

Seven Words of Praise



1) Yahda (yaw-daw)

Yahda (yaw-daw) has several distinct meanings: To physically use a hand to throw a stone or arrow, to revere or worship by extending both hands, and to repent, cast out, and confess your sins to God.

Did you know confessing your sins is a deeply personal way of praising God? It's about admitting wrongdoings and sharing your deepest fears and worries with Him. By doing so, you're showing your love and trust in Him. This beautiful act of confession is a profound way to connect with God and seek His forgiveness, making you feel deeply understood and connected.

Leviticus 26:40-42 KJV): But if they shall confess (yaw-daw) their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity: Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

In Leviticus 26, God revealed His loving response to confession. He promised that if the Israelites confessed their iniquities (sins) and the iniquities of their fathers, He would remember His covenant with Jacob, Isaac, and Abraham. This reassurance of God's love and forgiveness brings comfort and peace to our hearts.

2) Barak (baw-rak)

Barak (baw-rak) means to kneel, bless, be blessed, be adored, and praise.

When we kneel before God, we show reverence and respect for Him. By blessing God, we acknowledge His greatness and goodness in our lives. When we adore God, we express our love and admiration for Him. All of these actions can be seen as forms of praise. But it is more than that; when we bless Him, we are blessed in return.

Psalm 95:6 (KJV): O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel (baw-rak) before the LORD our maker.

Psalm 103:1 (KJV): Bless (baw-rak) the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

When one comes on bended knee, it shows a sense of submission and loyalty in honor and reference to God. Bless the Lord, my soul: it is more than words. It is an expression of physical obedience to and praise to God.

3) Tehillah (teh-hil-law)

Tehillah (teh-hil-law) means to praise or sing a song of thanksgiving, an act of general or public praise.

Psalm 34:1 (KJV): I will bless (baw-rak) the LORD at all times: his praise (tehillah) shall continually be in my mouth.

When we sing and praise God during the worship part of the service, we are participating in the act of Tehillah. We lift our voices and hearts to God, acknowledging His greatness and expressing our gratitude for all He has done. It is a beautiful form of praise that can bring us closer to God and unite us as the body of Christ.

4) Towdaw (tow-daw)

Towdaw (tow-daw) is to praise God by giving Him a thank-offering or a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Psalm 50:14 (KJV): Offer unto God thanksgiving (towdaw), and pay thy vows (offerings) unto the most High.

When we give to God, whether in the offering plate or our time, we practice Towdaw's praise. We acknowledge that all we have comes from Him and show gratitude by giving back to Him. This sacrificial praise can bring us closer to God and deepen our relationship.

5) Shabak (shaw-bakh)

Shabak (shaw-bakh) means to soothe, still, or praise.

Psalm 63:3 (KJV): Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise (shaw-bakh) thee.

Practicing Shabak (shaw-bakh), we praise God by stilling our hearts and minds. In moments of chaos or stress, we can turn to God and soothe our souls through prayer and quiet reflection on His goodness, a form of praise that can bring us peace amid turmoil. Shabak (shaw-bakh) involves taking a deep breath, letting it out slowly, and whispering, "Thank you, Jesus."

6) Zamar (zaw-mar)

Zamar (zaw-mar) means to praise in song and music, to touch the strings or parts of a musical instrument, and to make music accompanied by the voice.

Psalm 47:6 (KJV): Sing praises (Zamar) to God, sing praises (Zamar): sing praises (Zamar) unto our King, sing praises (Zamar).

Zamar is a form of praise that involves making music for God. It can involve singing and playing instruments during worship or creating beautiful music as an offering to God. Music touches our souls and gives us a deeper understanding of God's greatness, making it an incredibly powerful praise.

7) Halal (haw-lal)

And finally, we get to the form of praise that every Apostolic Pentecostal is familiar with.

Halal (haw-lal) means to shine in God's favor, boast or boastful, praiseworthy, make a fool of yourself, and act like a madman.

There is a popular dance where a woman with long hair twists her head in circles to get her hair to whip around. Whenever I see it, I think, "Man, that isn't nothing. I remember some church camp revivals where Holy Ghost-filled women would start shouting and dancing, and the bobby pins flew out of their hair. If that isn't acting like a fool and madman practicing Halal (haw-lal), then I don't know what is.

Psalm 150 (KJV): Praise (Halal) ye the Lord. Praise (Halal) God in his sanctuary: praise (Halal) him in the firmament of his power. Praise (Halal) him for his mighty acts: praise (Halal) him according to his excellent greatness. Praise (Halal) him with the sound of the trumpet: praise (Halal) him with the psaltery and harp. Praise (Halal) him with the timbrel and dance: praise (Halal) him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise (Halal) him upon the loud cymbals: praise (Halal) him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise (Halal) the Lord. Praise (Halal) ye the Lord.

The seven words of praise Yahda (yaw-daw), Barak (baw-rak), Tehillah (teh-hil-law), Towdaw (tow-daw), Shabak (shaw-bakh), Zamar (zaw-mar), and Halal (haw-lal) each reflect a unique aspect of our relationship with God, unveiling the beauty of His perfect design and purpose for humanity.

X Tweets:

1. ✨ Each word of praise—Yahda, Barak, Tehillah, Towdaw, Shabak, Zamar, Halal—reflects our beautiful relationship with God and His perfect plan for us!
2. 🎵 Music is a heart's language! “Sing praises (Zamar) to God, sing praises (Zamar): sing praises (Zamar) unto our King, sing praises (Zamar).” - Psalm 47:6 (KJV)