7 Hebrew Words For Praise

Owen Wible

1. YADAH "yah – DAH" (114x)

- To throw, shoot, cast the hands
- Literally: Hands to God
- This is a time for us to come with thanksgiving in our hearts and our hands lifted for His faithfulness. (Translated 40x as thanks)
- Psalm 42:5, 7:17, 28:7, 139:14, 100:4

2. TOWDAH "toe - DAH" (32x)

- Confession with thanksgiving
- court room terminology
- This is a time of thanking God with hands raised for things promised but not yet received.
- Often used as a "sacrifice of praise"
- Psalm 42:4, 100:4, 50:23

3. SHABACH "shuh - VAKH" (11x)

- To laud, commend praise, boast, loud adoration, shout, triumph
- This is celebrating our testimony of what He's done through shout of triumph
- Psalm 63:3, 117:1

4. BARAK "buh – RAKH" (331x)

- Kneeling, bowing low in love & submission, adore, surrender everything
- Often translated as the word "bless"
- This is a time of surrendering our defenses & control and submitting ourselves to His leadership through kneeling and prostration
- Psalm 100:4, 95:6, 16:7, 103:1, I Chronicles 29:20-21

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5. ZAMAR "zah – MARE" (54x)

- "To pluck," to make music, sing, play a musical instrument, sing Psalms
- This is a time of praising in song form (literally in rhythmical numbers)
- I Chronicles 16:9, PS 33:2, 98:5, 57:9

6. TEHILLAH "teh – hill – LAH" (57x)

- General/public praise, song/hymn of praise
- Always found corporately
- Generally spontaneous
- Derive the Book of Psalms from this word "Tehilim"
- This is about making known His glory, fame & renown corporately
- Psalm 22:3, 66:2, 100:4

7. HALAL "huh – LAL" (165x)

- To rave, shine, be clamorously foolish, make merry, boast, make a fool, act madly, act like a madman
- Hallelujah = "halal to Yahweh"
- This is a time of boasting foolishly about how great our God is
- Psalm 22:23, 44:8, 113:1-3, 149:3, 150