Using Praise

(Jesus speaking:) Is there life in your praises to Me; are your praises alive? Are your hearts full of thanksgiving to Me for all that I bring into your lives? Do you begin your day with a song of praise on your lips?

Your times of praise need to become more active and alive, times when you lift your arms in total praise to Me.--Times when you release yourself from all that is around you and I lift you to the heavenlies through your praises.

Praise is more than singing a song to Me about something. It's more than thanking Me for what I've done. Praise is the gauge of gratitude of heart that you have for Me. Praise is a declaration of the love that you have for Me. Is that what you feel when you praise Me? Do you feel moved by the love we share when you enter those moments of praise? Those moments in your day spent praising Me should move you, they should warm you up in spirit, they should excite you.

When you lack inspiration, praise is a kick-start, and it renews you. But if you don't praise, then you miss out on the spiritual boost that comes through praise. You leave your spirit drained by not availing yourself of the refreshment of spirit that comes through praise.

You need more praise in your life; you need to more definitely feel the thankfulness and inspiration that comes through praise. Praise and prayer go hand in hand, they complement one another. Through praise you open up the channel to find the desperation in your times of prayer.

I hear your words of love and praise! I see your abandonment of spirit through your praises, and this excites Me. And then when I see your hearts turn to Me in passionate prayer, there is nothing that turns Me on more than this.

This is what I need of My brides. This is how you open yourself up to experience the ecstasies of My Spirit. This is how you are able to live more in the realm of the spirit rather than being bogged down by earthly cares.

If you're struggling to put on My mind; if you find it hard to focus on the power when you're hit with difficulties; if rising above seems an impossibility for you; if you toil over allowing Me full possession--then I ask you to check your prayer and praise lives. Because if those two elements are in the right place--if your desire, enthusiasm, and effort are put into these two key elements--then the rest will follow.

Making prayer and praise more of a key factor in your life takes surrender of your own thoughts and free will. It requires that you open yourself up to Me intimately. It requires continual yieldedness and desperation in order to not lose the momentum, but to continually motivate your lives.

As you take the first steps to reawaken the passion of prayer and praise in your lives, you'll begin to witness the change in other areas as well. Those besetting sins that seemed interminable will begin to fade, your spirit will be lifted, and better yet, you will have the confidence that I have seen and heard your prayers and I will answer--not only for others, but for you personally as well. Your faith will be boosted in ways you can only imagine!

This is part of your step into the future, into becoming more like Me, and finding the zeal, the fervor, the fighting spirit that I've placed in each of you. Will you search it out? Will you cultivate these gifts? It will change your life if you do! *(End of message from Jesus.)* (1)

Praise and Prayer

(Jesus:) I would that all My children praise Me continually for My many blessings upon them, but many don't see the worth and power of their praises. It's easier to see how praying for something would have more effect than praising Me, but the two go hand in hand, and you should not use the one without the other.

Whenever you stop to pray for something, you should always begin with praise to Me-not simply so you can slip in your request, but realizing that praise is a powerful weapon in the spirit, and the time invested in sincerely thanking and praising Me brings down as much of My power, and does as much damage to the Enemy, as any request or command of the spirit you could make. This should be second nature to you, something that comes automatically.

(Jesus:) Besides the fact that praise is powerful on its own as a weapon against the Enemy-a weapon the Enemy cannot stand against-praise is also essential to use in conjunction with prayer, in order to make your prayers truly effective and on target.

Think of the weapon of prayer as the sort of gun that you have to cock before you can fire it. You have your powerful bullets of prayer ready to fire, ready to hit the Enemy head on, to defeat him and win. Praise is like cocking that gun. Without taking that step, you can pull the trigger all you want and nothing will happen. What could have been a lethal weapon turns into not much more than a blunt instrument or a club. You can have perfect aim, plenty of ammo and a desire to fight, but if you don't remember to cock the gun, pulling the hammer back, you're not going to fire the bullet; it's never going to do the damage to the Enemy that it was intended to.

That's how important praise is. At the start of every time of prayer, you should begin with praise to Me. No matter how dire the situation may be, praise is always in order. You shouldn't just praise Me when everything is going fine and nothing seems wrong. It may be an easier time to praise Me, but you should also praise Me when things aren't going according to plan and there are problems. That is when your praises to Me show that you have faith and trust in Me that I know what I'm doing.

You can never praise Me too much! Throughout the day there should always be a praise to Me on your lips. That way you will always be ready to fight the Enemy at any turn, for you will have your weapon cocked and ready to fire at all times. You won't be caught off guard and unprepared to fight. You'll be a better prayer and praise warrior and will go from victory to victory!

(Jesus:) When you're praying for someone or a situation and you want to focus your effort on using the weapon of praise, what needs to be foremost in your mind is that I am all-powerful. There is nothing too hard for Me. There is nothing that I cannot do, nothing that My power cannot change, nothing that I will not do for My children. This confidence in Me, this trust in My power that is full and abiding, is great cause for praise.

A prayer that is prayed with faith in Me and My power, and thankfulness for all I have done and will do, is a prayer that is full of praise. It's a quiet trust in Me and knowledge that I can and will perform what you are asking, as opposed to a frantic prayer beseeching Me, but yet with a bit of a tinge of, "Oh, Lord, are You able to do this?" Do you see the difference?

One is full of faith and praise, and comes from the confidence developed by obeying Me, and knowing and appreciating that I'm going to care for you and bless you because of it. The other lacks the faith or the praise of Me, and almost questions whether I am powerful enough or love My children enough to answer their prayer.

Using the weapon of praise in prayer is not just about saying words of praise, but very much about the attitude in which you pray, the confidence you have in Me. That type of prayer, filled with praise and faith and trust in Me, is very powerful and spells defeat to the Enemy's plans.

The confidence you have in Me and the way in which that translates into praise through your prayers comes from living a praiseful life, from having a praiseful spirit. The more you can praise Me and thank Me and use praise in your everyday lives, the more of that confidence and faith and trust you will have, and the more powerful you will be when you wield the weapon of praise in your prayers.

Prayers full of faith and praise are more easily focused upon their target. They are more powerful and they can deal much more deadly blows to the Enemy and his ilk. Prayers that are full of praise are prayers that are backed with supreme confidence in Me and trust in Me and My complete power, My strong love for My children and My ability and desire to do whatever is necessary to help them and give them the strength, the assistance and the care that they desire and need. This is full faith, this is full trust, and this is using the weapon of praise.

(Jesus:) Even in extremely difficult situations-for example, when someone has a life-threatening sickness, or even in a situation where it seems that I will end up taking someone from their life on Earth-there is still plenty of room to praise Me, and it will make your prayers so much more powerful.

Often when you pray for these types of situations, you pray for the person to get better and for all the different aspects of the request. But when you add praise to this, not only are you acknowledging that I am ultimately in control of the situation, but you're also saying that you trust that I know best, that in spite of anything that happens or however I choose to work in that situation, I will bring about My perfect plan. Even when you don't always understand something or see the reasons for it, praise shows that you have faith in Me and that whatever I do will work together for good.

