

OUR THREEFOLD MINISTRY

OCTOBER 17, 2018

INTRODUCTION:

Every believer and every church has a threefold ministry: To the Lord, to the saints and to the world. To be most effective in ministering to the saints and to the world, ministering to the Lord must be our first priority. Supportive scriptures: **PSALMS 101:6 (AMP), 1 PETER 4:10, 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-19**

OUR MINISTRY TO THE LORD – ACTS 13:2

1. We are a kingdom of priests. **REVELATION 1:4-6 (NLT)**
 - A. As priests, we offer spiritual sacrifices. **1 PETER 2:5**
 - B. As we minister to Him, He empowers us to minister to the saints and world.

2. What ministering to the Lord involves.
 - A. True worship. **JOHN 4:24** – truth means not a shadow or symbol, but in reality.
 - Focuses on God’s person, who He is, His character. **LEVITICUS 10:3 (NKJV), EXODUS 3:5**
 - Not all worship is acceptable: Vain worship (**MATTHEW 15:7-9**); will, self-imposed **COLOSSIANS 2:20-23 (KJV, NIV)**; ignorant (**ACTS 17:22-23**).
 - Gives worth to God (**1 CHRONICLES 16:29**); is a choice (**PSALMS 34:1**); is our response to God’s love (**1 JOHN 4:19**).
 - B. Praise. **HEBREWS 13:15** – Focuses on what God has done.
 - **PSALMS 150:1-6** – This Psalm is the “grand finale” of the last five hallelujah Psalms. Every created being and thing is commanded to praise its creator.
 - **V6** – God breathed the breath of life into every man. With that breath he is commanded to praise his creator for His mighty acts: Creation, redemption, deliverance, etc...
 - **PSALMS 50:14-15, 23** – Victorious Christians and churches are filled with joyful praise. **PSALMS 118:21** – Praise brought down Jericho’s walls and saved Paul and Silas from certain death.
 - C. Waiting on God. **ISAIAH 40:31, PSALMS 46:10**
 - Spending time in His presence in worship, praise and being still, while reflecting on His greatness and goodness.
 - Oswald Chambers said “The greatest competitor of devotion to Jesus, is service for Him... God wants us interested in Him, not just His works.”

CONCLUSION – LUKE 10:38-42 – LIFE LESSONS

- Slow down. No need to be frantic.
- Prioritize. God first.
- Balance. Sitting and serving are both necessary.
- Choices. Mary chose the good portion.
- Frustrated. Martha with Mary.
- Correction. Jesus lovingly corrected Martha, Martha!
- Focus. Martha lost sight of what’s most important.
- Disillusionment. Martha thought Jesus didn’t care.

There’s no substitute for ministering to and waiting on God, be it individually or collectively.