

7 Hebrew Words for Praise

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The Bible says that as we approach the Lord we are to come with praise and with worship. Not only does it tell us we are to come with praise and worship, but it tells us what that praise and worship will look like. It involves singing, shouting, lifting hands, clapping hands. It's not primarily a "cerebral pursuit." It involves the whole person, spirit, soul and body.

YADAH

3034 Yadah (yaw-daw) literally to hold out the hand; physically to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands); intensively to bemoan (express distress grief over; lament) by wringing the hands); cast out make confession, praise, shoot, give thanks.

- To use our hands as an extension of our praise. It is a natural extension of the heart to lift the hands.
- Genesis 29:25 AMP
Again she conceived and bore a son, and she said, Now will I praise the Lord! So she called his name Judah [praise]; then [for a time] she ceased bearing.
- 2 Chronicles 7:6 AMP
The priests stood at their posts, and the Levites also, with instruments of music to the Lord, which King David had made to praise and give thanks to the Lord—for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever—whenever David praised through their ministry; the priests blew trumpets before them, and all Israel stood.
- Psalm 9:1 AMP
I WILL praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will show forth (recount and tell aloud) all Your marvelous works and wonderful deeds!

CLAPPING OF HANDS

Psalm 47:1 – Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
4 Hebrew Words for Clap

Taqā – (taw-kah) to slap the hands together
Psalm 47:1

Machā – (maw-khaw) to rub or strike the hands together in exultation.
Psalm 98:8 – Let the floods clap their hands.
Isaiah 55:12 – The trees of the fields shall clap their hands.

Saphaq – (saw-fak) to clap as an indication of derision, grief, indignation or punishment
Lamentations 2:15 – All that pass by clap their hands at you.
Job 27:23 – Men shall clap their hands at him and shall hiss him out of his place.

Nakah – (naw-kaw) to strike or go forward, to punish
2 Kings 11:12 – And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.

HALAL

1984 HALAL (haw-lal) – to be clear; to shine; to make a show, to boast; and thus to be clamorously foolish; to rave; to celebrate; make boast; commend; deal foolishly; glory; give light; to be worthy of rage, renowned, praise, shine.

Revelation 4:11 – Thou art worthy, oh Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Psalm 22:23 – You who fear the Lord, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

When was the last time you were “clamorously foolish” for God?

MACHOWL

4234 MACHOWL (Maw-khole) – a round dance; dancing

Psalm 30:11 AMP - You have turned my mourning into dancing for me; You have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,

Psalm 149:3 – Let them praise His name with the dance; let them sing praises to him with the timbrel and harp.

TEHILLAH

8416 TEHILLAH (the-hil-law) – to sing hallal; a new song; a hymn of spontaneous praise glorifying God.

A spontaneous new song. Singing from a melody in your heart by adding words to it. This refers to a special kind of singing-it is singing unprepared, unrehearsed songs. Brings tremendous unity to the body of Christ. Singing straight to God. Can move into tehilah anytime. Singing it the second time would be ZAMAR. It is the praise that God inhabits (sits enthroned on)(Psalm 22:3) God manifests Himself in the mids of exuberant singing.

Psalm 34:1 – I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Psalm 40:3 He has put a new song in my mouth – Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, and will trust in the Lord.

Psalm 149:1 – Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, and his praise in the assembly of saints.

ZAMAR

2167 ZAMAR (Zaw-mar) – striking with the fingers; to touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument; make music, accompanied by the voice; to celebrate in song and music

Psalm 66:2 – Sing out the honor of his name; make his praise glorious.

Psalm 144:9 – I will sing a new song to you, O God; on a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to you.

SHABACH

7623 SHABACH (shaw-bakh) – to address in a loud tone; to shout

Psalm 117:1 – Op praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people!

Psalm 27:6 – And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; (sacrifices of shouting) I will sing, yea, I will sing praise.

BARAK

1288 BARAK (Baw-rak) – to kneel; to bless God as an act of adoration, implies a continual conscious giving place to God, to be attuned to him and his presence.

Psalm 34:1 – I will bless the lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Psalm 100:4 – Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful to him and bless his name.