It's also a testimony to yourself and others of faith, and it has a good effect on your spirit, that while there

are so many requests and needs, you can still thank Me in spite of it all-thank Me for the victories that I'm winning in the lives of others and also in your own. Praise, whether in dire circumstances or simply in regular requests you bring before Me, promotes a spirit of victory and ministers faith, that no matter what the outcome, I will bring you through victorious.

It also acknowledges all the things in which I have already given you the victory. Especially in situations that have been dragging on for a while, if you frequently praise Me for the victories already won and the progress made, it acknowledges and is a testimony to others and yourself of My power and how much I have already done, and can help keep the situation from being wearying or discouraging.

Praise adds more life to your prayers, for they are not only petitions, but they are acts of faith. A commitment to praise is a commitment that no matter what, you will still have a praise on your lips. (2)

Praise and Faith

(David:) Praise is the voice of faith! I always liked that phrase and it really meant something to me-and since coming to Heaven, it has grown to mean even more!

When you can praise the Lord when things look bad, you're speaking faith that you know things will get better. If you can praise the Lord no matter what's happening, that shows your faith in the Lord's power. Someone who is filled with faith in their heart-and in their voice-is going to praise because they know the Lord is working and moving! When you wholeheartedly praise the Lord and use the weapon of praise, it's powerful because it shows how much faith you have in His power.

The spiritual weapon of praise is directly tied to your faith. That's one of the reasons the weapon of praise is so powerful. One way to use the weapon of praise is to focus on the Lord's past victories, and claim that same power for the present situation. You can also claim His future help by faith and trust beyond a shadow of a doubt that He's going to come through again for you in any circumstance. (3)

(We asked the Lord to explain to us why praise is important and why praise is the voice of faith.)

(Jesus speaking:) Praise connects you to Me in the spirit. It summons My attention, and solidifies our connection. It brings you into My presence in the spirit. It puts your spirit in close proximity to Mine--fully under My protection and blessing and anointing, where you can feel My love and more easily see things as I see them. It's a law of the spirit. It always works.

Praise is the voice of faith because you're letting it be known that you believe I will work everything out. When you praise Me, you're testifying of My greatness and faithfulness to answer prayer, that you know I will do what is best even in those situations that seem bad. You're speaking faith. You're testifying that I do all things well, that I know best. It's one of the principles of My Spirit that faith brings victory and miracles. So through speaking faith, through praising Me, you open the door for miracles.

Praise chases away the Enemy. He hates your praise, because it's an obvious sign of your love for Me, our connection together, and your faith in Me as your Lord and Deliverer. He can't stand your praises; they block him out in the spirit. They lift you above any circumstance in the physical realm and bring you into the land of the spirit where everything is possible and I'm in complete control.

Praise lifts your spirit! It's a law of nature, of both the physical and spiritual realm, that when you dwell on the good, think about the good, speak the good, then good surrounds you. Even bad things are turned for good, and you benefit from them. When you think on the good, you feel good. Praising Me not only helps you to think on the good, but it reminds you of all that is possible through Me. It reminds you that you're not limited by the physical realm, but that you have access to the spiritual realm, and there, all things are possible.

Praise is something that you know you should do, so you're exercising obedience when you praise Me--even when you don't feel like it and you might argue that it's not really from your heart. I still bless it and reward it. I always bless obedience. And if you start praising even when you don't feel like it, it lifts you up in the spirit and soon you do feel like it, because you realize that I'm in control and will work everything out for your good.

Praise is a testimony to others, and lifts their spirits and encourages them. It sows faith and trust in Me; it sows encouragement and positiveness. It brings unity and oneness between My brides.

Praising Me humbles you in the spirit, reminds you that only I am capable of solving problems and bringing solutions, and so it makes you much more receptive to receiving My answers and solutions. It opens you up for growth and progress and receiving revelations and instruction. It puts you in a good position in the spirit to receive.

Those are just a few of the main reasons for praise. Praise is one of the weapons of the spirit that I've given you. It always defeats the Enemy. It always brings you close to Me. It simply works. It's a spiritual phenomenon, a powerful weapon that you can use at any time to be safe from attacks or to progress in the spirit. I wish My brides would use it more. It's one of the most neglected of the weapons in the arsenal I've given you, yet one of the most powerful. *(End of message from Jesus.)* (4)

The Power of Praise

Praise is so much like electricity. When the batteries are charged or the generators are running, then there's a plentiful supply of power. But weak batteries or faulty generators cause the lights to go out. If you don't actively praise and focus, then not enough spiritual oomph will be generated to push your prayers through to answers. This is simplistic, but it shows you how praise works and how you can get more and better answers by praising. (5)

(Jesus:) As you praise Me, you draw down My power and I fill you up with Me, and you can then take on My mind. It opens up My many gifts to you. It facilitates your use of the other weapons and gifts of the spirit I've given you. Each one is linked to praise. Whether it's taking on My mind, rising above, prayer, prophecy, or using the keys, praise has a hand in each one and helps to prepare your spirit and fill you with Me before using these other weapons. It prepares you and shields you from the Enemy's attacks, because it draws down My Spirit and My blessings. Praise Me before you use any of the spiritual weapons, so that you can pull down more of My power to then be used in whatever way you need.

This gift of praise is a humbling gift, a gift of opening wide, a gift of surrender. It creates a vacuum that My Spirit comes and fills, and then you can turn around and use the power generated through praise in any way you need and for any situation that you need it for. That's one reason it is so important to praise Me while you pray, because you receive power from Me that you then can give to another through your prayers.

So don't neglect it, for it is a means to receive My power to fulfill My will. It's a key to using the new weapons more fully, and without it you will lack the strength and the power needed to put them into practice and be able to give out. (6)

Fight Negativity and Complaining with Positive Praise

(Jesus:) Whenever you have a negative thought about yourself, or about a mistake you've made, or a weakness you have, or some failing, immediately turn it into a praise. Praise Me for your weaknesses. Praise Me that they draw you closer to Me. Praise Me that they make you more desperate. Praise Me that they teach you to fight the Enemy. Refuse to accept the Devil's lies. Turn them into praise.

Praise is a powerful weapon that will defeat the Enemy and his machinations against you. Praise will unleash the help from Heaven that you need in order to fight the Enemy. Praise will send warriors to your side. Praise will zap the pestering, evil spirit of discouragement out of the space around you. Praise will reinforce your shield, the aura around you, to make it more difficult for the Enemy to penetrate. Praise will make you less susceptible to the Enemy's attacks of negativity.

Praise will truly be the victory. For how can you start feeling bad about your weakness and your failings and your defeats if you have praise on your lips, and if you are thanking Me for the things that I am bringing about in your life? (7)

(Jesus:) The Devil, the Enemy of your soul, absolutely hates it when you make use of the power of positive praise! It hits him hard in several directions, causing you to feel physically and spiritually strengthened, all the while bringing My blessing upon you in great measure. Plus, he just plain hates to hear it! It causes him and his imps unimaginable pain, and as persistent as they can sometimes be, it's only a matter of time before they go running the opposite direction, covering their ears with their hands. Just as thinking positively can help eliminate poisons in your body, praising Me will help eliminate the Enemy and thwart his attempts to drag you down.

