

27. Praise Drives Satan Out

We will continue looking at this wonderful key that God has given us, to open every door on earth, the key of praising God.

God is a good God. Every single thing that He does and allows to come into our lives is designed for our very best. Some of it may be painful, and we may not understand it, but it is designed for our very best. You know just like our children who don't understand sometimes what is good for them. When you force your child to go to school on a Monday morning, your 4 year or 5 years old child doesn't understand. The child would rather stay at home, play or sleep or something like that, but he doesn't understand what you are forcing him to do is good for him. In the same way, many things that God allows in our life, we may not understand, because we are immature, but they are all designed for our good. It is only the devil who is out to destroy us.

Jesus came to earth and exposed two things. One, He exposed the tremendous goodness of our heavenly Father and second, He exposed the thoroughly evil nature of the devil who seeks to deceive us in so many ways. There is a verse in Isaiah 61 which tells us the ministry that Jesus came to accomplish. In fact, Jesus quoted this passage, in Luke 4, in the very first Sermon that He preached in the Synagogue in Nazareth. Here it says, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me." And what has the Lord - the Father, anointed Jesus to do? - "To bring the good news to the oppressed. To build up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners" (Is. 61:1).

You know, Jesus came to set people free. The devil

27. 讚美聲能趕走撒但

我們接下來繼續查看神給我們的這把絕妙的、可以打開一切門的鑰匙,這把鑰匙就是,讚美神。

神,是良善的神。祂做的,和祂允許我們生命裡發生的每件事,都有祂對我們最好的打算。有的事可能很痛苦,有的我們無法理解,但一切都是為了我們好。就好像小孩子有時候不懂什麼對他們有益處一樣。週一早上,當你強迫自己的孩子去上學,一個四五歲的孩子就不明白。小孩兒想在家呆著,玩啊、睡覺什麼的,他們不明白你的強迫是為他們好。同樣的,神允許我們生命裡發生的很多事情我們也不明白,因為我們不成熟,然而一切都是對我們有益的。只有魔鬼才是一直在伺機毀掉我們。

主耶穌來到地上使兩件事充分顯露。第一,祂讓我們知曉天父的無比良善;第二,祂也揭露出魔鬼無比的邪惡,時刻伺機欺騙人類。以賽亞書 61 章的一節經文告訴我們主耶穌來地上所要成就的。實際上,路加福音 4 章記錄著,主耶穌在拿撒勒第一次講道,就是引用的這段話。這段經文說,「主的靈在我身上,因為祂用膏膏我」,那麼天父膏抹主耶穌來做什麼?「叫我傳好消息給貧窮的人;差遣我醫好傷心的人,報告被擄的得釋放,被囚的出監牢」(以賽亞書 61 章 1 節)。

你知道嗎?主耶穌來世上是為了使人得自由。魔鬼在

has come into the earth to bring people into bondage, but Jesus came to set people free. He has also come "To grant those who mourn in Zion, to give them a garland instead of ashes and the oil of gladness instead of mourning and the mantle of praise instead of the spirit of fainting" (Is. 61:3). Jesus has come to give us the oil of gladness and the mantle of praise - a garment of praise instead of the spirit of heaviness and depression.

Do you know that the spirit of heaviness is not from God? It is something that the devil tries to put upon you like a garment. You must just shake it off. You must say, 'In Jesus' name, I resist you Satan. You can't put any depression on me. I resist you. I have been crucified with Christ. The blood of Jesus has cleansed my past life completely. My guilt is gone. You can't accuse me anymore, Satan.' Say these words to the devil and reject that spirit of heaviness and depression that Satan tries to put upon you.

Jesus has come to cast that spirit out from your life permanently, and not just cast it out and leave you naked. If He leaves you naked, that clothing of depression will come back on you again. No, He clothes you instead with the garment of praise. That is what it says here: the garment of praise instead of the spirit of heaviness. Isn't it wonderful? Now, if you can believe this, this is really true. It is not the will of God that we should be depressed or discouraged or in a bad mood at any time. It may come like a temptation. We should shake it off and God will help us to shake it off.

