

## Study 0068

### Worship Under the New Covenant (4)

New covenant worshippers (i.e., believers in Christ) are expected to do more than sing and lift up hands in church services. We are also to engage in divine service unto God, which can be done at anytime and everywhere. Such divine service is acceptable only when we have been clothed with Christ (having renounced the unfruitful works of darkness), and have presented ourselves as living sacrifices full of praise and thanksgiving, for the privilege to serve the living God. Our service unto God include; showing forth the light of God to the world; keeping the fire of the Holy Spirit alive within us; constant fellowship with God through His word; constant communion with God in the place of prayer; intercession to God for sinners and other believers; proclamation of the good news of salvation to the unsaved; and, making disciples of those who accept Christ as their Lord and Saviour, among others. Our experience, however, suggest that some things are not as they should be, as we do not find today's worshippers being involved in service unto God. This study will therefore focus on how we can be involved in the true worship of God, which is a combination of singing, dancing, etc., in church services, and service unto God in and outside the church!

### Text: 1 Chronicles 23:1-5, 24-32

King David recognized that divine service can be divided into service in the tabernacle; and, service outside the tabernacle. Thus, toward the end of his life, he instituted an order of worship which recognized the various acts of divine service by priests and Levites. So, while the priests were involved essentially in service within the tabernacle, the Levites were engaged, by way of assisting the priests, in service outside the tabernacle (preparing the sacrifices for flaying by the priests, music, singing, door keeping, and treasury). This action of King David was prophetic of the new covenant worshipper. As we have already established, the new covenant worshipper is more than a passive worshipper, but a priest (and by that token, expected to also be involved in Levitical service). We, however, cannot categorise the service of new covenant worshippers into priestly and levitical functions; rather, they are categorised into full-time and part-time service, or ministry. Whether or not a believer in Christ is in full-time or part-time service or ministry, he must possess certain things. These things which the new covenant priest must possess will form our assignment in this study, while the issue of full-time and part-time ministry, or service, will be the subject of the next study.

### ASSIGNMENT

1. There are certain things which a new covenant priest must possess, apart from being born again and having the Holy Spirit in him. What are they? (**Exodus 11:2-3; Ezra 1:5-11; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:7-8, 11; 1 Corinthians 12:4**)

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2. Is it possible for a believer in Christ not to possess any of the things mentioned in (1) above? (**Matthew 25:14-15; 1 Corinthians 12:11; 1 Peter 4:10**)

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3. As much as the things mentioned in (1) above are present in every new covenant priest, there is something that must first happen before these things can truly manifest. What is it that must first happen? (**Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8; 2:1ff**)

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4. How can the prerequisite in (3) above be obtained by a new covenant priest? (**Acts 1:13-14, 15-20; 8:14-22; 9:17-22; 10:34-48; 19:1-7; John 7:37-39**)

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5. In spite of the prerequisite in (3) above being present in a new covenant priest, he still may not manifest the things in (1) above. What can be responsible for this? (**Exodus 32:1-6; 1 Corinthians 14:8-12; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7**)

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6. What do the things responsible for non-functional service unto God in (5) above mean for the new covenant priest? (**Proverbs 29:18; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; 4:2, 5; 1 Kings 3:4-28**)

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**Conclusion**

The new covenant priest in his worship of God functions in both the ‘priestly’ and ‘levitical’ roles; that is, he serves both in his local assembly, as well as outside his local assembly. He functions in this manner, in either a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ capacity; but must nonetheless possess \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. These things are of no use until there is the \_\_\_\_\_. But even with that, some new covenant worshippers are unable to function effectively because of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

It is time for us, new covenant priests, to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_. Let us  
note that \_\_\_\_\_ are not for personal aggrandisement or enjoyment;  
rather, they are for the \_\_\_\_\_ of all, and for \_\_\_\_\_ unto God.