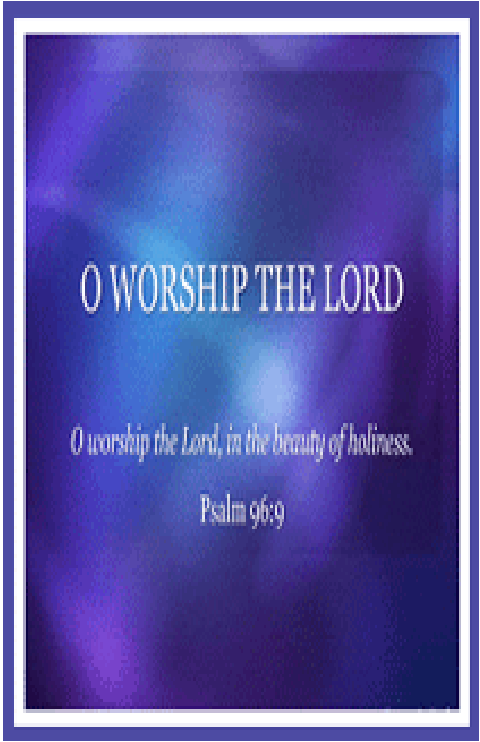




O WORSHIP THE LORD

O worship the Lord, in the beauty of holiness.

Psalm 96:9

By Richard A. Bennett

“O Worship the Lord in Holiness.”

The joyous experience of our worshiping the risen Lord Jesus with a genuine personal humility and submission to Him, will bring forth praise in the heart and joy in the life, at having the unique privilege we have of being His purchased vessel!

Total dependency upon His indwelling and enabling power to outwork His plan and purposes through a believer's life, demands that all glory must go to the LORD!

This three-chapter booklet: ‘Bend the Knee,’ ‘Bare the Heart,’ and ‘Bow the Will,’ is a sequel to the popular book; ‘Food for Faith’ which is also, free of charge, on-line in multiple languages.

Bend the Knee in Worship!

In the early days of my Christian experience, a habit developed which has been reinforced over the years. This habit concerned my posture, my prayer, and my progress, in my devotional Bible reading.

a. My Posture: God was very good to me in that my initial motivation was not to know the Bible so much as to know and walk with the God of the Bible! To open His Word, and to kneel before Him, seemed to be the only sensible position I could adopt. Day by day I related my need to His mercy and heard His words of command, promise, and of

exhortation. I was hungry enough to believe that the Word of God really WAS THE WORD OF GOD TO ME!

I still have my recorded day by day notes of what God said to me from the early years of my Christian life. As I read these personal records, I am most grateful for the insight which the indwelling Holy Spirit gave to me, even without any human guidance!

b. My Prayer: To this present day, I do not read God's Word depending upon my own intelligence to comprehend what is before me, but I 'read what I understand until I come to something I do not understand. Then I continue reading until I come to something I do understand!' Such understanding is not necessarily

academic, but it is the result of the illumination and insight of God, the Holy Spirit.

This understanding is not the result of an interpretation applied by some other person for me. It is God's Word speaking to my need this very day. Gradually, what I do understand helps me to understand what I did not understand! *"In Thy Light shall we see light"* Psalm 36:9.

Before I begin to read my Bible, with the Psalmist I pray: *"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law"* Psalm 119:18.

After which, I follow with a prayer: 'Spirit of God my 'Teacher' be, revealing the things of Christ to me.

Place in my hands Your wonderful key, that shall unlock and set me free! For the glory of my Lord Jesus Christ's sake.' Amen!

By His spotless Blood shed on my behalf at the Cross, and His miraculous resurrection three days later from the dead, God speaks directly to me today through His holy Word. Because of my repentance and faith in His 'Finished Work,' the Holy Spirit becomes my Bible Teacher and sheds His light and meaning upon the pages of the living Word of God!

c. My Progress: Originally, beginning at both Genesis and Matthew, and progressing through the whole Bible, I read a chapter in the Old Testament in the morning, and a chapter in the

New Testament in the evening. Over the years I have varied this method of Bible reading: On some rare occasions I have read a shorter book of the Bible on my knees every day for a month and, at other times, I have regularly read five chapters a day from Genesis to Revelation.

