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THE NAME BEHIND EVERY PRAISE

The Christ-Centered Celebration

By Love

June 17th, 2026 – More Than the Reason for the Season

If heaven ever held a conference on “Who Should Lead What,” I already know how it would go. An Asian brother would be sitting cross-legged in the corner, eyes closed, leading meditation with a calmness that makes the angels whisper. A “white” scholar would be flipping through Greek lexicons, Hebrew dictionaries, and archaeological maps, ready to teach Bible study with charts, footnotes, and cross-references. And then—oh yes—when it is time for worship, a “Black” choir

director from America would step forward, clap twice, and say, “Alright now... let’s have church.”

From the outside, someone might think, “Why is it so loud in there?” But what sounds like noise is actually perfect timing. The preacher is not distracted. He is energized, encouraged and supported. The rhythm of the sermon becomes the rhythm of the praise, e.g., the “Amen,” “Tell it like it is,” “Come on now,” and “Preach” are not interruptions; they are participation. It is an

organized celebration. And Paul, in Ephesians 5:18–21, would look at all of this and say, “Exactly. That is what I am talking about.”

There is something beautiful about the way how different people express celebration and gratitude. From what I have observed in life and travel, every culture seems to carry its own unique expression of joy, reflection, and worship. Some express it through deep meditation and stillness, others through sharing and generosity, others through study and discovery, and others through joyful gathering and expressive praise. And when you step back and look at it, it almost feels like a worldwide orchestra of different sounds trying to express something greater than themselves.

“Every voice may sound different, but many

hearts are reaching for the same truth.”

Yet this article is not about comparing cultures. It is about what happens when all of that expression is brought into one focus, one center, and one name. Because celebration without a center becomes noise, but celebration with purpose becomes worship. That is where Ephesians 5 begins to speak.

A Spirit-Filled Life

Ephesians 5 opens with a call to be followers of God, and immediately the focus shifts to how that life is lived from the inside out, which is a life that is not self-generated, but Spirit-filled. A life that is not driven by personal strength alone, but by a divine influence and grace. There is no true transformation without the Spirit of God. Human effort alone cannot heal what sin has broken, for example, addiction, bondage, weakness, and spiritual death cannot be overcome by

willpower alone. Grace is not just assistance; it is life itself being restored in us through God.

“When the Spirit fills a life, the mind no longer feeds on darkness, but on divine thoughts.”

This is why being filled with the Spirit is not optional in the life of a believer; it is foundational. It is the difference between spiritual life and spiritual emptiness. It is not partial control, but full surrender. It is the mind being renewed, the heart being realigned, and the life being regenerated. Ephesians 5:18–21 shows us what this Spirit-filled life looks like in practice: speaking, singing, teaching, thanking, and living in reverence toward God.

Followers of God and the Example of Christ

The command to be followers of God is immediately anchored in the example of Christ. Christ Jesus is not just

part of the message; He is the pattern of the message. He walked in love. He gave Himself as an offering. He lived a life fully surrendered to the will of God.

“Christ did not simply teach love; He became the demonstration of it.”

This love was not symbolic. It was sacrificial. It was costly. It was the giving of His life as an offering to God on our behalf. And in that offering, salvation was made possible.

We must remember that without Christ, humanity stood without hope, without direction, and without spiritual life. But through Him, what was lost in Adam is restored in redemption.

“I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me.”

This is not just theology; it is transformation. The life of Christ becomes the life within the believer. And that life becomes the foundation for

everything else that Paul describes.

This is why we teach the Word of God in the name of CHRIST JESUS. We preach CHRIST—not Moses, not Jeremiah, not Muhammad, not any other figure—because CHRIST JESUS is the Messiah who came first to bring liberty from sin and peace with God, and who will come again to bring all things under His control. Anything outside of that is a violation of the gospel. In other words, Christ Jesus offered Himself to God for us. His life was the offering. His death was the sacrifice. And God accepted it. When we allow the life of CHRIST to live through us, we are pleasing God, because CHRIST is the only life that pleases God.

Paul says Christ's offering was a "sweet-smelling savor." That means it pleased the mind of God. Why? Because CHRIST JESUS is the will of God. God's greatest desire is to save

us, and Christ is the fulfillment of that desire.

When Paul says, "Be followers of God," he immediately points to CHRIST as the example. Christ is morally exemplary. He is the pattern. He is the image. He is the reflection of God's holiness lived out in human form.

"He sacrificed eternal life so we could receive eternal life."

The Name Behind Every Praise

Ephesians 5:20 brings everything into focus, which say, "giving thanks always for all things unto God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ". The "name" is not just a label; it is authority, purpose, and reason. It means that every expression of gratitude, every act of worship, every prayer, and every song is anchored in Christ Himself.

“Every praise has a source, and every source has a name.”

This is why worship is not an empty ritual. It is not repetition without meaning. It is a response to redemption. It is gratitude flowing from salvation. It is life answering to life given. Even when we read about prophets, the apostles, or any faithful servant of God, our worship is not built on them; it is built on Christ, because He is the fulfillment of God’s redemptive plan. God did not abandon humanity in sin. From the beginning, even in Genesis 3:15, He revealed His promise of restoration. And that promise finds its fulfillment in Christ Jesus.

“The cross is not just where Christ died—it is where God’s promise came alive.”

Holy Thoughts, Holy Living

When Paul speaks of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, he

is not only describing music. He is describing formation. These are sacred expressions that shape the inner life. In other words, what we sing, what we meditate on, and what we teach becomes what we think. And what we think shapes how we live.

“Holy songs produce holy thoughts, and holy thoughts shape a holy life.”

This is why the Spirit-filled life is not random; it is structured around truth, worship, gratitude, and remembrance of Christ. The believer is constantly being formed through what fills the heart and mind.

A Holy Ghost Celebration

Ephesians 5:18–21 presents a life that is not silent, not passive, and not empty. It is alive with expression by singing, teaching, thanking, and rejoicing in God. This is not disorder. It is a divine order that is expressed

through joy. It is a life where worship is not confined to a moment but becomes a rhythm. What some may see as noise is often the sound of agreement. What some may see as emotion is often the overflow of gratitude. What some may see as celebration is actually transformation being expressed outwardly.

“The Spirit does not silence the believer; it gives a new song to the believer.”

All Because of Christ

At the center of all of this is one truth: nothing in this life of worship, holiness, or salvation exists apart from Christ Jesus, because He is the offering, He is the sacrifice, He is the example, He is the reason, and He is the life within us ... Without Him, there is no access. Without Him, there is no redemption. Without Him, there is no song worth singing. But because of Him, everything changes.

“All because of Christ, we sing. All because of Christ, we live. All because of Christ, we give thanks.”

The Reason for Forever

This is why Christ is not only the reason for a season of celebration, but the reason for forever. What He accomplished is not temporary. It is eternal. What He started in redemption continues in transformation, and what He fulfilled on the cross continues in the life of every believer.

“The name behind every praise is the name that gave every life its meaning.”

And that name is Jesus Christ. He is not only the subject of worship. He is the source of worship. He is the reason behind every praise. Therefore, when Paul tells us to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, he is not telling us to perform a ritual. He is telling us to

celebrate, rejoice, worship
with understanding, praise
with purpose, live in gratitude,
and let the life of CHRIST
JESUS animate our voice, our
thoughts, our actions, and our
worship. This is not a cultural
celebration. It is not a
denominational celebration. It
is not a traditional celebration.
It is a CHRIST-centered
celebration. And that is why
we sing ... Amen!