

# Tapping Into the Secret Power of Praise

## A 5-Point Devotional, by Pastor Jeremy Richardson

Text:

Isaiah 61:3 NKJV

“To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes,  
The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;  
That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He  
may be glorified.”

### 1. Praise Is the Garment God Gives You to Defeat Heaviness

Isaiah 61:3 reveals that heaviness is not just an emotion; it is a spirit. God’s answer to the spirit of heaviness is not complaining, fear, or silence. His answer is the garment of praise.

Praise is something you put on. You may not feel like praising, but you can choose to praise. When you put on praise, heaviness begins to lose its hold.

Praise changes the atmosphere around you and within you.

#### **Devotional Thought:**

You do not praise because heaviness is gone. You praise until heaviness has to go.

#### **Prayer:**

Father, I put on the garment of praise today. I refuse the spirit of heaviness. Let joy, liberty, and victory rise in me through praise, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

### 2. Praise Brings You Into the Presence of God

David understood the secret power of praise. In 1 Samuel 30, David was in one of the lowest moments of his life. Ziklag was burned, his family was taken, and the people spoke of stoning him.

But the Bible says David strengthened himself in the Lord.

Before David heard direction, he had to get lifted out of despair. In essence, David knew how to encourage himself through worship, praise, and remembrance of God’s faithfulness.

Praise lifted David into the presence of God. Then he prayed. Then he heard from God. Then he pursued and recovered all.

**Devotional Thought:**

Praise gets your heart above the storm so you can hear the voice of God clearly.

**Prayer:**

Lord, when pressure comes, teach me to strengthen myself in You. Let praise lift me into Your presence, where I can hear Your voice and obey Your instruction. Amen.

### **3. Praise Drives Out the Enemy's Oppression**

David had already learned the power of praise in 1 Samuel 16. When Saul was troubled by a distressing spirit, David played before him, and the evil spirit departed. That means David's praise carried an anointing. His worship brought refreshing, peace, and deliverance.

This is the mystery of Isaiah 61:3 in action. The garment of praise confronts the spirit of heaviness. Praise is not weak. Praise is powerful. Praise pushes back darkness.

**Devotional Thought:**

What torments you cannot stay when Spirit-filled praise rises from you.

**Prayer:**

Father, let my praise carry Your anointing. Let every spirit of heaviness, fear, oppression, and confusion be broken as I worship You. Amen.

### **4. Praise Sends God Before You in Battle**

In 2 Chronicles 20, Judah faced a battle they could not win in their own strength. But God gave them a strategy: send the praisers first.

As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against their enemies. They did not praise after the victory. They praised before the victory. Praise became their weapon of warfare.

When praise went first, God fought for them.

**Devotional Thought:**

Praise is faith speaking before the answer is visible.

**Prayer:**

Lord, I will not wait until the battle is over to praise You. I send praise first. Fight for me, go before me, and turn every battle for Your glory. Amen.

**5. Praise Opens Prison Doors and Breaks Chains**

In Acts 16:25-26, Paul and Silas were beaten, chained, and locked in prison. But at midnight they prayed and sang praises to God.

Suddenly, there was an earthquake. The foundations of the prison were shaken. The doors opened, and everyone's chains were loosed.

Praise released supernatural power in the darkest hour.

Midnight praise is powerful because it declares, "God is still good, even here."

**Devotional Thought:**

When you praise God in the prison, God knows how to open the doors.

**Prayer:**

Father, I praise You in every season. Shake every prison, break every chain, and release Your power in my life. I believe You are working even at midnight. Amen.

**Final Declaration**

- I put on the garment of praise.
- I refuse the spirit of heaviness.
- Praise will lift me into the presence of God.
- Praise will drive out oppression.
- Praise will send God before me in battle.
- Praise will open prison doors and break every chain.
- I will praise before I see it.
- I will praise until heaviness leaves.
- I will praise until joy rises.
- I will praise until victory manifests.
- Praise is not just my response to victory.
- Praise is one of God's secrets for bringing victory.