roll of toilet paper. She plunked it in and covered it with icing. The finished product looked beautiful, so she rushed it to the church.

Before she left the house, Jane had given her daughter some money and specific instructions to be at the bake sale the minute it opened, and to buy that cake and bring it home. When the daughter arrived at the sale, the attractive cake had already been sold. Jane was beside herself.

The next day, Jane was invited to a friend's home where two tables of bridge

were to be played that afternoon. After the game, a fancy lunch was served, and to top it off, the cake in question was presented for dessert. Jane saw the cake, she started to get out of her chair to rush into the kitchen to tell her hostess all about it, but before she could get to her feet, one of the other ladies said, "What a beautiful cake!" Jane sat back in her chair when she heard the hostess (who was a prominent church member) say . "Thank you, I baked it myself."

So what do you believe the revelation of that hostess was that day? In a way, the absence of worship is saying, "Yea, I baked the cake" or the absent worshiper could be overheard as saying, "I had a huge influence on today." The listener responds, "Excuse me? You had an influence on today's...what?" "On today. The trees, weather, sun and all that goes with it." The listener, "Sure you did."

The silence of worshipers toward God becomes a thunderous praise toward man.

Our greatest need is to continually pursue God's presence through praise and worship and God's purpose through His Word.

- 1. The Church Determines It**
- 2. The Devil Desires It**

So what is the bottom line with God? What does He really want from us? It is worship. That is why worship is so important to us here. When you give your heart to God you turn from worshipping the idols of this life and your turn and serve and worship God. But let's first look at someone who blew it when it came to worshipping God. Satan's fall from heaven is capture in his five "I Will's" of his greatest desire:

"How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, (Lucifer), son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!" You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

Isaiah 14:12-14

Simply stated, Satan wanted to be worshiped. He wants to distract us from our greatest need, to continually pursue God's presence through praise and worship and God's purpose through His Word. Adam was not the first to sin in the Bible, Satan was. And we have part of his sin nature in us, the sin of pride and not wanting to submit to anyone but having everyone submit to us and worship us!

Here is another little bomb. **Satan was a worship leader in heaven.** The temptation with anyone involved in any kind of worship is pride. Of all the messages I have heard and preachers preach I have sensed the heavy presence of God a few times. I have sensed the presence of God an incredible amount of time in my private time of worshipping God. But I have sensed the presence of God the most, thousands of times, through the leading of a worship leader along with the corporate response of the body of Christ. There is something that moves me deeply and brings God's presence like I've never sensed before. This is why pride can creep into your heart, thinking that you

have somehow “baked the cake”, or “made it happen” in your own power and abilities. Satan's greatest desire was to be worshiped and you can see it if you look in verse 11:

*“All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps...” (Stringed Instruments)
Isaiah 14:11*

Many people don't realize that before Satan fell, he was equipped with stringed instruments, harps. God created Satan with stringed instruments. Many theologians would agree that Satan was a worship leader in heaven.

The Bible only details three angels in heaven, what you would call archangels, and they have power and position. They are the only ones that are named and they are, **Lucifer, Michael and Gabriel.**

Three Components With Every Meeting With God

Every encounter with God. Every quiet time with God. Every worship service. Every encounter with God in the Bible had there main components in operation. **Prayer, the Word and Worship.** Every quiet time with God, every church service should have all three of these components.

- **Michael- Shows a particular lean toward responding to prayer.** Daniel 10, Daniel had prayed for 21 days straight.
- **Gabriel- Shows a particular lean toward responding to the Word of God.** When you see him in the scripture he is bringing the word of the Lord. He announces that the Christ child will come to Mary.
- **Lucifer- He was the worship leader of heaven, made with instruments.** In Ezekiel 28, there is a description of a man but we know by reading it it is also a description of Satan himself.

*“Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: 'You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl.' Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.”
Ezekiel 28:12-13*

We know that there were only four people in the Garden of Eden; God, Adam, Eve, and Satan.

*“You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your **widespread trade** you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones.”
Ezekiel 28:14-16*

Here it tells us why Satan was kicked out of heaven:

*“Through your **widespread trade** you were filled with violence, and you sinned.”*

Merchandising: If someone owns a store and I work for that person, I am not the owner of the store, the other person is. If someone comes into the store and buys \$400 of merchandise and I put \$300 in the cash register and \$100 in my pocket, that is “**merchandising**,” that's what the Hebrew word here means. I am not the rightful owner of this money, I am only a channel for the money to flow through. It is supposed to go from my hands to the rightful owner of the store. Lucifer was supposed to lead all worship of heaven. Worship was supposed to flow through him to the rightful owner. But one day Lucifer said to himself, “I think I'll keep a little of this for myself.” God did not kick Satan out of heaven because He was jealous of him or afraid of him. God kicked him out because no one in heaven demands worship except God. So God will not tolerate someone pocketing some of His worship. So God would not tolerate Satan and He kicked him out of heaven.

Question #1: Why does Satan hate worship so much, it's because it is what he so desperately wanted to receive...all the glory. He wanted it so bad that he lost his place in heaven over it.

Question #2: Why does Satan hate you so much? Because he lost his job in heaven to you.

“Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.”
Ezekiel 28:13

“The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.”
Ezekiel 28:14b

What instrument does the word “timbrels” sound like? Tambourine. And then it says about the workmanship created in him were the pipes. In the Hebrew it means wind instruments. Some versions translate it like this, “**Your tambourines and your flutes.**” They were prepared for him on the day he was created. Take this thought and merge it with Isaiah 14, “**Stringed Instruments.**” So now we have, “...on the day you were created” there was prepared for Satan **percussion instruments, wind instruments** and **stringed instruments**. All instruments fall into one of these three categories. Lucifer was created with instruments. Why? You are created to use your giftedness. God has called me to utilize the gifts in me to fulfill my destiny in Him so why would He create Satan for something else than what He gifted him with? **So God created Lucifer with all instruments and do you know who else God created with instruments? You!**

- **Strings are vocal chords**
- **Singing is wind pipes**
- **Hands are percussion**

You and I were made with all three types of instruments.

Do you remember that Lucifer was covered with all types of stones? Let's look at what Revelation 21 says about the Bride of Christ:

*“One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, **“Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.”** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. **It shown with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.”***

Revelation 21:9-11

Satan thought God lost His worship leader. But God took the dirt of the earth and breathed in it and said, “This will worship me. That is my new worship leader!” Satan always over estimates the power of his existence. Goliath was a representative of Satan when he called out to the Israelites, “Send me a man...”, God said, “No, I’ll send him a boy...” Satan over estimates his full impact. God may have said, “Oh, by the way, this will crush your head! I’m going to show my glory and power through that dirt. I’m going to allow this dirt to sing praise to Me and it will move my heart.” See, when that dirt rebelled He redeemed that dirt with His own Son’s blood. So Satan was kicked out of heaven from being the worship leader and all he wants is to be worshiped. **Satan told Jesus...**

“All this I will give you, “ he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Matthew 4:9-10

Our greatest need is our continual pursuit of God’s presence through praise and worship and God’s purpose through His Word.

Worship is faith and love expressed. It’s not worship if it’s not with faith and love and it’s not not worship if it’s not expressed. Satan did not just want Jesus to worship him but he wanted Him to express it by falling down.

“Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, “Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?”

Revelation 13:4

What is so cool about the Bible is that you and I have the last chapter of this world. We know how this world ends. It’s like an open book finals. You can see that Satan’s whole desire was and is to be worshiped. You can buy music anywhere today that openly worships Satan. Satan wants to be worships and the question to us today is, “Who are we going to worship?” Everyday that you wake up is a worship decision, to worship Satan and his plan for your day or to serve and worship God.

Music effects people and is the vehicle that God gave us to express our worship toward God,

*“For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things were created by him and for him.”***

Colossians 1:16

Satan is trying to rob all of God's worship and direct them to himself. He wants to minimize attention to God and draw all the attention toward himself because he wants to be worshiped and he hates you giving worship toward God. You have the option today of taking his place as the worship leader of this earth, Satan has lost that opportunity.

Our greatest need is our continual pursuit of God's presence through praise and worship and God's purpose through His Word.

He will never be utilized for what he was created for and he is miserable because of it. And if you have not learned to worship God as well, then you have not found the joy of what you were created for, you were created to worship God.

1. **The Church Determines It**
2. **The Devil Desires It**
3. **God Deserves It**

“Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.”
Psalms 145:2-3

Martin Luther said, "Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music."

Music is mentioned in the Bible **839 times**. King David set the priests and Levites in the tabernacle for the sole purpose of ministering with music. He had "round-the-clock" worship, making people aware that worship was not a once-in-a-while event, but a continual lifestyle.

Worship begins when we become intimate with God. We become intimate with God when we lay all distractions aside and focus our attention on Him. It is in surrendering all that we are to Him that we truly worship.

“Then will I ever sing praise to your name and fulfill my vows day after day.”
Psalms 61:8

David was continually offering praise to God. David apparently had made a vow that he would daily praise the Lord. Everyday of his life was committed to praise, and that praise had built an incredible faith.

Those of us who know Jesus, who have been born again, washed in His blood and given the gift of eternal life, should never give in to this sentiment. We have so much for which to be grateful. We have the gospel, the good news and the privilege of sharing it with the rest of the world.

Narrowing The Void With God (Psalm 22:1-10)

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? “O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.”
Psalm 22:1-2

Here is the cry of a person who wants to establish a relationship with God and His presence. I would say that he would confess that his **greatest need was a continual pursuit of God's presence through praise and worship and God's purpose through His Word.**

How David Connected with God Over The Distance is how We Connect With God, You Make Worshipful Proclamations:

Connecting Through Praise and Worship-

1. You Proclaim Who God Is, Not How You Feel

"Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel."

Psalm 22:3

God's existence or positioning in the heavens or earth are not determined by my feelings. If you have experienced abandonment in your life, there could be a feeling that God might disappear on you too. But He never will. Matthew 28:20 says, "I am with you always, event to the end of the age, or earth."

Your proclamation is not based upon a feeling but on faith- "God is!"

2. You Proclaim The History of Worship, Not The Minute of Despair

"In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed."

Psalm 22:4-5

- How our fathers **trusted** God- (Recognize others Faith)
- How our fathers **sought** God- Cried out to Him (Recognize others Passion and Pursuit)
- How our fathers **experienced** God- *"they were not disappointed"* (Recognize others Testimonies)

3. You Proclaim Your Inability and Delight, Not God's Lack of Concern

"But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.

"He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

Psalm 22:6-8

4. You Proclaim Your Destiny, Not Your Destruction

"Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast. From my birth I was cast upon you; from my mother's womb you have been my God."

Psalm 22:9-10