



**A LETTER FROM YOUR PASTOR: NOVEMBER 2020**  
*by Lee Shipp*

**BROADCAST HIS FAME**

The world is filled with problems and sad stories. Tragedies abound. This is all that is commonly talked about. Tragedy, disaster, turmoil, and abuse is what we call news. Media empires have made a fortune feeding depressing and catastrophic stories to men for centuries, causing men live with very little hope. Due to the exploitation of evil, men live looking for disaster and tragedy.

Why don't we, who know the Lord, dismantle this negative narrative of despair? Is our God not good? Is the Lord not mighty? Has the Lord not helped us? Then start talking about what good things the Lord has done. Praise Him openly among the people and declare His wonders to everybody. Sure, there will be skeptics, after all they only hear tragic stories. But I believe if we will start declaring the Lord's goodness and beneficial help to those who call upon Him, then multitudes will begin to joyfully seek the Lord. Multitudes will begin to seek His strength and help.

Nothing is more fitting and natural than man giving praise to the Lord. Those who have been the recipients of God's manifold deeds should be openly declaring the benefits before the people. In an effort to magnify the Lord, we should openly speak of the Lord and His goodness to us.

Your relationship with God should be the light and glory of the world. You should be so excited about the Lord that it is infectious to all who know you. The glorious acts of God in your life should be exploited and constantly spoken of. His effect upon you is so strong that your demeanor is exuding with singing and joy. As a matter of fact, it will spur others into joyfully seeking the Lord with all their heart as they ponder, *"After all, God has evidently helped you; why should God not help me?"*

Psalms 105 exhorts us to broadcast the Lord's deeds among the people. It is interesting to see how the devil seized this instruction of the Lord to use for his own advantage. The devil has made an enterprise out of broadcasting his works and evil deeds. Again, that is all people hear.

The devil's success is due to the fact that he took the Word of God seriously. The devil understood that the way to affect men's hearts for his evil purposes is by feeding them a false narrative, broadcasting the suffering in the world followed by the question, *"If there is a God, how can He be good?"*

In an elaborate fabrication of deception, the devil sets out to give men a constant reminder of the failure of God; thus, causing men to not joyfully seek the Lord. By a constant broadcast of depressing news, he hopes to rule the world of men. Every day the devil exploits the pain and suffering of humanity, injecting the question into humanity's heart, *"How can a loving God be so evil?"* And men have believed the devil's narrative. Very few are seeking the Lord.

Newspapers, radio shows, and television shows are filled with news broadcasts bombarding the souls of men and causing them to despair of life and seek death rather than life. Oh beloved, let us heed the Lord's admonition in Psalms 105 and destroy the broadcasting news of the devil by broadcasting the mighty works of the Lord our God.

**WE CAN DELIVER MEN**

How is it that the whole world declares that the Christian God is evil, cruel, uncaring, and sadistic? Because the world is bombarded with the devil's narrative and not the Lord's. Where are the believers who would rise up to correct this narrative of hell? Where are the multitude of believers who would joyfully declare the loving kindness of the Lord? If the Lord's people would live praising the Lord, singing and glorifying His name, then the nations would seek after the Lord.

Sadly, multitudes of Christians seem to buy into the devil's narrative. In their hearts they also surmise that the Lord has dealt a very difficult hand to them. Even believers support the devil's narrative that life is an unbearable weight and the assistance of the Lord is seldom to be felt. This is a horrible accusation to levy at the Living God.

I will tell you why the Lord's help is seldom noticed among believers. It is because multitudes of Christians refuse to praise God. I watch this refusal to praise God all over the world, in many churches I visit. Christians gather as though they are in a funeral service rather than the house of the Lord. For God's sake, where is joy and gladness and praise? In church, people stand there, at their seats, with blank and lethargic expressions, singing hymns to a God that just does not excite them at all. Oh, they say they care, they have to – because it is their religion. But the Lord, the Living God, He is so absent from their faith and love.

Our declaration of God is not in word only, it is in expression. To praise God means to shine, to make a show; to boast and rave; to celebrate. And when believers gather to truly celebrate the Lord, and rave about His

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glorious goodness then they can't help but be visited by the Lord and lifted and helped in their times of trouble.

The exuberance coming from God's children will cause a ripple effect in the earth. Multitudes will seek the Lord. They will see and understand the Lord's mercy and love. They will seek refuge in the Lord. He will be glorious in the nations. He will be exalted and magnified among the people.

Multitudes of souls living in the horror of darkness and despair can see the light of hope and help by our praise. Just imagine believers going to work on Monday telling their friends the things they saw God do on Sunday. If this were to become the common practice of believers, I assure you it would not be long before your friends would begin asking if they could go with you to church.

Sadly, souls in tragedy don't seek our help or the help of our God because we have not broadcast the Lord's deeds enough to them. Who goes to work week after week saying to their friends, *"Oh, my ... you should have seen the wonderful works of God at church. Let me tell you how He helped us. We were so happy and joyful. I just cannot wait till we meet again."* Come on, I promise – if believers would begin to broadcast the mighty works of God then the lost would beg you to take them with you to church.

