

Renewing our Praise: Doxologies

By Bob Young

From my Facebook post on the last Sunday of 2017:

“2017 began on Sunday and ends on Sunday--53 Sundays, an extra Sunday to praise God. What to say in a weekly Facebook post? What to preach on the last Sunday of the year? What to write? What is a fitting challenge for today? I am thinking about doxologies, literally, words of praise.”

We do not know the New Testament doxologies. We do not preach them, quote them, memorize them. To our loss, my tribe does not use doxologies. We do not greet one another with doxologies. Our prayers are diminished. Our worship vocabulary is impoverished. Worship is too often about us more than it is about God. We seek good feelings more than God. We seek correction without connection. We seek excitement and outward stimulation more than inward spiritual sensitivity. We seldom use corporate meditation and reflection as a part of worship. We hurry through worship. We are uncomfortable with silence.

I call us to renew the doxologies as part of our vocabulary, our Bible study, and our lives. Sing doxologies. Speak doxologies. Study doxologies. The thirty or so doxologies of the New Testament provide a great starting point.

If I were in full-time pulpit ministry with a preaching obligation today, I would preach the doxologies. A sequence I like is God’s glory in his nature, God’s glory in our lives, God’s glory in the church (1 Tim 1:17; 6:15b-16; Heb. 13:20-21; and Eph. 3:20-21).

Here is a short list of doxologies for your meditation this week: 2 Cor.13:14; Eph. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 3:12-13; 5:23-24; 1 Tim. 1:17, 6:15b-16; Heb. 13:20-21, 1 Pet. 4:11b; 5:11; Jude 24-25

FACEBOOK POST, December 31, 2017

It's Sunday Again--#53, Praising God

2017 began on Sunday and ends on Sunday--53 Sundays to praise God. Today’s challenge. Doxologies--words of praise. Scripture we do not know, quote, memorize. My tribe does not use doxologies. We do not greet one another with doxologies. Our prayers are diminished. Our worship vocabulary is impoverished. Worship is too often about us more than it is about God. Today I call us to renew the doxologies as part of our vocabulary. My “sermon” today is based in praise to God—for who he is, what he has done, what he will do (1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15b-16; Heb. 13:20-21; Eph. 3:20-21).

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