

Breakthrough

What is Worship For?

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Prayer Points for Prayer Time:

- Pray that Brookwood encourages openness and vulnerability with God.
- Pray that people would develop a spirit of gratitude in every season.
- Pray that people experience spiritual renewal and transformation through worship.

INTRO: WHAT TIME IS IT? David's Army - 1 Chronicles 12:32 – David's Army

“From **the** tribe of Issachar, **there** were 200 leaders of **the** tribe with **their** relatives. All **these** men understood **the** signs of **the** times and **knew** **the** best course for Israel to take.”

What time is it RIGHT NOW? On the clock that ticks towards the return of Christ, are we closer to 3:00? 11:00?

- I. **Worship Like Incense** – Story: Jen’s perfume – a gift from me, for me.
 - A. **Worship is a Gift from God for God**
 - B. **We are at the end of a historic worship revival. Why? What is it for? To prepare the Bride for the return of the Bridegroom!**
 - C. **Our MISSION: “to make disciples.”**

To prepare a worshiping church for the Jesus – the world was being perfumed for the Groom.

What is Worship?

Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’”

Mark 12:29-30 (NLT)

That is the Perfume of Heaven and Earth!

II. The Tabernacle as the Model of the Ages of the Church

- a. The Ark of the Covenant represents the Glory of God on Earth.
- b. Just before the Ark, is the Altar of Incense – that perfumes the atmosphere.

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Set up the Tabernacle on the first day of the new year. Place the Ark of the Covenant inside, and install the inner curtain to enclose the Ark within the Most Holy Place. Then bring in the table, and arrange the utensils on it. And bring in the lampstand, and set up the lamps. “Place the gold incense altar in front of the Ark of the Covenant. Then hang the curtain at the entrance of the Tabernacle. Place the altar of burnt offering in front of the Tabernacle entrance.

Exodus 40:1-6 (NLT)

III. The Incense Prepared

– Prepared for

*Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the **prayers** of all God’s people, on the **golden altar** in front of the throne. The smoke of the **incense**, together with the **prayers** of God’s people, went up before God from the angel’s hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.*

Revelation 8:3-5 (NIV)

– This Signals the Blowing of the Seven trumpets.

INCENSE (Prayer and Worship) prepares the atmosphere for a MOVE of GOD!

Preparation for Greater Intimacy! Glory!

IV. Burning the Incense – the Sacred Fire of God

The First Time Holy Incense is Ever Burned

Then Aaron lifted his hands toward the people and blessed them. And having sacrificed the sin offering, the burnt offering and the fellowship offering, he stepped down. Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting. When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. Fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar. And when all the people saw it, they shouted for joy and fell facedown.

Leviticus 9:22-24 (NIV)

The Worship of Earth

Nadab and Abihu – Leviticus 10:1-3 – something was wrong with their offering. Who were they serving?

V. Will You Serve the Bride for the Sake of the King?

A. Esther's Eunuch – God has cut away my ambition

Before a young woman's turn came to go in to King Xerxes, she had to complete twelve months of beauty treatments prescribed for the women, six months with oil of myrrh and six with perfumes and cosmetics. And this is how she would go to the king: Anything she wanted was given her to take with her from the harem to the king's palace.

Esther 2:12-13 (NIV)

B. Someone served Esther to prepare her to meet the King! Someone who would not build their own name or their own kingdom.

When the turn came for Esther (the young woman Mordecai had adopted, the daughter of his uncle Abihail) to go to the king, she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the harem, suggested. And Esther won the favor of everyone who saw her.

Esther 2:15 (NIV)

Worship is not FOR the Queen; it is FOR the King!

C. Worship prepares the Bride, but it's for the Groom!

VI. Story Time – NFW – we perfumed that school in worship and prayer.

Part-time school, full-time sanctuary?

5000 opening.

Baptized 600 in one weekend.

Drug dealers, homosexuals, God pulling people off the street.

More than attendance, saved, healed, delivered, and transformed families and neighborhoods.

Question: What if a perfumed BRIDE is irresistible to the Jesus!

And what if we started worshiping like we were on the threshold of the Holy of Holies?

Like we were preparing for our DAY of VISITATION?

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you right now?