

## Psalm 43:4

Then I will go to the altar of God,  
To God my exceeding joy;  
And on the harp I will praise You,  
O God, my God.

Altars are made to burn dead sacrifices unto God. We offer our sacrifice to God on His altar. The altar of God is a place of death. It is the place where God and man deals with sin. God requires that we deal with the sin first. It must be confessed. It must be paid for. It must be repented of. In that atmosphere of freedom our exceeding joy begins to bubble up. God Himself becomes our joy. To know Him is to know joy. He leaves a joyful affect on those who subject themselves to Him. With joy we pick up harps and instruments and praise God! We praise the One who is worthy of all praise. It's easy to praise the One who deserves all the praise we can possibly give Him. He deserves it because He is the One who removed our guilt of sin and set us free from hell!

This is not some mere religious ritual we go through. It should be a heart felt process that starts in the mirror with us looking at our sin and dealing with it. Then, from this stand point, we begin to understand the least we can do is praise our God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength.

In The Master's Service,

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