

**WORSHIP THE LORD - 3**  
**AUGUST 16, 2017**

**DEUTERONOMY 10:8-9**

1. The Levitical priesthood began with Aaron, the older brother of Moses. Aaron's descendants served as priests in Israel. They were responsible to offer sacrifices required by the Mosaic Law. They were to bear the Ark of the Covenant, minister to God and to bless His name.
2. The Levitical priesthood was never intended to be permanent. The death of Christ put an end to the Old Covenant and Levitical priesthood, as evidenced by the temple veil being torn in two. Now Jesus is our great High Priest after the order of Melchisedec, not Levi. **HEBREWS 7:11**

**1 PETER 2:5**

1. Today all believers make up God's holy priesthood. We are to offer up not the bloody sacrifices of the Old Testament, but spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
2. The main reason for the church is to minister to the Lord, minister to the saints and minister to the world.
  - A. **ISAIAH 40:28-31** – As we stand before His presence to minister to Him and bless His Name, He gives Himself to us and empowers us to minister to the saints and to the world.
  - B. **ACTS 13:1-3** – They first ministered to the Lord, then to others.

**MINISTERING TO THE LORD INVOLVES:**

1. Praise. **HEBREWS 13:15**
  - A. **PSALMS 150:1-6** – Every created thing is commanded to praise.
  - B. This Psalm is the “grand finale” of the five hallelujah Psalms. It's the grandest and most intense of all the Psalms.
  - C. The book of Psalms begins and ends with a short six verse Psalm. The first emphasizes meditating the Word; the last teaches us to praise the Lord.
    - **V1** – Who? Jehovah; where? His heavenly and earthly sanctuary, and the expanse of heaven that shows His power.
    - **V2** – What for? His explosions of almightiness – creation, redemption, deliverance from sin, death, hell and the grave. For His attributes of holiness, power and wisdom.
    - **V3-5** – How? With every available instrument.
    - **V6** – By whom? Everyone with breath. **REVELATION 5:13**
  - D. The power of a positive praise life. **PSALMS 50:14-15, 23**
    - Praise and victory go together. **2 CHRONICLES 20:21-22; JOSHUA 6:16, ACTS 16:25-26**
    - Praise and defeat can't dwell together in the same house.
    - A victorious Christian and church is one that is filled with joyful praise.
2. Involves worship.
  - A. Worship centers on who God is, **REVELATION 4:11**, as well as what He's done, **REVELATION 5:9-14**.
  - B. Worship involves giving something to God. **1 CHRONICLES 16:29**
    - A woman was given an appointment with President Lincoln. “How may I serve you?” “I know you're a busy man. I've not come to ask you for anything. I simply came to bring you this box of cookies, for I heard you enjoy them so much.” Silence followed, tears overflowed the President's eyes. “Imagine that, I thank you so much for your thoughtful gift. I am greatly moved by it. Since I've been President of this country, many have come into this office asking for favors and demanding something from me. You are the first person who has ever entered these premises asking no favor, and indeed, bringing a gift for me. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”
3. Communion. **ISAIAH 40:31**
  - A. An exchange takes place when we intertwine with the Lord. We release our strength in praise and worship and we absorb His strength.
  - B. Upward flow of praise, worship and communion.  
Inward flow of grace, mercy and power.  
Outward flow of life, glory and anointing.