That's why Satan tries so hard to get you discouraged or to make you complain, because these things have the exact opposite effect of the power of positive praise. No matter how unfair you feel the circumstances are, if you give in to complaining and feel that you deserve to revel a bit in your sorrow, anger, or feelings of frustration, then you are essentially making a comfy little home for the Enemy. He's just loving it-making himself at home and having a great time.

The longer you let him in, the harder it's going to be for you to pull out of it. Don't think that it's just fine for you to revel in your negative thinking for a little while and then praise Me later when you feel more like it, because by the time you feel like it, you have already done damage to your spirit and possibly allowed the Enemy to influence others as well. The Enemy can use your mouth as a vehicle of negativity, discouragement, and disunity when you decide not to praise Me.

So don't let it happen! When the Enemy tempts you to enjoy just a little bit of negativity, that's when you need to hit him hardest and start praising Me with great effort and enthusiasm. This is the kind of counterattack the Enemy cannot prevail against. Hit him hard and quick, and you'll find he'll flee like a wounded dog, and you'll feel much, much better both physically and spiritually. (8)

(David:) Have you ever noticed how praising immediately changes the spirit of whatever is happening, wherever you are? Even when you're out in public and you make a praiseful comment, it changes the atmosphere. Praise is contagious. The Enemy flees and people are propelled into a higher realm instantaneously. It's wonderful!

So how can you do that? How can you bring Jesus into any and every thing in life? How about, "Wow, that was a tremendous miracle of the Lord's supply!" "Thank You, Jesus, for working out the timing of meeting up with so-and-so." "Lord, You sure know how to bring about the right kind of weather for working outside." "Thank You, Lord, for that delicious meal; it hit the spot."

There are so many ways to be specific. Jesus enjoys making things pleasant and easy and He loves to help us. So we should be able to easily thank Him, to acknowledge Him for those specifics. That way we can be a testimony to those who don't know the Lord that well, if at all, and even to each other.

Jesus loves to hear us acknowledge that He remembered and answered a prayer. He loves to hear our encouragement of how we like the way He did something so perfectly for us. As much as we like to receive or hear thanks for something, so does He! So let's thank Him and praise Him at every opportunity. It doesn't have to be long or in some set way, just spontaneous and from the heart. Remember, God dwells in the praises of His people. So if you want to stay close to Him and experience His presence more, praise Him! Hallelujah! *(End of message.)*

(Jesus:) The spirit of praise is something that you can ask to be poured upon you in greater measure. The more of a spirit and attitude of praise you possess, the easier it is to wield the weapon of praise.

Many of you need to begin by asking for a change of spirit and attitude, to be more praiseful, more thankful, more sincerely positive and appreciative for all I do for you. Asking Me to give you more of a spirit of praise will help you to look positively at things. Asking for a spirit of praise means asking Me to help you be continually thanking and praising Me for My supply, for My power, for the various ways I care for you, and so forth.

Then when you come to wield the weapon of praise, your spirit and Mine are much more in sync and you will be able to much more easily target the Enemy by using the weapon of praise in your prayers.

(Jesus:) The bottom line of praise and what it really means to Me when you praise Me in any situation is that you trust Me. No matter what's happening, no matter how bad the outlook is, no matter what I'm choosing to do in your life, if you can sincerely praise Me for it, that means you're putting your trust in Me completely. It's saying that you know that I know best. It's putting your life in My hands and yielding to Me in that situation, declaring that no matter what happens, you'll still say, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13:15).

That's what sincere praise is-surrender to Me. It's trust. It's being thankful in any situation and for whatever I have chosen to do in your life, and looking at it from My point of view. It's rising above the difficulties

that surround you. Praise lifts your heart to Me and is the key to rising above.

(Jesus:) It's very important as you go about your day to regularly acknowledge Me with your praises, especially when something isn't going right, if you aren't really feeling the greatest, or if you are being attacked by the Enemy. Those who praise Me in these situations are able to rise above them, and I'm able to show them how I see things.

If you feel like you're lacking in a certain area, or if you're incapable of something, or something has caused you to get discouraged, simply praise. It doesn't matter if you can't really think of much to praise Me for in the beginning. If you start with something, more will come, and the more you praise the more there will be to praise for!

It precipitates a chain reaction of good and positive forces in the spirit realm, and in your spirit. Once you start, you can just keep going and going, and its effects will be amazing. Even though your problems might not go away immediately, if you can praise Me in spite of them, then I'll help you to rise above and to see things as I see them.

(Jesus:) Praise is an important weapon in your hands because it proclaims your dependence on Me and My Father in Heaven. This is why the Enemy fights it and fears it so much, because it defeats his plan and evil machination to control the minds of men. He knows very well that I am real, that the spirit world is real, that My power is real, but in his folly and pride he attempts by all means possible to take away this knowledge from the heart of man and replace it with a preoccupation with-and even a worship of-the physical world, man's creations, and scientific accomplishments. But by your praises you're acknowledging My presence and the power of a Creator above all things, and this strikes right at the heart of the Devil's lies.

Throughout the history of the world, it has always been the Devil's plan to take away this knowledge of a Creator in the mind of man, so he could be exalted and worshiped as a god himself. But always My children's voices have been raised to proclaim the truth and denounce his lies. Now, as the dark days of the End approach, very few are willing to stand up against the Devil's attacks. His attacks are very subtle and have deceived many, even many of My elect.

This is another reason why praise is such a powerful weapon, because when you praise Me and My Father, you're declaring your faith in Me and your dependence on Me to control your life and bring about mighty changes. You're witnessing your faith in Me, your trust in Me, your love for Me, and thus you're bringing Me into the world in a tangible way, which tears the Enemy's evil plan to shreds.

When you praise by yourself or with your brothers and sisters, you're uplifting each other and chasing away the Devil and his minions. They can't stand the light, and they and their dark, evil vibes have to go. And when you praise Me and My Father in Heaven in the midst of the world, you are witnessing and piercing the Devil's influence in people's lives like a ray of light in the darkness. Even if they don't react to it or seem to notice it, you're defeating the Enemy's dirty work.

Every word is important. Words have power! Words bring light or darkness. Look at the movies-so much bad language, cursing, and so few words of appreciation to their Creator. This is all part of the Enemy's plan to take over the minds of men and enslave them for his dark kingdom. People become so used to the way the world is going that they don't realize that slowly they are losing their contact with the real world-the world of the spirit.

It's nothing new; throughout the ages corrupt men have always tried to take away the light. But in this time of the End, the Devil's influence is much greater. Wherever you look and turn you are bombarded with false doctrine and deceptive so-called "truth."

