

*“Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises. For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.” Psalms 47:6-7 KJV*

There’s a difference between praise and praise “with understanding.” Praise is overt approval of an attribute or deed, but I can only give God “praises with understanding” for those things I personally experience; like answered prayers and the providence of obedience. We often praise heroes, leaders, or loved ones, but how often do we praise God? What has He done for you? Has He not provided the air you breathe? Miraculous escapes from close calls? A body that heals itself if treated properly? Did you ever stop to think that



God requires good stewardship of your body? Eating habits (guilty), exercise, attitude, and sleep patterns are all part of that stewardship! For what do you praise God, and if you do, why? I can praise God for His love, grace, mercy, power, Word, and the list continues, but I can only know true Joy and peace through the obedience faith produces. It is “walking in the Light” obedience that allows “praises with understanding.” Only through trusting obedience can you KNOW Truth! Reading about math doesn’t prove it to you, even though you may believe another’s testimony. Until YOU practically apply it in building measurement, you cannot KNOW its worth. You can repeat the praise of others or you can KNOW yourself! The same is true of God’s Word. Until YOU apply it through obedience in the path of life, you will never KNOW the worth and Joy of its Truth! You can believe vicariously through the praise of others or you can KNOW through your own applied faith!

Tasting approves the worth of food,  
Promises met are understood,  
I cannot KNOW my God is good,  
Until, through faith, I have withstood! ~CGP

Understanding comes from experience, and while I cannot GAIN faith by experience, I can KNOW faith by the experience of trusting application – obedience to God’s Word. “O taste and see that the LORD is good. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.” We desire gold for the pleasures it can acquire, but if you never spend it, you’ll never have what it buys! If you don’t put the food in your mouth, you’ll never KNOW its taste: If you never chew and swallow it, you’ll never KNOW its benefit! God’s Word is “tasted” through the application (spending) of faith. Faith is Heaven’s gold. “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.” Can you praise God “with understanding?” Are you obeying God’s Word through faith? Are you spending your “gold?”

*“Whence then cometh wisdom? And where is the place of understanding? – The entrance of (obedience to) Thy Words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.” Job 28:20 – Psalms 119:130 KJV*