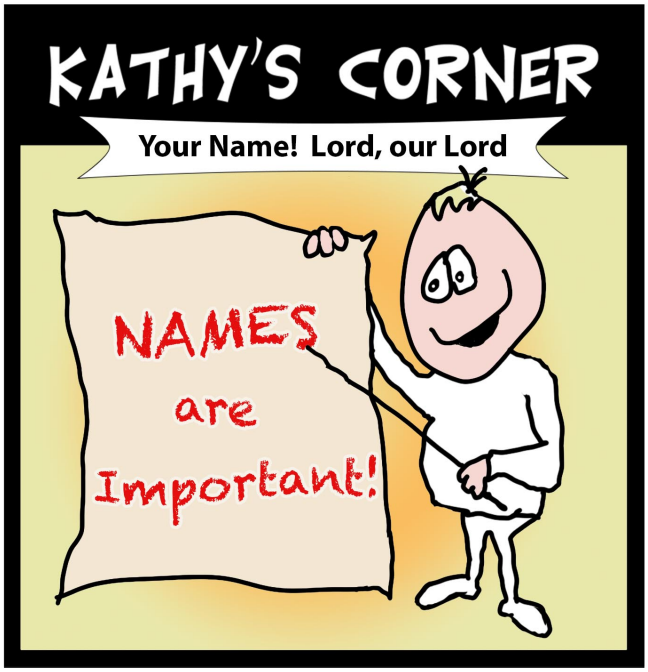
Majestic, Glorious, Excellent, Mighty

Your Name! Lord, our Lord,



Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.
Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against
your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.
When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?
You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.
You made them rulers over the works of your
hands;
you put everything under their feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.
Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

(Psalm 8 NIV)

A glorious Name; a worthy Name—I am thinking about this this morning. This is one of the Psalms composed by David. What burned in David's heart that he would be able to value the Lord God so much, and love Him so deeply. Did he know so many of his own words would be prophetic? I doubt it. Did he know how many lessons could be taught from the life he lived? Again, it is doubtful. But he had such a hunger for God Himself! He wanted to be in the house of the Lord forever beholding His beauty. Sometimes I just long to be with Him—*fully and eternally*. Sure we get tastes of His presence that are pure joy in this present life, but we are left hungry for more.

There was a long time between David's anointing and his becoming king. He knew it was God's plan for him. He trusted God's timing and God's ability to bring it too pass. He would not allow himself to harm King Saul, the previously anointed king. He went through so much as he trusted.

David knew the power of praise as highlighted above. This portion of the Psalm was referenced by Jesus in Matthew 21.

> **Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children**

crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read,

'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
You have perfected praise'?" (Matthew 21:15-16 NKJV)

While the "scripturally literate" chief priests and scribes were critical, the babes recognized Jesus to be the Son of David.

Looking again at Psalm 8, **we see power in praise**. Much of the Psalm reveals what mankind rules over. We can take it literally or perhaps there is more. *(The flocks and herds may represent the people we are to care for. The wild animals particularly the birds of the air may represent the demonic. The fish in the sea may be all the people in this present kingdom including both good and bad that will be separated in the end.)* In another place it says, **"But you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel."** (Psalm 22:3 CSB) He rules. We can do nothing without Him.

When we worship we draw near to Him. Then He draws near to us. We experienced this during the worship at NUMA Sunday past. He is so lovely! Why He cares so much about us, David didn't know. I don't really know either, but I love Him for it. It must be that Name above all names. A nature that we cannot understand—a nature so superior to all others.

As much as we would like to be with Him the way Paul said he'd rather, like Paul, we may be able to benefit others or God by continuing in this world—walking out the life He has planned for us. Maybe we can cast the net and draw in a big catch to be separated, good from bad, at a later time. I don't know how anyone could watch the news without believing the existence of evil and unclean spirits. There is so much senseless and hurtful behavior. People's behavior exposes who they really belong to, God or the enemy. Maybe we can undo some of the damage and lies of the enemy of God and men—the destruction, murder and theft propagated on humanity and through humanity when it allows such.

I thought about how little of the Holy Bible had been written at the time that David lived and ruled. The Word that he valued so highly **would have excluded** the books of the Kings and Chronicles, the writings of the major and minor prophets, the majority of the Psalms, all of the Proverbs, Song of Solomon, etc., and all of the New testament! How did he come to know the Lord so well? And why did the Lord honor him so much?

If I could only remember that it is about **desiring Him**, about **walking with the Lord**—walking in relationship—**all the time**. He has made it so convenient for us—God with us—Holy Spirit in us. I strain for what is already given because I don't remind myself that Christ is the complete package, and when I do realize, I just want to be with Him, all the time. I desire to be away from all the ungodliness that surrounds us, the worldliness that attracts and distracts us from the One who is the most important of all to us.

"Our Father who art in heaven, **hallowed be Thy name**. The Name above all names—high and holy—such love! Abba, help us to represent You and Your Name worthily, as You are worthy**—all the time!**