(Jesus:) Each time you praise you're declaring your allegiance to Me and My Kingdom, and by doing so you're taking a stand against the Devil. Praise, together with the "dying grace" I give to My children, is the secret to how My martyrs of old had the grace to die in the arena, singing and praising Me even in the midst of terrible torture and death. Their praises even in the face of such severe adversity were their most powerful weapon. People couldn't understand how in the midst of such agony My children could be praising Me and singing of the glory of Heaven. It was a witness that rang out and could not be silenced! No matter what the Neros and other enemies of God would do, through the praises of My children many received Me, and the number of My disciples kept on growing.

When you're praising Me now, you may not feel that it is such a strong weapon, but each time you

acknowledge My Name and My Father and give us glory and praise and thankfulness, you're hitting the Devil right in the face!

(Jesus:) How do praise and joy work together? Praise brings on joy, and joy brings on strength. When you praise Me, you're forgetting about yourself and your problems and concerns. Your lack of concentrating on yourself, and instead looking to Me, brings sweet joy to your heart. With this joy in your heart you're no longer pulled down by your negative feelings, doubts, fears or worries, and I give you strength to rise above.

Lift up your eyes unto the hills. Make a concerted effort to lift your eyes off yourself and look above. (See Psalm 121.) This takes effort on your part, but once you do that, I will carry you from there. I will fill your heart with joy. I will drive away the Enemy and his negativity. Your praises create a force field of protection that he cannot penetrate. Call on the power of the keys to give you the oomph needed to look up. You call, and I will answer. That is My promise to you! (9)

Praise Requires Effort

(Jesus) Praise is very similar to prayer, in that you get out of it what you put into it. If you're just going through the motions of praise and not really praising Me with your whole heart, or you're just saying those things in vain repetition like many Catholics with their "Hail Marys," then this is not real praise. If you want to truly praise Me, then you must put your all into it. You have to seek out things that you're truly thankful for and mean them. You have to make the praise a part of you and praise with your whole heart if you want it to carry real meaning and power.

It's a matter of stirring yourself up in spirit, for the lazy spirit just goes through the motions, does the repetitive thing and whatever comes to mind first, but you who are seeking to truly praise Me, who want to thank Me for everything, will be My fresh, alive bride and praise Me with your whole being, with everything within you, and truly mean it!

So when you praise Me, seek to stir yourself up. Seek to please Me through your praises, to adore Me and to show Me how much you love Me. You may not be eloquent, but if your heart is one of thankfulness, if you're seeking to praise Me in spite of everything and for everything, then your praise will be powerful and it will draw down power from Me. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

(Jesus:) I understand that there are times when you don't feel very praiseful and thankful. There are times when you're hurting or discouraged, when you're sad or overwhelmed, and the last thing you feel like doing at those times is praising Me. It's natural to have highs and lows in your emotions--that's the way I made you.

But you must also remember that the Enemy tries to capitalize on those emotions and exaggerate them and get you to act on them when it would be in his favor. For example, when you don't feel like praising Me, he'll exaggerate those feelings and try all sorts of things to keep you from praising, because he knows that if you were to start, it would mean your victory and his end! Or when you do feel praiseful, he'll use your pride to hold you back; he'll remind you about what people might think, or how it might seem pretty uncool to praise Me right then, and he's probably often successful in his attempts to keep you from praising Me!

So while I understand that it's totally natural and human for you to many times not feel at all like praising Me, I still expect you to do it, and it's not hypocritical. In those cases it's simply obedience, and obedience brings on My blessings. Even if your praises don't feel like they're coming from your heart, because your heart is so sad or battling so much, if you'll simply start, you'll soon have real praises in your heart, and little by little the light will come back in and My Spirit will take over.

Now, there are other times when it's not that you don't really feel like praising for a specific reason; it's just that praising Me with your whole heart requires work, and there are lots of habits that hold you back from doing it. You can say, "Thank You, Jesus! Thank You, Lord," pretty much without thinking, so it's a much easier route to take. Maybe you're busy or preoccupied, or just plain tired or feeling lazy. But at those times, it's important to stir yourself up.

If you don't feel praises bursting from your heart, start praising anyway out of obedience. But really think about what you're saying. Really think about your blessings, about all that I've given you and done for you. If nothing else, think about all that could be going wrong that isn't, and praise Me for that. Soon you'll start to feel

the praise bursting from your heart, as you sincerely think about all the good I have done for you. That's what Natalia is talking about. She wants you to stir up those feelings of thankfulness to Me. If you don't have them to begin with, that's okay. It's human nature to take good things for granted, and sometimes it's a bit of work to remember the good; you almost have to force yourself. But once you start remembering the good and praising Me for it, then the feelings of thankfulness will well up within you. The more you praise, the more you'll find to praise Me about, until it becomes a way of life, a lifestyle change, which changes everything for you in the spirit, and also in the physical. You will feel the results of this, I promise. *(End of message from Jesus.)*

(Jesus:) Praise is an underused weapon because you don't avail yourself of its true power and you don't fully understand how it works. In truth on this earth you will never grasp the immensity of how wonderful it is and how it moves My hand, but as you step out to use it more, I'll show you more. I know you feel you're weak in praise, and while that is true, the real issue is that you simply need to activate it inside of you more.

I have put in each man a desire to praise that needs to be awakened. Just as I have put a need for Me in every man, so I have also put in him the need to give reverence and show gratitude and praise. Those who do are blessed, and those who do so daily and frequently are blessed even more. So let your inner praises spring forth! You wonder how to do this?

One way is by tongues. The Family has moved away from speaking to Me in tongues, and while it's not an essential gift, it nevertheless expresses your heart's praise, and so it's important that when praising Me you don't leave out that very important part. When you speak in tongues, your heart is expressing all the things you want to say to Me but don't know how to say. Your spirit brings to remembrance the wonderful things that I've done for you, things you might have forgotten to praise Me for consciously, but your spirit remembers and gives thanks. It also exercises your humility, because it is humbling to speak in tongues.

(Jesus:) It's just human nature to be lazy, to want to be comfortable, to avoid things that are uncomfortable. Praising can be, and usually is, uncomfortable initially, both physically and spiritually. You have to stir yourself up; it requires effort. It's humbling. It's not always looked on as a cool thing to do. It kills your pride, and that's certainly uncomfortable for the moment.

But you must decide whether the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. I've told you a lot about the benefits, but really, you should just try it yourself. Throw yourself into a praise revolution, seek Me about what's holding you back, make commitments to change, and then praise Me at every opportunity, and see if it doesn't completely transform your life--physically, spiritually, emotionally, in every way!

The victories you've been seeking and searching for will come easier and faster. The troubles you've had will fall into perspective, and the solutions will be clearer. You'll be happier, you'll have more joy in living, more fulfillment and happiness in all you do. When you sit down to hear from Me, the answers will come easier. You'll grow to be more humble, and so you'll have greater access to the power of the keys, heavenly thought power, and all My spiritual gifts. You'll relate better to others because you'll have more love and more of My perspective. Your emotions will be more balanced, you'll roll with changes better, you'll adapt more easily to what I ask of you. That's just the tip of the iceberg of positive changes that praise brings, not to mention the bonus of receiving My blessings in much greater measure for your obedience, and because of the vacuum that praise creates in the spirit for Me and My blessings.

