

Roots: “A Call to Worship” (Acts 2:46, 47)

Tracing our Roots #4

I. Introduction

- Acts 2:37-47

II. Worship and Praise according to the Book

A. Biblical praise and worship is *externally expressed*.

1. **Kneeling—Acts 20:36 (also see 21:12)**
2. **Laying on of hands—Acts 6:6 (also see 8:17, 18; 9:12; 13:3; 19:6; 28:8)**
3. **Hand raising—1 Timothy 2:8**
4. **Leaping (an act of joyful praise!)—Acts 3:8, 9 (also see 2 Samuel 6:16)**
5. **There are those who argue that we do not need to praise and worship in this way because a lot of these are Old Testament commands. There are five reasons why that is NOT valid:**
 - a. **First, in the New Testament, we’re told to sing the psalms (Ephesians 5:18, 19) *which tell us to praise and worship in this way.***
 - b. **Second, unlike other Old Testament commands (like dietary laws and sacrificial systems) *there is NO hint in the New Testament that these praise and worship commands were temporary!***
 - c. **Third, *physical worship and praise IS repeatedly endorsed in the New Testament.***
 - d. **Fourth, *physical praise and worship is part of the worship of heaven!***
 - **The saints and angels of heaven fall down, and bow (Rev. 4:10; 5:8-14; 7:11, 12)—AND—**
 - **In Revelation 15 the song of Moses—which is the preeminent praise and *dance* song of the Old Testament—is sung in heaven!**
 - **Not to mention the parable of the prodigal son and the description of the father’s joyful celebration (singing and dancing) which you find there!**
 - e. **Fifth—*physical expressions of joy and awe are part of our humanness!***
 - Acts 3:6-8

B. Biblical praise and worship is *internally felt*.

1. ***Fear/reverence—***
 - Acts 2:43
2. ***Joy—***
 - Acts 2:46; 13:48-52; Psalm 98:4-9; Psalm 95:1-7; Psalm 96:1-13

C. Biblical praise and worship is *evangelically inspired*

1. **Acts 2:22, 23, 37-41; Acts 3:19, 20; 5:30, 31; 10:42, 43; 16:30, 31; 26:16-18**
2. **How do we so enter into the wonder of the gospel that an Acts/early church kind of joy in the gospel erupts from our souls?**
 - a. ***Be cut to the heart over your sins***
 - b. ***Realize that you were there pounding the nails into his hands***
 - c. ***Believe that forgiveness is free and forever***
 - d. ***Behold the astonishing, undeserved love the cross reveals***

III. Conclusion