

---

# The Keys of Praise (Shifting The Atmosphere)

---

## The Keys of Holiness

Pastor Wil Nichols

September 13, 2020

**Victorious Praise Fellowship Church of God in Christ**

2116 Page Rd. Durham NC 27703

WEBSITE: [www.VictoriousPraise.org](http://www.VictoriousPraise.org)

EMAIL: [PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org](mailto:PastorWil@VictoriousPraise.org), [Info@VictoriousPraise.org](mailto:Info@VictoriousPraise.org)

PHONE: (919) 957-7500

***Sermon: The Keys of Holiness: The Keys of Praise (Shifting The Atmosphere)***

***New Series Messages: “The Keys of Holiness”***

- Matthew 16:19 (AV) **19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: ...**
- Sermon: The Keys of Authority (The Power to Bind & Loose)
- Sermon: The Keys of Agreement (The Power of One)
- Sermon: The Keys of Prayer (Making Spiritual Contact)
- Subject: The Keys of Faith (Unlocking Your Anointing)
- Subject: The Keys of Faith, Part II (Mountain Movers)
- Subject: The Keys of Prayer, Part II (Yours For The Asking)
  - The Prayer of Petition (Asking God)
  - The Prayer of Devotion (Hearing God)
  - The Prayer of Intercession (Opening Doors to God)

***Lesson Text***

Psalm 22:1–3 (AV)<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?* <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent. <sup>3</sup> But thou *art* holy, *O thou* that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

Psalm 34:1–8 (AV)<sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth. <sup>2</sup> My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad. <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. <sup>4</sup> I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. <sup>5</sup> They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. <sup>6</sup> This poor man cried, and the LORD heard *him*, and saved him out of all his troubles. <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. <sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

***Introduction***

The 34<sup>th</sup> Psalm was written based on an experience of David in 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Chapter 21 and 22.

1 Samuel 21:10 And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. <sup>11</sup> And the servants of Achish said unto him, *Is* not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?

Saul, the King of Israel hated David because of his Anointing, and because the people loved him; and he wanted to kill him. So, David runs to Gath, a Philistine city, and into Achish the King.

Achish was the same King of the Giant Goliath whom David had killed earlier and caused a great defeat for the Philistines. Saul hated David, but Achish loathed or hated him even more. David had run out of the proverbial frying pan and into the fire.

1 Samuel 21:12 And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath. 13 And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard. 14 Then said Achish unto his servants, Lo, ye see the man is mad: wherefore *then* have ye brought him to me?

1 Samuel 22:1 (AV)1 David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down thither to him.

The king went from wanting to kill David to wanting to get that crazy man out of his presence. David literally shifted the Atmosphere.

What we subsequently learned in the 34<sup>th</sup> Psalm was that David didn't go Crazy (C R A Z Y), but he went "Praiseworthy" (P R A I S Y) – I may have made that word up!

Psalm 34: 1 I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.

Simply put, instead of constantly running from his crazy atmosphere, he praised God until he shifted his crazy atmosphere.

We have to stop running from our bad atmospheres: from one bad situation to end up in another, from one bad job to another, from one bad marriage to another. We have to stop running from the frying pan and into the fire.

But today we will learn how to use another set of our Keys to the Kingdom to stop running from our atmospheres, and start shifting them with our Praise!

### ***Series and Sermon: The Keys of Holiness: The Keys of Praise (Shifting The Atmosphere)***

"Shifting Your Atmosphere, Their Atmosphere, and the Enemy's Atmosphere"

#### ***I. Shifting Your Atmosphere***

Psalm 34:1 I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.

Life is filled with constant situations that create issues, storms, and drama in our lives.

- Psalm 34:19 (AV)19 Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.
- Psalm 41:9 (AV)9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.
- Psalm 69:4 (AV)4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, *being* mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored *that* which I took not away.
- 2 Corinthians 4:8 *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Like David, we run from our issues in an attempt to find emotional safety; going to higher ground to avoid the floods, going into shelter to avoid the winds, or just run away all together.

The problem is the waters can keep rising, the winds can blow down shelters, and the storms can follow you. You can't outrun your trouble, it will find you, it will track you down.

Praise is not the key to get out of your trouble, but the key to invite God into your trouble.