But you'll simply have to try it, My loves. If you do, if you're sold, the things that hold you back will seem insignificant. They won't be huge mountains, they'll be little tiny bumps that you just step right over with grace and ease. But it's up to you to be convinced, and it's up to you to want the change, and do whatever is necessary to bring about that change. If you do, you won't be disappointed! *(End of message* from Jesus.) (10)

Through your praises you bring down the blessings of God! Through praise you make the connection with key power. Through your praise you bring on the anointing of the Almighty! It is through your praises to the King that you open yourselves up to receive the greatest surge of heavenly power. Lift your arms in praise! Sing His praise! Ring out His praise! Let your spirits be refreshed and your channels be opened wide! (11)

(Jesus speaking:) Praise is so important! Praise is precious! Praise is valuable! Praise is the way of the Kingdom! Praise is the opposite of the way of the world. The Devil brings his people into bondage through fear and worry and contention and bitterness and murmuring. But I long to bring My children into freedom through praise

and thanksgiving! So help them to open their eyes to their many, many blessings by helping them to articulate their praise, and this will bring Me such joy!

I find great pleasure in the praise of My children. Just as you find great pleasure in the compliments and praise of your lover, so do I find great joy in the praise of My Bride. As you praise Me for My blessings, for My supply, for My protection, for My words of love, for My guidance and instruction, so will I open the windows of Heaven and pour forth all these things in greater abundance!

My people shall be known as a people of praise, prophets of praise. They will be a whirlwind of praise, beautiful and powerful in My sight! So think not that this is a small thing, for it is a great and powerful thing! This whirlwind of praise shall sweep the Earth, and in its wake will be showers of blessings! It will be a testimony to all who look upon My prophets of praise, that I honor and reward those who come to Me with praise and honor and glory. *(End of prophecy.)* (12)

The Weapon of Praise

(Jesus:) You've heard many times that praise is a weapon against the Enemy. But a good many of you think of that weapon as being specifically useful if you're battling negativity, discouragement, depression, murmuring, doubts, or one of the "negative" types of battles. Very few of you see much use for it in everyday life. But I want to open your eyes to see praise more as it really is in the spirit.

Praise is a weapon that defeats the Enemy in any battle. That's right--any battle! It could be a battle of persecution, it could be a battle for My supply, it could be a battle for unity, it could be a battle for your children. It doesn't matter what the attack or what the obstacle, praise is an extremely powerful weapon to set the Enemy back and bring victory.

And what's more, praise is linked very closely with your use of the keys. Since you have neglected the weapon of praise all these years, if you hope to become proficient in the use of the keys, you're going to have to pick up the weapon of praise now and learn how to use it, or else your best efforts will be found lacking. All of My new weapons link together. They strengthen each other and complement each other. Those who want to be miracle workers of the End, those who will be masters of the spiritual warfare, will be those who have learned how to use all the spiritual weapons in conjunction with each other, without neglecting any.

And I'll let you in on another secret. As you know, all of My new weapons require humility. Some of them force you to do the humble thing when you use them; others will not be activated unless you are humble and are doing the humble thing. You know this, and many of you are actively working on overcoming your pride, and that's great. I'm very proud of you. But praise is in many cases the secret to defeating your pride and doing the humble thing. As I have told you many times, humility is an essential ingredient if you wish to be effective in your use of the keys, heavenly thought power, prayer, etc. But what you might not have realized is that praise is often the lacking ingredient in putting on the garment of humility.

Praise will help tear down your pride and bring humility faster than almost any other effort you can make. Why? Because it's acknowledging Me, it's putting yourself in the place where you belong, and reminding yourself and everyone around you that I am the only one who is good, I am the one with the answers, I am the one with the power, I am the one who must bring all good things to pass! It's like letting the light in, and the darkness is forced to flee. Instead of trying to beat your pride down and eradicate it, open a strong spiritual vacuum for My Spirit with your sincere praises to Me, and there will be no room for pride in your heart or spirit!

So for those very important reasons, and many more, praise as a weapon is essential for you to master at this stage of the battle--not just praise as a "self-help" technique to make you feel more positive, nor as a "rescue rope" when you're sinking in negativity, but praise as an offensive weapon, used at all times to rout and defeat the Enemy.

(Jesus:) I give to you, My brides, who know how to love Me intimately, this valuable and potent weapon of praise. Be not deceived by its radiant and beautiful appearance, for to the Enemy it is as if a thousand samurai swords had been unleashed upon him at once, cutting him to his very heart and severing any hold he might have on your heart or health, or any situation that concerns you. The very act of praising is not only beneficial to your spirit and uplifting to your heart, but it actually rejuvenates your body and causes great strength to flow through you. When you begin to praise, it's as if your uplifted arms channel My power back down toward you, and your body receives energy that is not of this world.

Many times has this story been told, this "Battle of Uplifted Hands" (2 Chronicles 20:1-29). But if those involved could have seen in the spirit what was occurring, they would have known they had the advantage from the beginning. As soon as the singing and praising began, the spiritual realm began to rumble. As their hands were raised to Me, it was as if a circuit had been tripped, and power, like lightning, shot down to each one whose heart was full of praise toward Me. At that instant, the panic the opposing armies felt was caused by the demons and spiritual enemies of My children freaking out, for they were familiar with the power unleashed by the obedience and praise of My children, and they knew that they had no defense against this great power.

History recorded the rest, yet even now history is being written by you and your prayers and praises to Me. Let not your eyes be limited by the mere physical outcomes and manifestations of these acts, but look unto Me and lift your eyes to the heavenlies where I can show more fully the nature of these spiritual weapons and how they wreak death and destruction upon the Enemy's empire like nothing you've ever seen! *(End of message from Jesus.)* (13)

(Jesus:) Praise is a way to bring My Spirit down upon you. It is a powerful weapon! Praise can defeat the power of the Enemy. Praise has power over fear, over discouragement, over depression. It is one of the most important weapons available to you. Through praise you are able to defeat depression, discouragement, worry, and fear-all those things that exist in the lower strata of the spirit world and which the Enemy tempts you to walk down the path of.

Praise leads to the upper strata of the spirit world where I dwell. Praise is the path to Heaven. That is why I say, "Enter into My gates with thanksgiving, and into My courts with praise" (Psalm 100:4). I am simply telling you that the way into My presence is along the path of praise. Why? Because none of these things that hurt and destroy, none of these negative attitudes such as fear, worry, panic, depression, discouragement, none of these things can exist along the path of praise. It is either one or the other. If you choose the path of praise where these things do not and cannot exist, then you are entering My presence where I, the Source of all power, dwell.

So when you want to bring down My power upon the Earth and into your physical world, and even into your spiritual world in the spiritual warfare that you are engaged in upon the Earth in these Endtime days, you have to enter into My presence to find out My will, to commune with Me, and to have the faith to grab onto My power. You enter into My presence and into My courts through praise. The keys will work for you whenever you are fulfilling the conditions for using them, which means you will be in My Spirit and asking for My will already-for those are two of the conditions for their use. But entering into My courts in the spirit through praise boosts your faith; it helps you to take on My mind more fully and know what to command the keys to do, and thus gives you much more power.