What the Bible says in 1 John 2:6 is a very important. I don't know how many of you know it. "The one who says he abides in Christ, must walk as Jesus walked." In other words, if you say that "you are a Christian," the Living Bible puts it like this, "You must live as He lived." That is our calling; to

地上總是試圖將人送入捆綁,而主耶穌來是為將人釋放。祂來還是為了「賜華冠與錫安悲哀的人,代替灰塵,喜樂油代替悲哀,讚美衣代替憂傷之靈」(以賽亞書 61 章 3 節)。主耶穌來送給我們喜樂的油,讚美的衣——脫掉那沉重壓抑的靈。

你知道嗎,任何讓人心情沉重的精神(靈)都不是從神來的?那就像魔鬼試圖給你穿的衣服。你必須把它給抖掉。必須說,「以主耶穌的名,撒但我拒絕你。我拒絕你加給我的沮喪。因我已與主耶穌同死在十字架上。主耶穌的寶血已洗淨了從前的一切。我的罪已不在了。撒但,你無法再指責我了。」對魔鬼說這樣的話,並且拒絕撒但加給你的沉重壓抑的靈。

主耶穌早已將那靈永遠從你生命裡驅逐了,並且在那之後祂沒有讓你赤裸面對。假如祂留你赤條條在那,「沮喪」這件衣服就很快又會回到你身上。所以祂加給了你「讚美」這件外衣。這就是這裡所說的,讚美衣代替憂傷之靈。這是不是妙極了?你要相信這的確是真的。任何時候壓抑、洩氣或是壞情緒,都不是神的心意。這類情緒對人而言是有誘惑力的。我們需要把它們抖掉,並且神會幫我們把它們抖掉。

《聖經》裡約翰一書 2 章 6 節的經文非常重要。不知道你們是否已經曉得。「人若說他住在主裡面,就該自己照主所行的去行。」換句話說,假如你說自己是基督徒,「你就該像祂那樣活著」。這是神對我們每個人的呼召,像祂那樣活著,像祂那樣行事。主耶穌有任何時候沮喪過嗎?祂灰心喪氣過嗎?從沒有。然

live as He lived; to walk as He walked. Was Jesus ever depressed? Was He ever discouraged, or in a bad mood at any time? No, never. But one thing about Jesus' life is that, He took up the Cross. Every day He took up the Cross and He followed in His Father's will. Now, if we choose that way, this verse will be fulfilled in our life, not just occasionally, but every single day; a garment of praise instead of the spirit of heaviness, oil of gladness instead of mourning. It is a wonderful life.

Let me turn to another Psalm. In Psalm 8:2 we read this statement which Jesus quoted once in the temple when the little children were shouting and praising God. We read in Matthew 21: 15-16 about the time when the people held palm branches and lay down their clothes on the road for Jesus to ride on a donkey into Jerusalem. At that time, when Jesus came into the temple, He saw the children that were there yelling and shouting, "Hallelujah," "Hosanna to the Son of David." The Chief Priests did not like a lot of noise and all that. They believed that the only way to worship God was quietly and seriously as though a funeral was going on. There are people who think like that even today that, the only proper way to praise God is quietly and solemnly as though you were sitting in a funeral.

Now I believe with all my heart that there is a way of praising God in silence. But there is also praise that is acceptable to God that comes forth with shouts of joy. The Bible says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord". We worship God with shouts of praise and also in solemn silence. It is not just always one or always the other. But here it was absolutely proper for the children to be excited and to praise God. Have you ever seen how people praise those who have just won a cricket match? For example, say, a cricket match is going on between India and Pakistan and India has won. Can you picture how

而祂生命裡我們需要看見的是,祂所背的十字架。祂活的每一天,都背著十字架,不為自己活,而為順服天父的心意活。那麼,假如我們選擇這條路,這句話就會在我們身上應驗,不是偶爾的,而是每天、每刻,讚美衣代替憂傷之靈,喜樂油代替悲哀。這樣的人生該有多麼美妙啊。

現在我們再看另外一篇。詩篇 8 章 2 節,這節經文主耶穌在聖殿裡聽到小孩子們大喊著讚美神時引用過。馬太福音 21 章 15 到 16 節,那時人們砍下樹枝,有的脫下衣服鋪在主耶穌騎著驢駒子進入耶路撒冷的路的地。主耶穌進了神的殿,看見小孩子喊著說「哈利路亞,和散那歸於大衛的子孫。」祭司長不喜歡這些吵吵嚷嚷。他們這些人相信讚美神要安安靜靜,像葬禮那麼嚴肅。直到今天也有很多人認為讚美神就該如此,恭敬、肅穆,如同葬禮一般。

