

## Transitions in Praise Ezra 3

### Introduction

Jake's birthday: trainers, toy truck, college fund. It's not what I'll get.

As we transition through life, needs & understanding change.

It is as true in the history of worship as God reveals Himself.

### I. God has revealed Himself to you progressively. / [1 Peter 1:10-12]

A. God has brought you beyond what those in other eras have known.

1. The old days are enticing, but God has given you more. [12-13]
2. God gave pictures to those under age.
3. Receive the fulfillment of the pictures.

B. Be alert to the progression from creation through the kings.

1. In the garden they enjoyed unhindered fellowship with God.
2. After the fall they needed a sacrifice. [Gen. 4:3-4; 8:20; Job 1:5]
3. In the patriarchal period, altars were only in the Promised Land.
4. Moses: burnt offering was regulated – trumpets.
5. David, more instruments & songs of praise.

### II. Worship God by the measure of revelation He has given you.

A. The written Word of God is your guide.

1. He revealed Himself & His worship through Moses [2,4]
2. He revealed Himself further through David. [10-11, 2 Sam. 23:2-3]

B. Be connected in worship with what has gone before your time.

1. They started in the 2<sup>nd</sup> mo. as Solomon had done. [2 Ch. 3:2]
2. They got supplies from Lebanon. [2 Ch. 2:8, 16]
3. 20-year old Levites served. [1 Ch. 23:27 cf. Num 8:24]
4. Their song of praise is the same. [1 Ch. 16:34; 2 Ch. 5:13; 7:3]

### III. Jesus Christ has transitioned you into the true worship.

A. Jesus made the pictures obsolete for your worship.

1. God has given you the reality of worship in Christ. [John 4:24]
2. It would be foolish to use the pictures when the reality is present.

B. See the reality in Christ.

1. He is the atoning sacrifice. [Lev. 1:4; 1 John 2:2; 4:10] (CALL)
2. Intensify worship in the new covenant Sabbath. [Num. 28:9-10]
3. Bring your offerings of praise w/o the instruments. [Heb. 13:15]

C. Don't long for the Old Covenant ways of worship.

1. They are pictures, not the reality. We have something better.
2. Let your focus be on Christ and don't let the picture distract you.

### Conclusion

We live in the new covenant and must be new covenant Christians.

We have continuity w/ the OC saints' worship, but not full identity.

Worship the Lord in the fullness of His revelation—in the reality.

**Psalms 81A, 118B, 150A**