Praise has such power! Praise has the power to destroy all the power of the Enemy. Praise is like the light that the darkness cannot penetrate. As long as you are on the path of praise, none of the power or tricks or deceits or attitudes of the Enemy can come near you. Sometimes he will threaten and mock, but he cannot come near, and you must hold the banner of praise high above your head and claim it and shout it with all your might! If you do, and if you do not give up, the power of the Enemy will vanish as you enter into My courts and receive the promises that you are seeking upon Earth.

So praise is powerful. It is one of your most powerful weapons. Many things happen to you upon Earth that tend to make you want to walk down one of the paths to the lower strata. But I tell you that praise to Me, constant vigilance in uplifting Me, absolutely overcomes all of these pulls and distractions and attacks of the Enemy and keeps you walking on the upper path within My presence where nothing will harm you, because evil simply cannot exist there.

So the importance of praise to the use of the keys is that praise brings you right to the gates of the power source of Heaven, to the door where you use the key with full faith and accuracy to command My power. Praise overcomes doubt or any other hindrance to your faith. Praise brings you right up to the keyhole of the door, where you put the key in and enter the opening that has been made between the spiritual world and the physical. Praise is your pathway to the spiritual world.

Why do you think I had Joshua's men march around Jericho and shout praise and proclaim victory on the last day of battle?-Because it defeats all the power of the Enemy! (Joshua 6:12-16, 20). Why do you think Moses had to have his arms raised in praise to Me?-Because praise would win the battle! As long as he could keep praising Me, even through a tough battle and even through just the determination he had in his heart, shown through the fact that he asked others to hold up his arms for him when he could no longer do it himself, that

determination translated through the action of praising sent power through the spirit to Joshua and his men and actually defeated his physical enemies. Why? Because he defeated them in the spirit, and their bodies and physical presence had to follow where their spirits went (Exodus 17:8-13).

Praise is powerful! It is one of the most powerful weapons available to you, so you should use it more. In the use of the keys, it chases away the enemies of doubt, unbelief, discouragement, and fear, and it brings you to the place where you put your key in and obtain all the promises I have for you. It brings you to the doorway of My power. Use it!

Praise is not only the pathway to My courts, but it also brings down My Spirit upon you. It is our meeting ground. Through your praises you come to Me, and I then inhabit your praises. I am the Source of power. So in the meeting ground of praise we join together; then you stick in the key and I cause the miracle to happen.

Praise is the conduit between us, the link, and where the exchange is made. It is so powerful. And the wonderful thing about it is that if you have a strong link, nothing, absolutely nothing, can disrupt it or enter in. Praise is My presence around you. It brings a full measure of My Spirit down to you. Why? Because I love it. I seek it. It attracts Me. It is our connection. It's what keeps us together.

Praise is how you hold on to Me. And it is how I enter you. It keeps us together, and through this connection My power flows down to you to answer your need, your request. Praise is the victory. It is you connecting with Me, and Me connecting with you, causing My Spirit to be manifested upon Earth. *(End of message.)* (14)

(Jesus speaking:) One of the many reasons that your praise to Me is of such great importance is because your praises to Me stave off your Enemy. If you want to defeat the evil ones, start with praise! Satan and his demons can't take your praises. They are like a shrill, deafening sound in their ears. It's like torture to their souls. The devils of Hell can't handle your praise. The evil ones cannot operate in the presence of your praise. Your praise inhibits them and derails them; it cramps their style and prohibits their activity. They can't cope with your praises to Me.

When you go to battle with the Enemy, when you find yourself in the midst of hand-to-hand combat with the Devil, the first action you should take is to praise Me. Praising Me is the first move to assured victory. Praising Me is the first step in My PCP plan. Follow this three-step plan and you can't go wrong! The PCP Plan: praise, call, perform. First you praise, then you call, then I perform.

1) Praise Me. This declares your faith in Me and restrains all the emissaries of the netherworld.
2) Call on Me in prayer; call on the power of the keys.
3) Then I perform. I answer your call by doing what you ask. The keys perform; they deliver your request.

It all starts with praise. Praise is the first step. Praise turns the keys you hold in your hands, and the keys to the Kingdom unlock all doors for you.

If you want to successfully fight the Enemy, start with praise. Satan and his imps cannot withstand the praises of the children of David. Your praises call Me; they invoke Me and My power, and your Enemy cannot stand in the face of My power.

Your praises not only draw you closer to Me, but they shut out Satan. Just as your praises woo Me, they repel the Evil One. He has no power to withstand your steady, heartfelt praises. Just as your praises turn My key, give Me great joy, and open the door for My Spirit to work, so do your praises destabilize the Enemy and bring him to a halt.

This is another reason why I love to hear your praises, for I love to see you fight and defeat the Enemy! In this day when Hell's fury rages against you, you must fight back with the three-step plan. Whack Satan and his demons by enacting the PCP plan: Praise, call, and then watch Me perform. I will never fail you! *(End of message from Jesus.)* (15)

(Jesus speaking:) When fighting in prayer, use praise boldly as a weapon of war. Tell the Enemy that you're about to praise Me for something, and then attack. Flaunt your weapons of the Spirit in Satan's face, while thumbing your nose at him, knowing that he's outgunned and it's really going to hurt him! (16)

That's the good news, that the weapons I've given you for this day and age have the power to defeat the

Devil. Praise, for example, burns him, electrocutes his very spirit, disintegrates it, dissolves his hold and blasts it away. True praise, praise from the center of your heart, causes him to lose any hold he has on you. This is an actual weapon to be used against doubt, fear, restlessness in the spirit, etc. If you truly praise Me from the center of your heart, and keep on praising Me, the Devil loses his hold, his sway, and any effect he was having on you. The reason? I'm right there in the center of your praises. I am the Light, and that Light obliterates him. (17)

Praise is not only the most needed weapon for the children of David and their survival, but it's the most important weapon you have to give to the children of the world. Teach them to praise, and you have taught them to survive. Teach them to praise, and you have taught them to overcome. Teach them to praise, and the Antichrist and his people and powers will not be able to defeat those wielding it. Give this weapon to all My people, for those who wield this weapon, no matter what their nationality or religion, will rise above.

As you know, I promised that if I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me. So teach people to praise, and you will find them coming to Me in love and peace and comfort. Give the masses this weapon of praise, and by giving them this weapon, you are leading them to Me. Yes, continue to tell them about Me, but also give them the weapon of praise.

(Jesus is weeping.) If My children would wield the weapon of praise, the sorrows of this life would quickly pass away. I wish to draw people nearer to Me. But doubt and sorrow and murmuring on a massive scale are separating people from Me more than any other problem. Defeat the murmuring in their lives by teaching them to praise.

I now commission the children of David to wave the banner of praise far and wide, and hold it high! For by giving the children of the Earth the weapon of praise, you give them the tool they need to overcome the darkness that is encroaching upon the Earth and is quickly eating it up. (18)

Extreme Praise

This is one of the most powerful forms of praise: Praising right from the start, praising even though you haven't seen a hint of victory yet, praising even in spite of apparent defeat. When you have taken on that attitude, you will have only just begun scratching the surface of using the weapon of praise as the offensive weapon that I've designed it to be.

