

## ASPECTS OF WORSHIP

### **“CONDEMNATION CURES”**

**“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit”. Rom 8:1 NKJV**

This verse has been a comfort to Christians throughout the ages! I am convinced that condemnation is one of the greatest weapons the devil uses to prevent God’s children from praising Him . If Satan can keep us from praising and worshipping the Father, then he can defeat us. Why? He knows that praise brings the presence of God, where there is fullness of joy, refreshing, and strength.

When it comes time to worship, the devil really brings out his tactic. Have you heard accusations in your ear such as, “You sinned - you can’t praise God . . . You aren’t worthy to call on the name of the Lord . . . You hypocrite! Don’t you feel ashamed and guilty . . . don’t bother God by praising Him, etc.” This is what the devil wants us to believe. We must cling to God’s Word and know that we can come before God’s throne of grace with confidence . . . Jesus has already prepared the way for us to come in! (Hebrews 4:15-16)

Let us look at David’s example (the ultimate “praiser”!!) in Psalm 42. “Why so downcast, O my soul? . . . I will yet praise Him”. In reading this entire psalm, it’s easy to see that David was feeling a bit condemned. His soul was “downcast”; he was “down in the dumps”. He remembers how he used to praise God (vs. 4-5). Even though he is feeling down, he says “Yet will I praise Him”. This is what we must do. When we feel like doing anything other than praising and worshipping the King, we must press in further and magnify Him. Don’t let yesterday’s mistakes or the devil’s accusations keep you out of God’s presence. When you are down, that is the time to purpose in your heart, “. . . yet, I will praise Him”.

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