

LIVE STRONG: USE AUDIBLE PRAISE

By Jermaine Manor

Audible praise and worship are important not because of their ritualistic fervor; but, because of the creation and re-creation potential they hold for the participants of the praise and worship experience. The spoken utterances, lifted prayers, and melodious songs of faith and praise, for the believer, hold life-saving, soul-soothing potential. Audible praise can lead to significant change in individuals, situations, and institutions. For when we offer audible praise to God, we are saying to God, "I trust who you are to me, so I trust you to reign in every sphere of my life." And, when God reigns in every sphere, the devil is forced to flee for no room remains for him to operate.

My Pastor frequently reminds us of the power of spoken words. He says: "***words create worlds.***" This is not only a powerful statement; it is a true statement. Political dynasties have been toppled by words. Religious kingdoms have been destroyed by words. Economic systems have been brought down by words. Long-standing curses have been broken by words. Lifestyles have been changed by words.

Words, when made audible, can be powerful. Words, when made audible, can move mountains. ***Words, when made audible, can create worlds.*** Words can even move God! When we audibly lift praises to God, we are drawn nearer to God. Our nearness to God increases our potential, our power and our production. For in God there is no failure.

When one's heart connects with one's spirit and one's spirit connects with one's mouth, every word that is spoken can be a declaration of things that will come to pass. Even though, at the time, an individual's situation may look bleak and seem totally unchangeable, the moment he or she opens his or her mouth and speaks a new truth, things change. When one decrees a thing, it is created even if it is not immediately revealed. That is the power God gave us. That is the power that accompanies audible praise.

It has been true since time immemorial. During the Creation moment, God used His mouth to Call into existence that which had never existed. Then, with His mouth, He named it. And, when He created us, He BREATHED (again using His mouth) life into nothing and created something (you and me). New worlds were created by God's words. Once done, He praised his handy-work, calling it "good" (Genesis 1-2).

Throughout His ministry on earth, Jesus used His mouth to break strongholds, perform miracles, expose evil systems, and triumph over demons. With words, Jesus created new worlds that are still unfolding among us, more than two thousand years later. And, He never forgot to praise His Father who sent Him and who worked within Him.

These models of Creation by words, standing alone, should be enough to convince us that audible praise can be a powerful instrument of change--an unmatched resource for positive creation. Wake up Christians! We have the power to decree and declare things. We have the power to change things, through our audible praise. The power of death and life is in our mouth (Proverbs 18:21).

Just as we use our mouth to declare victory for our favorite sports team, encourage our children to do well in school, or decree our faith in a particular political candidate, we can use our mouth to create moments of audible praise and worship for God. When we use our mouth in audible praise, we not only break yokes and pierce the enemy's ear; we also declare and create new realities.

Therefore, we do not have to remain burdened by old habits. Our neighborhoods need not stay mired in destructive chaos. Our children do not have to be permanent victims of failed systems. Through our audible praise, we can decree new realities, declare new futures, and speak into existence new ways.

Remember, **words create worlds**. Audible sincere praise creates hope. And, hope creates new possibilities of change. Let us test the boundaries of such high praise.