

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP AT 11

**Sunday February 18, 2018**

**These notes are posted to help you take a few minutes to prepare for worship through reading the scripture and thinking about the songs!**

**SCRIPTURE:** Read I John 3:1-3. Praying with Eyes Open Wide: %What Manner of Love% The theme will surround the truth that as children of God we are invited into fellowship with him.

## **SONGS:**

### **Mighty to Save**

Zephaniah 3:17 tells us that God is %mighty to save,+but what does that mean? Is this Old Testament prophet speaking about the power of the gospel to bring hopeless, lifeless souls into a transforming encounter with Christ? Or is He referring to the sheer momentum by which God is building His church, a power so great that the gates of hell cannot prevail? Or maybe Zephaniah was speaking of God's heart for redeeming those from every tongue and tribe and nation? We must consider that by his might, God saved us (me). It's hard to fathom why a God who is able to move mountains would choose to focus His strength on redeeming the very souls who have so deeply offended Him. But this is the gospel. Though we have done nothing to merit His favor, God, full of mercy and grace, sent His only son, Jesus, to pay the debt we could never pay. He is truly mighty to save.

### **How Great is Our God**

Here's the song text and corresponding scripture references. Look through the list and choose a couple which stand out to you and look them up, read and consider.

*The splendor of a king* (Psalm 96:9, Psalm 104:1, Isaiah 33:17, Isaiah 33:22)

*Clothed in majesty* (Job 37:22, Psalm 93:1, Psalm 104:1)

*Let all the earth rejoice* (1 Chronicles 16:31, Psalm 96:11, 13, Psalm 97:1)

*He wraps Himself in light,* (Psalm 104:2, Isaiah 60:19, 1 Timothy 6:16, 1 John 1:5, Revelation 21:23, Revelation 22:5)

*And darkness tries to hide* (Psalm 139:12, Isaiah 9:2, Matthew 4:16, Luke 1:79, Luke 2:32, John 1:4-5, Ephesians 5:8, 1 Peter 2:9)

*And trembles at His voice* (Psalm 46:6, Jeremiah 10:10, Nahum 1:5)

*How great is our God – sing with me, how great is our God – and all will see  
How great, how great is our God* (Exodus 18:11, 2 Chronicles 2:5, Psalm 48:1, Psalm 86:10, Psalm 95:3, Psalm 96:4, Psalm 104:1, Psalm 135:5, Psalm 145:3, Psalm 147:5, Psalm 150:2, Job 36:26)

*Age to age He stands* (Psalm 90:2, Psalm 102:27, Job 36:26, Isaiah 40:28, Isaiah 43:13, Habakkuk 1:12, Hebrews 13:8)

*And time is in His hands* (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 102: 25, Isaiah 41:4)

*Beginning and the end* (Genesis 1:1, Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 44:6, Hebrews 13:8, Revelation 1:8, Revelation 1:17, Revelation 21:6, Revelation 22:13)

*The Godhead Three in One, Father, Spirit and Son* (Matthew 28:19, Galatians 4:6, Romans 8:15, Romans 14:17-18, Romans 15:16, 1 Corinthians 2:2-5, 1 Corinthians 6:11, 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Ephesians 2:18-22, Ephesians 3:14-19, Colossians 1:6-8, 1 Thessalonians 1:3-5, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, 1 Peter 1:1-2, Titus 3:4-6)

*Lion and the Lamb* (Genesis 49:9, Hosea 5:14, John 1:29, John 1:36, 1 Peter 1:19, Revelation 5:5-6, Revelation 7:10, Revelation 7:17, Revelation 15:3, Revelation 21:22, Revelation 22:3)

*Name above all names* (Acts 4:12, Ephesians 1:21, Philippians 2:9-11)

*Worthy of all praise* (1 Chronicles 16:25, Psalm 18:3, Revelation 4:11, Revelation 5:12)

*My heart will sing* (Psalm 30:12)

## **Avalanche**

Here's a portion of the lyrics:

**Beautiful God, Laying Your majesty aside  
You reached out in love to show me life  
Lifted from darkness into light. Oh...  
King for a slave  
Trading Your righteousness for shame  
Despite all my pride and foolish ways  
Caught in Your infinite embrace**

The idea of the song is that God's grace flows like an avalanche. The technical definition of an avalanche is: a sudden arrival or occurrence of something in overwhelming quantities. Grace is going above and beyond forgiveness and doing something extra (such as blessing someone). Now put together the concept of grace flowing like an avalanche. Now think of grace flowing like an avalanche for YOU – God going above and beyond forgiving you, and instead of being angry with you, He chooses to bless you.

Even when we want to quit, God steps in and breathes life into us again. Making it through difficult times was God shedding grace on you. You are able to make it through because God so loves you and wants to see you through those situations. Second Corinthians 12:9 talks about how we can boast when we're weak because we know God will extend grace on us in those times.

*“But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.” 2 Corinthians 12:9*

## **Love is Here**

Love is here, Love is now  
Love is pouring from His hands, from His brow  
Love is near, it satisfies  
Streams of mercy flowing from His side  
because Love is here

God’s acceptance and love is always there next to us. Our pride often keeps us from turning to it. Getting rid of pride and asking for His love - that’s the difficult part. If you bring a piece of metal close by a magnet, it invisibly grabs it and holds onto it. Think about that as you sing the words to this song, as this song is about being drawn in by His love. Once you allow yourself close to God, you’ll want to have God hang on to you.

***SEE YOU IN WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY! BRING A FRIEND!***