However, to me, this later method does not encourage "the chewing of the cud" which is a vital application of His Truth to my life. The continuity and progress in my Bible reading will produce rewarding secrets of a precious 'Quiet Time' with my beloved Lord Jesus!

Presently my wife, Dorothy, and myself—though often hundreds of miles apart—have the same spiritual

breakfast! We do this by following, as a basic Bible reading, the assigned verses of Scripture Union which takes us through the Bible every five years. It is a joy to be able to share together what God has been saying to us individually throughout the day.

Incidentally, when we were engaged to be married, and reading through the Psalms together, our callings necessitated our being separated by two-hundred miles. One day our letters crossed in the mail, and in each of our letters, we suggested to each other that, Psalm 48:14 should be our life verse:

“For this God is our God forever and ever. He will be our guide even unto death!”

Bare the Heart in Worship!

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water” Hebrews 10:22.

A daily ‘Quiet Time’ is not having a daily Bible Study to get the Bible into my head, although that is important. But my daily ‘Quiet Time’ is to get the Bible into my heart, and for that it is most imperative! The Psalmist did not say: “Thy Word have I hid in my head.” But the Psalmist did say:

“Thy Word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee”

Psalm 119:11.

There was a time in my life when, for my daily ‘Quiet Time,’ that I tended to substitute my Bible Study for my precious personal communion time with my Lord in His Word.

It all happened when I was surrounded in the comfort-zone of, fellow believing, Bible students!

These subtle spiritual threats of everyday life slowly happened as I attended a required early morning Chapel service for all students and, at the same time, studied Bible-related themes from His Word for many long hours. All of which I also carried the responsibilities of an ‘off-Campus job’ and was a Pastor of a church, well-distanced from our college!

Succumbing to my temptation and becoming independent of the Holy Spirit's personal application to every detail of my life, I became more dependent upon the insights of those who knew the Bible far better than I did and found that it became easier to substitute predigested 'food' from Greek and Hebrew scholars. Sadly, my personalized 'Quiet Time' with the Lord, slowly became replaced with a highly respected performance in handling His Word. However, it lacked the intimacy of my deep fellowship with the Lord Himself.

Warning! It is possible to be involved in busy days 'around' the Word of God, and yet to miss hearing the Lord speak personally to my heart

‘through’ His Word.’ Having such an audience with God, necessitates a personal ‘Together Time’ with Him!

Bare the heart: Always approach God the Father, in the Name of God the Son as led by God the Holy Spirit! I challenge all fellow believers to check any spiritual hindrance!

The Mercy Seat: Our only access to our heavenly Father, is made possible by the shed Blood of God His Son, Yeshua HaMashiach—our beloved Lord Jesus!

“Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek: By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they truly were many priests, because they were not

suffered to continue by reason of death:” Hebrews 7:17; 22-23.

“But this Man: because He continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an High Priest who became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

“Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for His own sins, and then for the people’s: for this He did once, when He offered up Himself” Hebrews 7:24-26.

Confess all known sin that would blur the vision in understanding to Whom the believer approaches in prayer.

Come to Him, desiring only His will for your life and not the barrenness of any ‘self-centered existence.’

Count upon your ‘self-life’ to be ‘dead,’ and by faith, thank Him for all that He will accomplish through your available life today. His plan and purpose alone, will satisfy your deep heart’s desire!

Compassion for others will only pour from His heart to others, through you, when you honestly bare your heart in brokenness before Him. Then, by faith, start praising Him for those who will be reached through your life!

As the words of the late, great pioneer missionary, Hudson Taylor wrote:

“Lord Jesus, make Yourself to me,
a living bright reality.

“More present to faith’s vision keen,
than any earthly object seen.

“More dear more intimately nigh,
than e’er the sweetest earthly tie!”

Bow the Will in Worship!

*“But His word was in mine heart,
like a burning fire shut up in my
bones”* Jeremiah 20:9.

