

Worship in a War-torn World! Part 6: If You Were an Oracle!

How would you speak if you believed you were an oracle of God?

Capping off a short series on worship! Because worship: *bowing to God's way and will*, is the key to everything we want in this war-torn world!

So far... Worship as singing should be vibrant! *"An experience of intimacy with a very present God!"* **Worship as a lifestyle opens the door to every promise and complete fulfillment! Worship outwardly looks like servants, prophets, and soldiers! Worship from the inside looks a lot like obedience, even slow obedience, and an attack on our own sin! And true spiritual worship looks like "change!"**

From Jesus to the Bible models of disciples... it looks like change! And there's no bigger change for us than becoming an "oracle" of God!

Body of Truth... The Model of the Prophet/Oracle! Sixteen OT prophets, lives separated and changed... Model people who say what God says and do what He commands! John the Baptist, transitional prophet, stands above them all... Every NT believer stands above John!

"Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." **Lk 7.28**

"Primaries:" Peter, James, John... **A2ff** *"Secondary's:"* Stephen, Philip... **A6ff** *"Beneficiaries:"* Mary Magdalene (seven spirits, Luke 8), the Gadarene (thousands **Mark 5**), a man born blind (**John 9**), a deaf man with a speech impediment (**Mark 7**), a leper (**Luke 5**), and a guy named Saul wasting his life on a battle he couldn't win! **Each one of them "changed" into an oracle of God!** *"Boomers:"* by the millions, including us/you! **ACTS 29**, "those following!"

"And you go and teach all people, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the things I have commanded you..." **Mt28.19,20** *"Preach the word! Be ready when it's easy and when it's not; reprove, rebuke and exhort with longsuffering and good doctrine!"* **2Tim4.2** *"If any one is going to speak, let them do it as an oracle of God!"* **1Pet4.11** *"And pray for me, that utterance may be given to open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel..."* **Eph 6.19** *"Lord, behold the dangers and grant to your servants the boldness to speak your words..."* **Acts 4.29** *"Don't be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, but be a partaker of the afflictions that come from the gospel according to the power of God!"* **2T1.8**

Worshippers, people bowing before God, are all called to speak up and out for God!

Speaking as an Oracle... Does not include speaking low brow: expletives or euphemisms of expletives...

"But fornication and all uncleanness, covetousness, let it not be once named among you as becomes the saints, neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, not jesting, which isn't convenient, but rather the giving of thanks... Eph 5.3,4 *"Let your yes, be yes and no, no, more than that shows an open link to evil Mt5.37... and a fall into hypocrisy!"* **Jam 5.12** *"If anyone does not offend with his word, the same is a perfect (maturing) person able to bridle every other part of life as well! The tongue is little but it can defile us and burn up our course if it's set on fire by hell. With it we bless God and curse men made in His image... out of the same mouth comes blessing and cursing, it shouldn't be! A fountain does not send bitter and sweet water from the same place!"* **Jam 3.2ff**

It's hard to discern worship when there's so much "dark" noise!

Means, "Putting away a willful mouth, and perverse lips far away." **Pr4.24** *Willful:* self-willed, undisciplined, obstinate, headstrong... Say what I feel, the way I feel it, when I feel it... My way or the highway... Controlling,

demeaning, bullying... *Perverse lips*: Malicious, destructive, debilitating... Is this the way God speaks to us? If not, and we speak that way, *it's not worship, not prophetic, not "oracle!"*

Means we speak for God, to people, like God would speak... Wisdom speaks of excellent things; lips flow with right things. My mouth speaks truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; *there is nothing willful or perverse in them*. They are all plain to him that understands, and right to them that find knowledge. **Pr 8.6-9** God has been known to speak strongly to men – but always in love/for redemption!

Means no excuses... "I am not a person good with words, never have been; I am slow of speech and tongue twisted." **Ex4.10** "Who made man's mouth? Go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what to say!" **v11,12** ***Caveat: be very careful how far you push this self-rule, self-worship...*** "Lord, send someone else, the someone else you should send! **v13** "and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses..." **v14**
Reluctant prophets are lousy worshippers!

Means no judgments... "Get up and go speak to those people of great wickedness..." **Jonah 1.1,2** "Can I get a ship going to Tarshish?" **1.3** ***Caveat: be careful how far you push your self-rule flight plan!*** Ship was in a storm, sailors throw Jonah overboard, fish swallows Jonah, Jonah cries, fish vomits Jonah... **2**
"Go and preach to that city where there are thousands who can't discern their right from the left!" **3/4**
I knew you were going to forgive them!
Prejudiced prophets make lousy worshippers!

Should start in the heart... "You should say, *if God will* we will live and do this or that... because all boasting about what you are going to do is evil and to the one who knows what to do and doesn't do it, it is sin!" **Jam 4.15,16** "don't you know I am willing to die for the sake of the Lord?" **A21.13** **And spread thru the house...** "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord!" **Josh 24.15** "I am very willing to spend and be spent for your sakes..." **2Cor 12.15** **Should overflow on the world...** "Speak the truth in love... **E4.15** "Speak with gracefulness, seasoned with salt (wits about you), that's how you should answer every man." **Col4.6** "Have faith in God!" **Mk 11.22** To their storms: "Peace, be still!" **Mk4.39** Commanding spirits, "Come out of them!" **A16.18** "I do not condemn you... go and sin no more!" **J8** "Your sins are forgiven you!" **J20.23**

"This is how we know God loves us, because He sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. So, herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the substitutionary payment for our sins." **1J4.9,10** "Because the Spirit of the Lord is on me I am anointed to preach the gospel to the poor, sent to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, the recovering of sight to the blind and to set free those who are bruised!" **Lk4.18,19**

People who worship God in spirit and in truth speak up and out for God! People who worship God in spirit and in truth are changed into the image of The Oracle, Jesus! And the words they speak, from a transformed heart, are truth and they are life! John 6.63