

August 7, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Isa. 12:4 *In that day you will say: “Give praise to the LORD, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done, and proclaim that His name is exalted.” (NIV)*

I'm a big sports fan. I love to watch football, college basketball and professional golf. I am intrigued by the abilities of these athletes and the strategies that they carry out. But what I enjoy most is the exuberance of the athlete when the goal is accomplished. Have you ever noticed that almost every time someone scores, or makes a long putt, or makes an amazing play, their arms go up in the air? No one taught them that this is how you celebrate. It is built into our being to give praise.

I wonder if we are celebrating the LORD enough. I don't believe so. We tend to be “very private” about our worship. Some might say ‘that’s between the LORD and me.’ Unfortunately, many people miss the celebration of our LORD because we try to hide it. Beloved, there is coming a day when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is LORD to the glory of God the Father! It won't be a day of hidden emotion and veiled praise. It will be a day of the lifting of hands; the shouting of voices; the worship of song and the joy of the LORD.

So, I say let's not wait until that day to celebrate the LORD. When someone hits a home-run, the crowd goes wild. When a team scores the winning touchdown, the people scream and shout. When someone gives a testimony of their salvation or shares an insightful word from scripture, most just sit and act religiously solemn. Folks, we need to allow our praise to rise so that He is known among the nations and that His name is exalted. Can I hear and AMEN?

Dear LORD, help us to celebrate what brings You glory. We need to lift You up and exalt You among all the people; not just in our churches; but everywhere we go. Help us not to be silent, but instead, shout out our praise to You. In Jesus Name, Amen