Over the years of being a believer in our Lord Jesus, I have proven that the Scriptures never really sink into this head of mine; nor even nourish my needy heart and kindle my cold bones, until they are totally obeyed!

Responding to His Will might be costly, but in His Love, He spiritually matures me for His glory as part of His Bride! There is no greater joy than to be in the center of God's will for my life, and that His plan and purposes be outworked through my

being available to Him! This requires, my total obedience to His every bidding and the handing over of ‘my will for His Will.’ Although aware of the surrounding spiritual battles, His peace will rule in my heart as I reign in total trust in my LORD.

All glory to the Lord Jesus!

“And having made peace through the blood of the cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself ... you that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in His sight.”

“He is the head of the body, the

*church ... that in all things He might have the preeminence ... and **the mystery which had been hid... now is made manifest to His saints***"

Colossians 1: 20-22,18, 25.

***"Christ in you the hope of glory**
Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom ... For this I also labor, striving according to His working, which worketh in me mightily"*

Colossians 1:28,29.

The Lord paid the price to purchase me for Himself that my will might promptly obey all His bidding! He could have taken me straight Home when I was saved, but He chose to leave me here that others too might be saved through me before, ***'the***

mystery which had been hid... now is made manifest to His saints'—and the Church is completed at the Rapture. (Read: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

When my will is surrendered to His, He will mature me through sufferings, persecution and varying odd circumstances! As a redeemed Ambassador in a foreign land, the Holy Spirit works through my exchanged life, that others too might be rescued from Satan! Although my old self-life will try to raise its ugly head, by faith, it must be promptly reckoned with as 'dead' in Christ so that He might be seen in me:

"For the Word of the Lord is right; and all His works are done in truth"

Psalm 33:4.

My delight is in the reality of His Presence: *“O Magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt His Name together”*

Psalm 34:3.

Total submission to His Will means my walking by faith in total dependency upon my Lord Jesus. This will require a ‘mixing spoon of faith,’ as I gladly obey all that the Lord instructs me to do with a quiet confidence and rejoicing in His every instruction to me!

“They looked unto Him, and were radiant, and their faces were not ashamed” Psalm 34:5. Render all praise to His Holy Name, as He confirms His directions in your life in accordance with His Holy Word and purpose that He be glorified!

I will 'to do' Thy Will oh God!

Submission to His will and not to mine, will impact my daily thinking and behavior by an intimate communion with the Lord Himself!

Also, it will affect others that I meet and I will no longer judge their outer appearance but address them with the compassionate overflow of the Love of God in my heart. They too, as a sinner, need to know my Savior. What a responsibility is mine!

How important it is that I should bow my will in worship before the Lord God Almighty and compassionately to be involved in the lives of others.

This will affect my prayer life and my witness to both saints and sinners. For

God is, *“not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”* 2 Peter 3:9.

When my will is broken and I have totally surrendered my life to the Lord, then a spiritual intimacy with Him develops as: *“One who sticks closer than a brother!”* Proverbs 18:24.

As His Word becomes alive to my heart, worship will increase as new flashes of insight in the Bible will reveal more about the glories of my God and King!

As the late J.S.B. Monsell wrote:

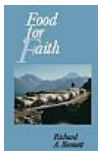
“Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of Holiness, bow down before Him, His glory proclaim; with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,

kneel and adore Him the Lord is His Name!

“Low at His feet lay your burden of carefulness, high on His heart He will bear it for you, comfort your sorrows and answer your prayerfulness, guiding your steps in the way that is true.”

Yes, at times, the ‘banqueting house’ will become a ‘spiritual battle ground’ for the dying souls of men. But for those who know the raging spiritual battle cry, take heart for: *“the Lord saveth not with sword and spear”* for: *“the battle is the Lord's”*
1 Samuel 17:47.

Other helpful CCIM books:



“Food for Faith” is a biblical manual written to help you digest the Word of God from your hand - to your head - to your heart!



“Your Quest for God” is much sought after in multiple languages both for personal help and as a tool for personal witness.

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