而我真心相信,讚美神的確可以是安靜的。但同時神也接受那些大聲歡呼的讚美。《聖經》說,「要向主歡呼稱頌。」我們既要用歡呼的讚美敬拜神,同時也要用莊重的靜默來敬拜神。敬拜神不是只有一種對的方式。這裡孩童興奮的讚美神是完全適當的。你見過人群如何激動的讚美剛剛贏了板球的隊員吧?比如說,印度對巴基斯坦剛贏了球。你能想像出體育場爆發的歡呼吧。那麼基督徒為什麼看起來不那麼激動呢?主耶穌已經饒恕了我們的罪,祂完全的勝過了邪惡,在十字架上祂勝過了一切,還有那基督再來時的榮耀,祂將在地上建立祂的國度,這一切的一切,不值得基督徒激動歡呼嗎?人們經常在神面前心情沉重,臉拉的老

that stadium erupts in excitement. Then why is that Christians don't seem to be excited about the fact that Jesus has forgiven their sins, that Jesus has defeated the devil, that Jesus overcame everything on the Cross, that Christ is returning in glory and He is going to set up His kingdom on the Earth? People sit with long faces in God's presence.

Jesus was thrilled to hear the noise of praise and so, when the Chief priest criticized those little children praising God, Jesus quoted Psalm 8:2. He said, 'Haven't you read that it says in the Bible, "From the mouth of infants and nursing babes, thou has established strength, because of Thine adversaries, to make the enemy and the revengeful cease. "' So what do we read there? That praise is the means by which God shuts the mouth of the enemy. That is very important for us to understand. It is through praising God that the mouth of the devil is shut and very often you can't shut the mouth of the devil in your life or your home, because you don't praise God.

The devil hates praise, I will tell you that. He hates praise in a home, he hates praise in a life, and he hates praise in a Church. That is why he makes people so grumpy and long-faced, grumbling and complaining most of the time, because then he can rule in their lives and in their homes. Satan cannot stand the sincere shouts of praise to God. That is why he can't stay in heaven because, in heaven, every angel is yelling and shouting praises to God. How can the devil stand around there? And he can't stand around in any Church where everybody is praising and shouting and thanking God; he can't. He can't be in a home where people are praising God. He can't sit in a life or in a heart where people are praising God.

Jesus was so excited when He saw those little

長。

主耶穌聽見歡呼讚美聲感到非常興奮,可祭司長卻在指責這些小孩兒讚美神過於吵鬧,主耶穌引用了詩篇 8 章 2 節,說「經上說'你從嬰孩和吃奶的口中建立了能力,使仇敵和報仇的閉口無言。'」在這我們看到什麼了?那就是,神利用讚美聲使仇敵啞口無言。瞭解這一點對我們來說非常重要。對神的讚美可以使魔鬼啞口無言。而你的生活和你的家庭,在好多時候無法使魔鬼閉嘴,就是因為你們沒有用心在讚美神。

老實告訴你,魔鬼憎恨我們對神的讚美。它恨我們在家、在生活中、在教會裡對神讚美。因此它總是試圖讓人氣不順、煩躁、不開心,讓人一個勁兒的嘟囔抱怨,因為只有這樣,它才能在這些人的生活裡掌權。撒但無法忍受人們對神真誠的讚美。也正因為如此,它無法在天堂裡呆著,因為天堂裡充滿了每個天使大聲呼喊讚美神的聲音。魔鬼在那呆不下去。同樣的,一個教會如果每個人都真心讚美神,大聲感謝神,它也同樣無法忍受。它也沒法在一個讚美神的家庭裡停留。魔鬼無法在一個讚美神的人心裡坐王。

當主耶穌看見小孩子歡呼讚美神的時候,祂覺得非常興

children praising God. That reminded Him of His home, Heaven. Jesus was used to living in heaven for eternity where He heard the angels praising God with a voice like loud thunders and then when Jesus came to earth and lived in Nazareth, He saw so many people grumbling, complaining, long-faced. He felt sad then, but now when He saw a situation like this, where children are shouting and praising God, it reminded Him of His heavenly home.