Psalm 22: <sup>3</sup> But thou *art* holy, *O thou* that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

To inhabit here is translated to the word enthroned; which means to rule over it. When you Praise God in your trouble, he doesn't just show up, he shows up and take over!

Psalm 24:8–9 (AV)<sup>8</sup> Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. <sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift *them* up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

## ***II. Shifting Their Atmosphere***

Psalm 34: <sup>2</sup> My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad. <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

“Their Atmosphere” refers to the humble, that is those that have been assigned to our lives.

Once we shift our atmosphere, we have to keep praising until we shift the atmosphere of the humble; those that God has called us to, and anointed us for.

Many times, when we run from our atmosphere, we leave people behind who are doomed to be destroyed by that same atmosphere. If that atmosphere was driving you crazy, what do you think it will do to them you left behind. David wasn't the only person being distressed!

When we run from a troubled atmosphere, we may be running from our divine assignment.

***How are you going to run from it, when God is the one who put you in it!***

Our praise is not just about us, but it's also about those that are sent to us!

Luke 4:18 (AV)<sup>18</sup> **The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,**

Psalm 34: <sup>2</sup> My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear *thereof*, and be glad.

Psalm 118:17 (AV)<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

We don't just praise God to shift our atmosphere, we keep praising him until we shift their atmosphere!

Praise until you shift your husband's atmosphere, praise until you shift your wife's atmosphere, praise until you shift your family's atmosphere, your co-workers atmosphere, your brothers and sisters in the Lord atmosphere.

Psalm 34: <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Psalm 34: <sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

### *III. Shifting The Enemy's Atmosphere*

Psalm 34: 7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

First, we Praise God until He comes in and shifts our Atmosphere. Next, we keep on Praising him until he shifts their Atmosphere. Finally, we Praise God until he shifts our enemy's Atmosphere.

The last atmosphere we must shift is that of our adversaries, our haters, and our enemies.

- Psalm 69:4 (AV)<sup>4</sup> They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, *being* mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: ...
- John 15:18 (AV)<sup>18</sup> **If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.**
- Psalm 41:9 (AV)<sup>9</sup> Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.
- John 15:25 (AV)<sup>25</sup> **But *this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.***

The Atmosphere of the enemy was designed to kill you, but your praise can shift it! The atmosphere of the enemy was designed to destroy you, but your praise can shift it!

John 10:10 (AV)<sup>10</sup> **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

Your Praise Shifts the Atmosphere until God turns it around.

- Genesis 50:20 (AV)<sup>20</sup> But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive.

Your Praise Shifts the Atmosphere until God disables their weapons.

- Isaiah 54:17 (AV)<sup>17</sup> No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

Your Praise Shifts the Atmosphere until you overcome them.

- Revelation 12:11 (AV)<sup>11</sup> And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

# The Keys of Praise (Shifting The Atmosphere)

Page 5 of 5 (September 13, 2020)

## Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Keys of Praise (Shifting The Atmosphere))

### Lesson Text

- Psalm 22:1–3, Psalm 34:1–8

### Sermon Outline (Notes)

#### I. *Shifting Your Atmosphere*

---

---

#### II. *Shifting Their Atmosphere*

---

---

#### III. *Shifting The Enemy's Atmosphere*

---

---

### Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

#### I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. What is your favorite restaurant?
2. What 2 things do you consider yourself to be very good at?

#### II. Into the Bible

1. Judah means praise. According to Judges 1:1-2 and 2 Chron. 20:21, God told 'Praise' to go first to the enemy. In our lesson text, Psalm 22:3, we see God "inhabited" the praises of Israel. Why does God put such a priority on praise?
2. The word "boast" used in Psalm 34:2 is from the Hebrew word, *halal*, which is translated "to glory, shine or praise." What is the significance of David making a distinction between his mouth praising God and his soul praising God?

#### III. Life Application

1. Shifting Your Atmosphere: Think of a time when you ran from your trouble and ended up in more trouble. What has this sermon taught you about shifting your atmosphere and what strategy will you use to withstand trouble?
2. Shifting Their Atmosphere: Think of a situation that you may be facing right now that involves others. What are two practical steps you will use to bring those who are the trouble with you, out with you?