

Life Outside the Box!

Part 8: "Worship!"

Song says... "Say His name in the darkest hour and see His light illuminate our path..." "Singing Your praises until our lungs give out – to the Hope of the World, the One who gave His life..." "We're living for the One who gave His life to see our sin erased..." "We are Yours forever – our lives won't be the same, Yours forever, our eyes won't turn away!"

That's only true for people who are living... OUTSIDE THE BOX!

What we know... The very plan of salvation is completely OTB!!! The craziness of the Cross! Who could devise a plan for redemption like this one? **And the salvation we received? OTB!!!** Forgiveness of sin for all time, eternity with God guaranteed, power for transformation right now... WOW! **The Holy Spirit we have been given... OTB!!!** God living in us! Companion who is Comforter, Advocate with the Father, Connection to Jesus, Intercessor, Teacher, Leader, Revealer and Speaker of the House when we need Him! **The Message we've been given to deliver! OTB!!!** "Don't have to be good – have to be connected!" "God is the lover of your souls, in your current condition!" Let me tell you the story of what He did when He came in! Surrounded by a lost world – makes our lives perfect! OTB! **The war for men's souls... outrageously OTB!** Wearing armor cannot be felt... Bearing weapons that cannot be held... Bringing down monster foes that cannot be seen... Visual results right here on earth! **VR WARGAMES MEETS REALITY TV ON STEROIDS! Intercessory Prayer warfare! OTB!** Putting us anywhere in the world or charging thru the heaven's... Mediating with God, standing between man and his enemy... Discomfiting fire shielding and refreshing water flowing from our mouths! Equal footing w/the greatest "generals" of the faith...

Outside the Box... Is where our God-planned lives are! Is where God's resources flow and miracles take place! Is where Father, Son and Holy Spirit are at work redemptively! Is where we are called to live our Christian lives...

One last frontier...

"Giving of thanks..." 1Tim2.1 "Thanks:" eucharistia: words of gratitude... OT:Tehillah "Enter in to His gates w/thanks giving and into His courts w/praise!" **Ps100.4** "You are holy, *You that inhabits the praise* of Your people!" **Ps22.3** "In everything give thanks for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus!" **1Th5.18**

Past Week... Three articles circulating online having to do with a spoiled, overvaluing, entitlement minded generation! May have happened a little at a time thru many generations... But this generation has brought the results home to roost – *Thankless consumerism!*

"Giving of honor/reverence..." "A son honors his father and a servant his master; If I be a Father, where is My honor? And if I am a Master, where is My reverence?" **Malachi 1.6** God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all *them that are* about him. **Ps89.7**

"Giving worship/praise..." Psalms "Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." **Ps29.2** "You will worship the Lord your God, and Him only will you serve." **Mt4.10** "Come let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. **Ps95.6**

Worship and praise needs to be outside the box for people who want to be outside the box!

Not trying to change your style of, but your mind about, worship... and here's why! 1Peter 2.9,10 But you are a *chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people that should show forth the praises of Him* who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light... you are people who had no God and are now *people who have obtained mercy!*

1Peter 2.9,10 Chosen generation: "select offspring!" **Royal Priesthood:** "kingly priests!" **Holy nation:** "consecrated people" **Peculiar people:** "purchased and prized possession"

How's the fit? Worship like someone who God calls His "select offspring?" "Select cut," best of the best of the best, chosen... For privileges of covenant! For honor of service! See a man/woman in uniform? *Clothed in glory/armor of God/sword of the Word! Do you show forth your praises?*

Worship like a king and priest serving God? What would your followers learn from your worship? Would they see a person endowed with the Spirit? Would they believe you have had access to the throne of God? ***How kingly bold/priestly free is your worship?***

Worship like someone set aside, dedicated for God's use/will? Hagios: sacred (not secular): different: holy/whole/healthy... Busting moves at the bar... topping out in the car! In the moment at the movie and full motion at the game! *Tolerating* worship in church! ***Worshipping as someone set aside or on the sidelines?***

Would anyone know you are a found and revaluated, purchased and prized possession of the Lord God Most High? Miserable of Les Miserables... Marching off to own destruction... Halted, and pulled out of line... To be washed and clothed... And set up on a throne in heavenly places... To be a model of God?

Are you a worshipper of that order... of the truly redeemed and esteemed by God on High?

SWAIGTDWWIKN?

"I'm going to check my feet to see where I'm standing... I/OTB!" ITB... lukewarm responses to God/worship? OTB... challenged by ever newer forms of expression? Willing to push up to the world of "Cuckoo for Christ" instead of...**1Cor4.10**

"I'm going to check my mind to see what I think... I/OTB!" Do I understand who I am and what I was created for? How I am being judged by God and man? Am I in awe of Him or has my familiarity bred a certain contempt? Is He God, high and lifted up, but far away/in the future?

"I'm going to check my heart to see what I love... ITB/OTB!" Is He God, Father, and Savior worthy of all I have to offer Him? **1Tim2.3 4.10 Tit 1.3 2.10** Do I love that He is God, desiring to inhabit my praise? **Ps42.1,2** Has my affection made time and space for worship-full attention? **Ps62.3,4 103.1**

And finally my brothers... If we do not step into LOTB...

Our world(s) will not be shaken and our nation won't be changed! Demon powers will rule unchecked and with glee! People we know and love will remain in bondage! The world will not see Him coming in power to deliver!