

# ASPECTS OF WORSHIP

## THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE!

... and the Levites who were singers ... having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them 120 priests sounding with trumpets ... when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord ... the house of the Lord was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.” 2 Chronicles 5: 12-14, NKJV.

On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents, joyful and glad of heart ...” 2 Chronicles 7:10, NKJV

The events which unfold during the building and dedication of Solomon's temple in 2 Chronicles 5-7 are among my favorite verses in the Scripture. They truly give a picture of the power that is found when God's presence fills a place. When the glory of the Lord appeared, the priests could not continue to minister. Why is that? Actually, the literal translation says that the priests could no longer stand! They were overwhelmed by God's presence!

When God arrives, we should know it. With His presence is liberty, peace, healing, renewing, and fullness of joy. After all, Solomon sent the people to their tents following their extended worship celebration, and they went “joyful and glad of heart”. “Joyful” in this text is translated from the Hebrew word *sameach*. Happy, joyful, cheerful, rejoicing, festive. I am convinced that this was no “token” worship service. What a choir and orchestra! More importantly, the hearts of the people were in one accord. They were determined to praise the Lord. This is evident because this scenario is stretched over seven months.

As we assemble together, let us strive to come into His presence with broken spirits, contrite hearts, and the determination to see our God magnified by our praise which should be lifted in unity - “with one accord”. When God arrives (as He promised) we will know, and in His awesome presence is the power that we need for change!

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