



Before the THRONE
The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 134:1 – 2

“Behold, bless ye the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, who by night stand in the house of the LORD. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.” Psalm 134:1 – 2

A reoccurring theme throughout the Bible is this call to bless the Lord with our praise – and that at all times! Apparently the writers of the psalms felt that it was never a bad time to offer the Lord praise. And their encouragement for us to praise is most often not a quiet meditation within our hearts, but rather a demonstrative response that overflows from the depths of our innermost being!

“Lift up your hands...” It is an outward indicator of an inward attitude. At first, it may reveal a willingness to obey the Word of God and the promptings of the Spirit rather than yield to the fear of man or feelings of self-consciousness. Isn't it funny, that we must often unlearn unnatural responses that we have learned over the years? A child's natural inclination is to raise his hands so his mother or father will pick them up. Or when they are happy or have just won a game their hands will often be raised along with laughter or a shout – but adults? We “know” better don't we? Unless of course, our favorite team has just scored an important goal!

Victory – a cry for acceptance and love – an act of surrender – a declaration of bold faith – a proclamation of blessing – these are the more than valid reasons to raise our hands. But maybe the most compelling motivation for us to raise our hands in worship is that the Scriptures tell us that as we do so, the Lord is blessed!

Psalm 63:4 NLT “I will honor you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer.”

Lamentations 3:41 “Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.”

Hebrews 12:12 “Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down...”

Psalm 134:2 “Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.”

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