This aspect of praise is a tricky one to master, because it goes contrary to your natural mind. You feel that you're betraying even your sense of justice, honor, or compassion when you revel in the challenge and defy the Enemy's attacks by glorying in the battle like this. But when you feel that eagerness to fight, that thrill at seeing bad situations because you know that's the battleground where I am going to bring victory out of defeat, then you're starting to get there with the weapon of praise.

You, and all the children of David, have a long way to go with this weapon, and that's partly because it's so unnatural and even seemingly heartless to look at problems in a positive way, with gratefulness and praise.

You subconsciously pull back from saying such extreme praises in the face of problems, especially problems that hurt people, or where people are suffering or there is pain and injustice. You feel you must instead show sympathy, compassion, and understanding for the poor and downtrodden. But when you do that alone, you lose sight of the battle, and you aren't fighting. You're commenting or observing or analyzing, but not fighting. You're not truly fighting with praise until you glorify Me in spite of the pain, suffering, tears, sadness, injustice and anything else.

When you fight with the weapon of praise, the details of the situation become almost irrelevant, except that you are thankful that the situation, no matter how bad or ugly, has paved the way to the fighting ring for you, and has exposed the Enemy so that you can attack him and let Me win the victory. You're so thankful for My goodness, My mercy, My love, My wisdom, My care, My ability to use absolutely everything for good, that you overflow with praise to Me, because you are honored with the opportunity and have the blessing of seeing Me move and act.

You love the fight, and therefore you love whatever situation brought you to that point. You are grateful and you praise Me for the fight, for the chance to engage your Enemy. And the "worse" the problem or situation, the happier you are for the opportunity, because you know you can only see your Enemy more clearly and know his weapons, and fight well.

That is how I wish for you to use the weapon of praise, My love. That is aggressive fighting. It's not just in what you say; it's not in the wording of your praises, although that is part of it. It's an attitude. It's about whether you run to the battle and fly into the Enemy's attacks and thank Me for every blow you're able to send his way.

This doesn't mean you're ignoring the seriousness of a situation; it means you're doing something about it. You're looking past what's in front of your eyes and you're seeing behind the scenes. You're acknowledging the spirit and the spiritual warfare and working with Me to overcome and bring My power into the situation. You're choosing to rise above. Fighting for a victory by choosing to praise is actually doing something to help the bad situation. When you only sympathize and feel bad and show concern, you're essentially a bystander in the spiritual warfare.

You know it will take time to reach that level of skill in wielding the weapon of praise as well as your attitude toward using praise. It's human nature to pull away from ugly things, to want to hide your face. It's human nature to not want to be uncomfortable. And certainly it's human nature to feel that sympathy is the only appropriate response to pain and hurt. Learning to go beyond your natural reactions and use praise in those situations is advanced soldiering and takes My supernatural anointing and power. But I can give it to you, and I will.

The weapon of praise is not a sweet, gentle, loving little Christian toy gun that squirts harmless water bullets at the Enemy. The weapon of praise isn't a warm and fuzzy makes-me-feel-good-all-over powder puff of a tool. You have raw power in your hands with the weapon of praise, but it takes time, effort, study, and a vacuum to learn to use it and to truly access that power. It's an advanced weapon, and only those who really want it will learn to use it to its full extent. Only those who are truly humble enough to learn it and use it will ever come to know even a fraction of its power.

I commission you to become a student of the weapon of praise. Become a specialist. There is so much more to be discovered, so much more to be revealed. Ask, and you will not be disappointed, and you will grow tremendously in this art of war.

Yes, it is hard to praise Me directly for something that's very hard or seemingly bad in your life, or in the life of someone you love. But when you find yourself in a very bad situation and choose to praise Me for it, that act of praise is an act of yieldedness and testifying to Me and others that you know I am in control, that you are My bride and I am your Husband, that you know nothing comes into your life but what is from My hand, and that if I allowed it to happen, then there must be good to be brought from it. This type of yieldedness and praise is powerful.

To only praise Me for the upside, or because you hope things are going to change, is good, but not nearly the best. The best is to be able to praise Me for the situation exactly as it is, in conjunction with praising Me for My power to bring victory in any situation. Both are needed. To praise only for how you hope things will change, or how you think I'm going to deliver you, is not full praise. It is not complete yieldedness to Me. Full yieldedness is knowing that no matter what it looks like to you, I have a plan, I have all power, and I will do what is best. Without that full yieldedness, you're in essence saying that you'll only praise Me if and when things change--and that's not full praise.

The highest level of praise is "though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him" (Job 13:15), showing Me that you're thankful for what I've done in your life or the lives of others, even if it seems very hard at the moment, and even if there is no improvement. It acknowledges that whether you can see the end in sight or not, you're thankful for what I've done, fully acknowledging My involvement and that nothing enters the life of one of My children except what I allow.

Then I expect you to also stand on My promises and hold Me to My word to bring total victory in the situation, in whatever way I know is best--and this too is great cause to praise Me, even if the victory is nowhere in sight at the moment. You know it's there. You know I will bring it. So after you have shown your yieldedness by thanking Me for allowing the bad situation, you then praise Me for how I'm going to use it for good--even if you don't see how that's possible--because I am all-powerful.

It's important, though, to not tie your praises to a specific resolution that you desire. You can praise Me that I'm capable of doing anything, but you shouldn't only praise Me for one particular outcome, as that may not be My will.

If I have shown you clearly and unequivocally that a specific outcome is My will, then by all means, praise

Me for how I'm going to take you from where you are now to where I said you are going to be. But if you don't really know what the positive outcome is going to be, it's good to keep your praises a little less focused on the specifics of the answer and more focused on My power to use the situation for your good and bring victory regardless of how I choose to do so.

This kind of praise in the face of extreme difficulty, this unrestrained, unrestricted, no-personal-agenda type of praise is the kind that really gets results--and one immediate result is the feeling of power and happiness that will fill your soul even in the darkest, roughest times. When you yield and praise like this, you're always going to benefit, simply through the act of doing it.

(Jesus:) When you praise in a very difficult situation, what you are telling Me is that you submit to My will and accept My allowing it to happen. In these kinds of situations, praise demonstrates acceptance. Your praise is acceptance. The praises that come out of your mouth are a verbal expression of the faith and trust that is in your heart. The reason that a lot of people find it so difficult to praise Me when something "bad" happens or when something happens to them that they don't like is because they aren't trusting Me and their faith is weak.

It's a fairly simple concept. Do you believe that I, the Lord of the universe, truly have the whole world in My hands and that I would not let anything bad happen to you except what is for your good? Do you trust that I can bring good and My plan and a victory out of any bad or negative situation? Do you trust that I often allow difficult circumstances or attacks of the Enemy simply so that I can manifest My power and do miracles to change the situation and show the strength and power of the weapons that I have given you? Do you believe that I often bring tests or trials or difficulties into your life to strengthen you? If you believe these things, then you can praise Me no matter what "bad" thing may happen to you or your loved ones.

