Ministry: The Redeemed Christian Church of God Branch: Abbeyleix Branch

Sermon: The Power in praising God Bible passages: Acts 16 vs. 16-31 Minister: Brother Tokunbo:

Hymn: Count your blessings

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Prayers

- My Father have mercy upon me in Jesus name
- Mercy of the living God locate me today in Jesus name

Today we shall be talking about the power in praising God, In Acts of Apostles chapter 16 vs. 16-31, we saw the account of Paul and Silas, two servants of the most High God were imprison for doing the work of God Just to confirm the word of God in Matthew 24 vs. 9 "then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death and you will be hated by all nations because of me", this is also to confirm the word in John 16 vs. 33 " I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have troubles, but take heart I have overcome for world".

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Going back to Paul and Silas, they did not see their imprisonment as a cause, they did not see it as thou the Lord has forsaken them, they were not comparing themselves with another people, they were not down cast or heart broken, they were not disturbed, they were not troubled even though they were in deep trouble that no one could save them, they were not crying and looking for help from man, they were not blaming one another, they were not causing themselves, they were not others for their problems. The Bible says they praised and sang hymns. Meaning that in their storms they remembered God and offered praises to him. (1 Thessalonians 5 vs. 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus)

What do we mean by praising God?

- To praise God is to accept the Ark of the Covenant of God (2 Samuel 6 vs. 11)
- To praise the Lord is to declare it to the world by making a joyful noise unto the Lord in singing of Hymns (Psalm 100 vs. 1)
- Means to offer fat sacrifices unto God (Abel offered fat sacrifice and his offering was accepted)
- Praising God means to reference him by given him quality worship
- It means to proclaim him to the world and not to be ashamed of Him
- Means to adore him
- Means to feed, honour and obey his words
- Means to Love him and walk in his ways

Statements of Facts about praises:

- The Presence and the Glory of God are felt greatly where praises are offered (Psalm 22 vs. 3)
- The impossible becomes possible where Praises are offered (Joshua 6 vs. 20) the wall of Jericho fell down they praises were offered
- Praises is the key to enter the secret place of God (Psalm 100 vs. 4) Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his court with praise
- Mysteries are revealed where praises are offered
- To enjoy the presence of God as David did, you must praise God at least 7 times a day (Psalm 119 vs. 164)

Benefits of praising God

• Prison doors are opened

- Learn more about the secrets of God
- Healings takes place
- Destinies are restored
- Lost and wasted years are restored
- You will become acceptable by God, Abel offered unto God and his offering became acceptable
- You will be a friend of God (Abraham agreed to offer his son to God and He became the friend of God)
- You will receive blessings from the Lord

Are you hear today and all seems impossible, or things are not moving for you, are you hear and it seems the enemies have imprisoned you, are you hear today and it seems all hopes are lost, or are you hear today and it seems there is no sign of light after your tunnel, just be courageous and enter the presence of God in praises and your prison doors and doors shall be broken and you shall be set free in Jesus name.

Altar call...... for your praises to yield result you must be a friend of God, your heart must be right with God, Psalm 24 vs. 3- 5 (who may ascend the hill of the Lord -----)

PRAYERS

- Father Lord take away my garment of heaviness and give me the garment of praises in Jesus name
- Anything in my life killing my spirit of praises, God of Elijah shall deal with you today in Jesus name
- Oh God arise and accept my worship, offerings and praises in Jesus name