But those religious people just couldn't understand that. They couldn't stand that type of praise. What does that actually prove? They were actually in fellowship with the devil. The devil hated that praise and those religious people hated that praise. How is it in your life? Did you give room to the devil by that spirit of complaining and grumbling? What do we read in Psalm 8, through that expression of praise that came from the mouth of infants? - That it established strength to make the enemy shut his mouth and to make the revengeful person cease.

When we look around at Christians today, we can see how Satan has succeeded everywhere. In most places, he does it in 2 ways: One, he will stop the shouts of praise altogether, and that is what he has done in many homes, many churches, and many lives; there is no shout of praise. If he doesn't succeed there, then he has got a second technique, that is, where people are praising God, he will make them insincere. That means that they will say it with their mouths, but it is not true in their hearts and it is not true in their lives. So, both ways he succeeds.

So you have some Churches where they don't praise God at all and some other churches where it is only a ritual; it is not something which is true in their life all the time, but just praise God on Sunday morning. And then the devil succeeds in both these Churches. But what is God looking for? He is

奮。因為那讓祂想到家,天堂。祂在永恆裡曾習慣聽著那些如雷鳴般響亮的天使的讚美聲,可是當祂來到地上,在拿撒勒,看到那麼多人沒事就嘟囔抱怨,臉拉得老長,這讓祂覺得很悲哀,可這些孩子讓祂感覺好像又在家裡似的。

可惜那些宗教人士無法明白,他們無法忍受這樣的讚美聲。這說明了什麼?說明了他們實際上是和魔鬼相交的,魔鬼憎恨這樣的讚美,這些宗教人士也憎恨這樣的讚美。那麼你的生命是怎樣的呢?你用那抱怨的精神在心裡為魔鬼留位置嗎?詩篇 8 章我們看到了什麼?從嬰孩讚美的口中,建立了能力,使仇敵和報仇的閉口無言。

看看今天的基督徒們,到處都能看到撒但在得勝。基本上撒但就用兩招:一是,讓一個家、教會和很多人的生命,徹底沒有讚美聲。假如這招不成,它的第二招就是,讓那些口裡讚美神的,自欺欺人的假惺惺的讚美。讓那些人嘴上說著,心裡想的和活出來的生命完全是另外一回事。這兩招無論哪個,都是讓撒但得逞了。

結果有的教會壓根就不讚美神,另外一些則是流於形式,那些讚美的話只存在於周日早上,而不是真的在生命裡。這兩種教會都讓撒但得逞了。神尋找的是什麼?祂尋找那些決心把撒但徹底趕出去的,誠心讚美神的教會、家庭和個人。

looking for churches, homes, individuals like you who are determined to drive the devil right out of your life, your home and your church by sincere praise.

Why does Satan hate sincere praise to God? - Because, as we saw in Psalm 8, that is how he is going to lose his power over you. Empty shouts of praise, that doesn't come from a Holy life, that doesn't come from a sincere heart, don't have any power. No, but if it comes from a heart that is really committed to God, it has tremendous power in it.

You know, how that the Israelites worshipped the golden calf and they called it Jehovah and they shouted to that Jehovah or what they called Jehovah. So loud that Moses and Joshua heard it at such a long distance away, but that wasn't real praise. It was empty, it was hollow. There was immorality in the midst of that praise and that can happen even today. People can praise God with a loud voice and there can be immorality in the midst of all the praise to Jesus. But where it comes from sincerity, there, you can be absolutely certain that it is powerful to drive the devil right out. Why don't you practice it from today?

那麼,撒但為什麼如此憎恨我們讚美神?詩篇的 8 章告訴我們,那是因為這樣它就失去了對你的控制。那些口頭上空洞的讚美,不是來聖潔生命的,不是來自誠摯內心的,會使撒但對你有巨大的控制力。

你們都讀到過以色列人是如何拜金牛犢,並且他們稱呼那金牛犢為「耶和華」,對那個「耶和華」歡呼,聲音大到讓摩西和約書亞在很遠以外就聽到,可那歡呼並非真的讚美。那呼聲是空洞虛偽的。在那些以色列人裡充斥著不道德,類似的事情今天也仍在發生。人們可以大聲讚美「上帝」,讚美「主耶穌」,可是裡面卻充斥著不道德。只有當那讚美真的來自誠摯的心,你才能確定那具有驅趕魔鬼的力量。你何不今天就開始試試呢?