

THE WEAPON OF PRAISE

09 - Restoring the Soul



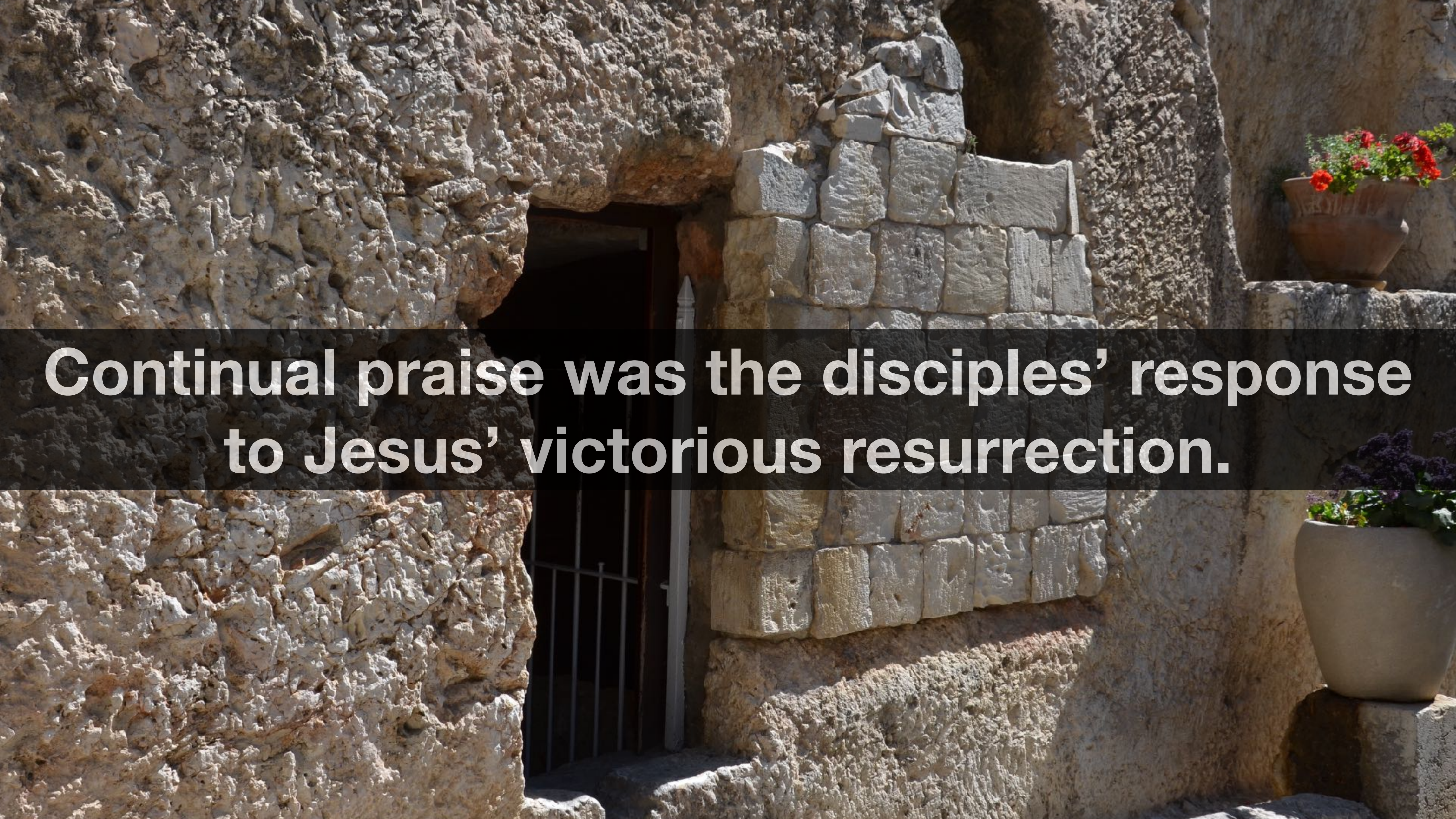
Glen Gerhauser | Church on the Park | Easter Sunday, 9 April 2023

Today we're going to talk about the power of praise and the reason why we must live a life of praising God.

SO WE
POUR
praise
OUT
OUR

A photograph of two women from behind, standing with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or prayer. The woman on the left has long, wavy brown hair and is wearing a light blue denim jacket over a striped shirt. The woman on the right has blonde hair tied back and is wearing a grey hoodie with a black and white patterned design on the back. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with trees and a bright sky, suggesting an outdoor setting like a park or a field. A semi-transparent black banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing white text.

**“And they stayed continually at the temple,
praising God” – Luke 24:53**



Continual praise was the disciples' response to Jesus' victorious resurrection.

WHY PRAISE?

The Scriptures are filled with praises to God, the Most High. Here are a few reasons why you should live a life of praise.

by Glen Gerhauser



OUR GOD IS WORTHY & VICTORIOUS

Throughout history, our all-powerful God has been compassionate and gracious. In Christ, he comes, suffers, dies and rises from the dead for our sake. He is worthy and victorious over all our enemies (Psalm 135; Luke 24:33).



PRAISE SHIFTS YOUR FOCUS

In Psalm 42, the psalmist is down in the doldrums – his soul is downcast. How does he overcome? He speaks to himself, commanding his soul to praise. "Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him for the help of His presence" (Ps 42:5, NASB).



PRAISE WELCOMES THE KING'S PRESENCE

How was Jesus welcomed into Jerusalem? Through praise. In the same way, look how praise ushers in the fire and glory of God in 2 Chronicles 5:13-14 and 7:3-6. "When they praised, the glory of the Lord filled the house" (NASB).