**PUT ON THE GARMENT OF PRAISE**

Beloved, if you are in a place of coldness, spiritually dry, then praise your way out. You do not have to live here. Your birthright is the promise of a life constantly filled and overflowing with the Spirit of liberty and joy. Be filled with the Spirit. Draw God to yourself. Call Him up! Command yourself to a fuller life. Like David, he commanded his "soul" to rise up before the Lord. *"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits"* (Psalms 103).

How can I not rejoice? The Lord has forgiven all my sins; He has healed

all my diseases. The Lord has redeemed my life from destruction. The Lord has crowned me with lovingkindness and tender mercies. Jesus satisfies me with good things. The Lord is slow to anger; He is quick to bring mercy and grace. He does not deal with me according to my sins. Oh, His mercy is so great towards me, it is high above the earth. He has banished my sins from His presence.

If any believer would begin to broadcast this truth with a sincere heart of thanksgiving, there is no way they could remain dry and barren. Wells of water would begin to spring forth. So, stir yourself to the fact of God. Move by faith in His direction. Approach Him the way He commanded! *"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord ... serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing ... enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name"* (Psalms 100).

Now this is not a suggestion. This is God's prescribed way into His presence. You are not God; you do not trample His presence in whatever way you desire. But look at the beautiful command. Come with a joyful noise, serve with gladness, come with singing, enter with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise! Beautiful! Anyone can do this.

He did not prescribe something impossible or challenging such as: come with a million dollars, come with perfection, come without problems, come with a degree in theology, come if you preached to ten people. But, why do so many Christians refuse to come this way? Why do so many churches fail to have services like this? Why is God's House so boring and quiet and dull and predictable? It is not that God is absent, we are. We didn't come into His presence we just entered a building called the church. Oh, God help us!

## **ANYONE CAN KNOW THE GOOD DEEDS OF THE LORD**

Jesus offers life and peace to all men. By grace through faith, the peace of and goodness of God can be enjoyed. For example, I am promised a Spirit-filled life (Ephesians 5:18). It is mine by promise, however, it is possible to not experience the promise.

If I am to enjoy the grace of a Spirit-filled life, then I have to exercise my faith to receive the Spirit. How do I do that? The Bible tells me to speak to myself and sing until there is a melody in my heart ... so I act by faith that it shall be so. How do I act by faith? I speak (to others and myself) in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. I sing. I make a melody in my heart to the Lord. I give thanks. And as I exercise this faith the fullness of the Spirit happens in me.

But so many Christians just will not do this. Honestly, when was the last time you spoke to others in songs? When was the last time you preached to yourself from the psalms? When was the last time you gathered with the saints and were excessive with thanksgiving?

And if this is not your practice please do not blame God for not filling you or helping you. God says if you will do this by faith then He will fill you. It is not God's fault if you are not spiritually vibrant.

The invitation to deeper and more intimate communion with God begins with a thankful heart. Even the prodigal, living in a sinful state, became thankful for the way his father treated his hired servants; therefore, he found hope to live again in the presence of his father. It was not long before the prodigal son was back in the father's loving embrace.

So beloved, give thanks and praise the Lord. In everything give thanks. I know life is difficult. I know the burden of life is more than we can bear. But we have good news, we are not to bear it alone and we are given promises of a better life. Look past the moment. Lay hold on the promises! Know a better day is coming tomorrow. Thanking God is not always an expression of gratitude for what is, but for what shall be!

So, broadcasting God's wondrous deeds demands that I am acting in faith. For example, I am told to set my affections above (Colossians 3). This means there is to be emotion and passion in my faith. So, I walk by faith in the written Word and the Holy Ghost produces the reality within my heart and affections.

Faith calls for action! And I believe that when I act a miracle is coming and an opportunity to broadcast the works of the Lord. I am in relationship with God and I am going to tell as many people about Him as I can. I am expecting His wondrous deeds. I know that multitudes are going to be turned on to God because of my praise!

Living in faith and praise looks like this: The Bible commands me to pray for the sick. Therefore, what do I do? I pray for the sick! I do this in faith. I do not act or refuse to act based upon my feelings, circumstances, or state of being. I pray for the sick because the Word tells me to. I am acting in faith. God will fulfil His Word. I will broadcast His deeds, multitudes will joyfully seek the Lord, and God shall receive all the glory.

If the Bible does not affect you, if you cannot believe, *"it is written ..."* then you are not Spirit-filled or Spirit-led. There is no practical living of the Word, nor understanding, without the Spirit who gave it! That is why so many believers offer very little praise to God. The Word does not affect them because they will not let the Holy Spirit affect them. God's Word is so clear about coming before the Lord with praise and thanksgiving, but still believers refuse to come this way.

There is a call today to the Church of Jesus Christ. The Lord wants to declare His wonders to the nations, and He has restricted His voice to His Church. He is calling us to be the ones who declare the glory of His Name. In order to declare these glories, we need to be free and fearless for our God.

Believers are being called to humble themselves before the grace of the Lord and allow Him to visit and transform them. In this seeking of the Lord, He will come to us. Free and fearless believers will begin to broadcast that wonderful visitation of the Lord. He will show this generation His kindness.

Soon, churches will be filled with multitudes who are joyfully gathering, eating together with gladness and praising God, and having favor with all people. And the Lord will be able to add to the church those who are daily being saved.

Beloved, praise your way to the presence of the Lord, see there His mighty wonders, and broadcast to all men those glorious acts of God. Multitudes are waiting on the news of the God you call the Lord.

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