Praise is the voice of faith. That's an old quote that many of you memorized years ago. But think about that quote for a minute, because it is really very true and very deep. Praise voices the faith that you have in your heart. When you have faith and you're trusting Me, the natural result is praise. When you have faith in Me and you trust Me, things that happen around you or to you don't bother you so much because you trust that everything is part of My perfect plan. You even believe that I am able to turn mistakes that you or others make into good. You trust that all things will truly work together for good to them that love Me. If you find you have a hard time praising Me, it could be a sign that you need to strengthen your faith.

So many things in the life of a disciple boil down to faith--including being able to use the weapon of praise in difficult or negative circumstances. If your faith is weak, take steps to strengthen it. Fill up with more of My Word and then put your faith into action by taking steps to implement and obey what I have told you to do. As you do this, your faith will grow, and you will develop the trust and faith in Me that will enable you to offer praises from your heart even in trying times and through difficult or extremely negative circumstances.

But even if you don't find it easy to praise in difficult situations, you can still do it. You can still acknowledge Me as the King and God of the universe, and you can put your faith in Me into words. You could praise Me that in spite of how bad you feel, how much your leg hurts, or the potentially negative impact this will have in your life, you trust that I have a plan and that it's a good one, one that you will be very thankful for someday. You can tell Me that you accept that I have brought this into your life and you're going to praise Me for it, even if you don't see the good right now. You can tell Me that you are praising Me in advance for all the good that I will do through this. You can pick up your weapon of praise and tell the Enemy that you refuse to look at the circumstances with your carnal mind, you refuse to accept your natural feelings about the circumstances, but you instead choose to partake of the supernatural. You choose to praise and you choose to trust that I have a bigger, better plan, and through your praises, you are unleashing My power to bring about that plan.

This kind of praise is very powerful. It defeats the Enemy. It's "but if not" praise. It releases My miracle-working power to work in whatever way I see fit. When you praise like this, then I am able to go to work to bring about My will. Through your acceptance, you free Me to work in the situation as I see fit.

This is when the magic can happen. This is when I am able to more clearly show you My will. This is when I can do miracles, because you aren't putting Me in a box. You aren't limiting Me. Your praises allow Me to perform whatever miracle I may have in mind. Maybe it's the miracle of a changed heart or attitude or mindset, or extra grace to endure. Maybe it's the miracle of a life changed through your witness. Your praises give Me room to work My plan and they show that you aren't second-guessing Me or trying to put Me in a box.

Your praises say that even though the circumstance or negative situation may change your plan or your mode of operation or bring things into question in your mind, you trust that I am bigger and greater than you are, and you realize that I see further ahead and that I will bring good out of the situation in some way.

When you make these types of declarations to Me, you are picking up the weapon of praise. You are accepting My will and you are trusting in My greatness and power to accomplish that will, in spite of everything. This releases My power on your behalf. It also increases our closeness and connection, because you love and trust Me enough to join the ranks of those who throughout history have said, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him."

Prayers that are prayed against the backdrop of faith and praise are the most powerful prayers. When you pray with praise and acceptance in your heart, My hand is moved to work on your behalf. You can ask Me for a specific thing if it's on your heart, and you are welcome to. But the bottom line in your prayers should be faith that I can and will do what I have planned. You should be praying for My will, above all. "Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven."

When you pray in faith, I hear and I move. When your prayers and your faith release My power to affect the situation according to My perfect will, that's when the magic happens, that's when miracles come about. That is when your prayers truly change things.

So praise and prayer work together perfectly because they are both based on faith. When your praises are based on faith and your prayers are prayed in faith, then faith becomes the victory that overcomes the world (1Jn.5:4).

(Jesus:) The strongest method of using praise is to actually praise Me for the problem or hardship. That's the method that brings about the biggest miracles. For one, praising Me for a problem or hardship will immediately give you more peace in the midst of the storm. You will be thanking Me for the difficulty, which means you are trusting that I allowed it in your life and trusting Me for the outcome.

By praising Me for a problem or hardship, you slam the door shut on the Enemy, who expects this difficulty in your life to be a victory for him. The praise completely shuts him out of his expected victory. Satan looks at problems and hardships in a Christian's life as his opportunity to tear down their faith. He looks at those situations as his opportunities. But when you praise Me for those difficulties, you destroy Satan's opportunity to enter and make use of these things.

I'm not just referring to praising Me by faith for a positive outcome, which is also a form of praise. I'm talking about the method of praise when you thank Me for the problem. You actually praise Me wholeheartedly, even if by faith, for the problem just as it is at the moment.

Once you have truly thanked Me for the difficulty, then you can praise Me for overcoming the problem.

But don't stop there; don't hinge your praise on My answer. Hinge your praise only on Me. "Nevertheless, Jesus, thank You for allowing such and such, and the lessons You will teach us from it."

Then take in a good dose of Word. Read a Psalm on praise, such as Psalm 103. Or read some key promises on praise or on faith or on overcoming the attacks of the Enemy. This is when the Word will have the greatest access to your heart, so take it in and let the light cleanse your heart of all worries and fears.

I will then be able to ride in on that faith and work out the situation fully to your advantage, and make it work out for your good. I promise that. It's just that simple. As you keep your heart flooded with My light, I will win the victory. And you are guaranteed to see the fulfillment of the promise, "All things work together for good to them that love God, unto them who are the called according to His purpose."

This method of praise does not come naturally. You are going to have to practice diligently to build this as a positive habit. But it's one of the main secrets to the age of miracles during this time in history, the Endtime. It's a secret to greater unity, greater dependence on Me, greater humility for Me to work through, greater faith, and greater access to My heavenly thought power. Learn to turn every problem or hardship into a full praise, and you will be an overcomer that the Enemy cannot touch or stop. (19)

(1) Praise Your Way to Victory! #3449:17-27
(2) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:16-27,58-62

(3) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:10-12
(4) Praise Your Way to Victory! #3449:2-10
(5) Practicing Praise! Mastering the Unbeatable Weapon of Praise #3471:109
(6) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:33,35-36
(7) Positively Positive, Part 3 #3595:78-80
(8) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:6-9
(9) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:49-57,63-65,68-75,79,82
(10) Practicing Praise! Mastering the Unbeatable Weapon of Praise #3471:23-25,56-60,100-102,113-116
(11) According to Your Praise Be It Unto You! #3432:12
(12) New Ways to Praise! #3055:38-40
(13) Practicing Praise! Mastering the Unbeatable Weapon of Praise #3471:14-19,40-42
(14) Praise = Answers, Solutions, Progress, Power, and Victory #3539:38-48
(15) Praise Your Way to Victory! #3449:11-16
(16) Practicing Praise! Mastering the Unbeatable Weapon of Praise #3471:81
(17) Art of War, The, Part 3 #3558:10
(18) Asian Tsunami, The #3528:363, 364, 366, 367
(19) Extreme Praise #3641:16-24,26,27,47-51,54,56-58,61-67, 69-79