PRAISE IS A WEAPON

Through praise, we fight our battles. Surrounded by the enemy, Jehoshaphat sends out the praise army first, and God ambushes their opponents (2 Chron. 20:21-22). In Acts, Paul and Silas are chained in prison. Yet, in their darkest hour, they praise. God breaks their chains and saves their jailer (Acts 16:23-30).



GOD'S WORD COMMANDS & EXEMPLIFIES PRAISE

A whole book in the Bible is devoted to praising God. In Hebrew, it's called Tehillim (te-hee-LEEM), meaning "praises." Tehillim comes from the root *halal*, meaning admire, praise and shine. When we praise, we shine the light on God in a dark world (Psalm 150).



PRAISE SPREADS THE GOOD NEWS

Often we limit the presentation of the Gospel to a logical appeal. But praising God through song is one of the most potent ways of evangelism. Music can bypass people's defenses and touch their hearts, revealing to them the beauty and power of God (Ps 18:49, 57:9, 108:3).

For more, check out
Church on the Park & Holy Fire Ministry Training School
www.brisbanefire.com



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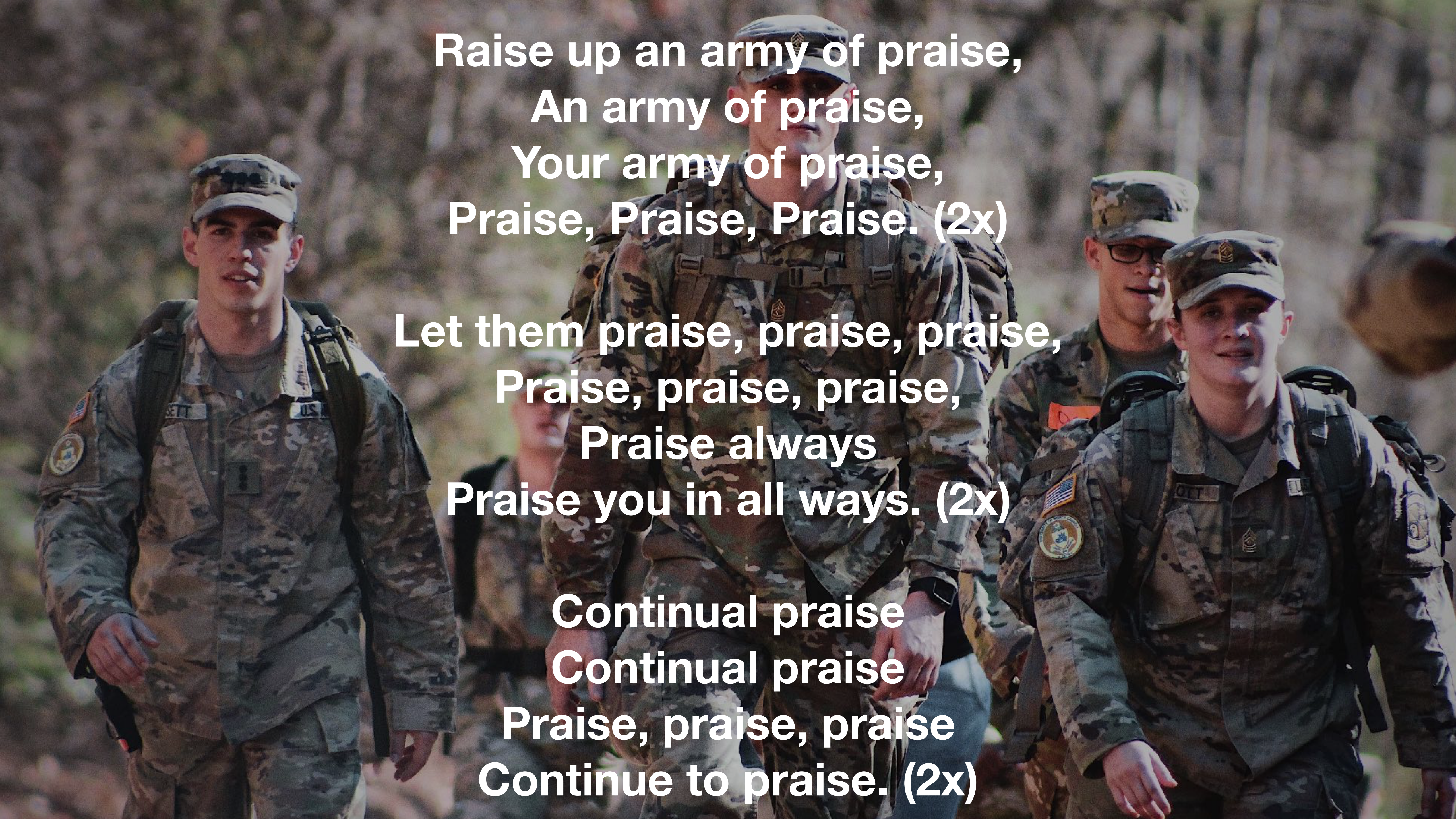
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The Chief Shepherd restores our souls as we praise him because that's why he created us. We were made to glorify him – to praise him in everything we say and do.





ARMY OF PRAISE

A group of soldiers in camouflage uniforms walking in a line outdoors. The soldiers are wearing caps and have patches on their uniforms. The background is a blurred natural setting.

**Raise up an army of praise,
An army of praise,
Your army of praise,
Praise, Praise, Praise. (2x)**

**Let them praise, praise, praise,
Praise, praise, praise,
Praise always
Praise you in all ways. (2x)**

**Continual praise
Continual praise
Praise, praise, praise
Continue to praise. (2x)**