

Oh Let Us Come and Worship the Lord (Part 2)

The Priority of Worship

(John 4:23b - 24)

Introduction: Our worship is a priority and important to God and it needs to be to us too. This is why it is important for us to understand what God's word has to say about worshipping God, God's way. The fact is, worship is so important to God that the first four of the Ten Commandments deal exclusively with our worship. We began our series by examining a conversation Jesus had with a woman at a well about worship. Jesus tells her and us, true worship of God has nothing to do with religion, denominations or tradition. True worship of God Involves more than just our heads and hands; it must come from our heart. And, Jesus told her and us... "*The father is seeking... True worshippers: those who will worship Him His way; "...in Spirit and in truth.*"

I. The priority of the true worship of God: Jesus said, "The Father is looking for "true worshippers"

But this is not a new truth. In fact scripture is dominated with it.

A. True worship is emphasized in the first commandment – (Ex. 20:1-3) (Ex. 34:14; Mt.22:37)

B. True worship was emphasized through the tabernacle – (Ex 25:22)

C. True worship is emphasized by the encampment around the tabernacle – (Num. 1:52- 2;22)

D. True worship is exemplified in the Seraphim (Isa. 6:1-2)

E. True worship is emphasized in the exhortation of the Psalms – (Ps 95:6)

F. True worship is also emphasized a great deal in the New Testament – (Rom 12:1)

II. The practice of the true worship of God:

A. Some unacceptable practices of worship –

1. **Worshipping another god** –(Ex. 34:14; Isa. 48:11b; Rom. 1: 21, 24, 26, 32)

2. **Worshipping an earthly or material god** – (These are things we put before God)

3. **Worshipping false gods** – (Things we put our trust in more than God (Man, our church, religion, etc.)

4. **Worshipping the true God in wrong form** – (Gen. 4:3-7a)

5. **Worshipping the true God in a self – pleasing manner** – (Lev. 10:1, 2; 1 Sam. 13:8-14; 2 Sam. 6:1-9 Mt. 15:1-9; 23:23 -28)

6. **Worshipping the true God with a wrong attitude** – (Mal. 1:6-14; 3 :13-15; 4:1-6; Amos 5:21-27; Hosea 6:4 -7 and Isa. 1:11-20; Mk. 7:6).

B. The Acceptable practice of worship –

1. **Gives us a picture of true worship** (Ps. 24:3-6)

2. **This also gives us the practice of a true worshiper** –

III. The primary reason we truly worship God:

A. Jesus introduced the true worship of God as a result of a relationship with the Father –

1. **Worship is about giving God our full focus, attention, adoration and affection with our whole life...**

2. **True worshippers are those who know God personally!** (Lk. 19:10),

B. Jesus is implying the true worship of God is a result of our relationship with God –

1. **The true worship of God is (or should be) a product of our salvation** – ((Mt. 2:11; Mt. 8:12; Ac. 18:7, 13; Mt. 9:18; 14:33; 15:25; 28:9, 16-17; Jn. 9:31; Jn. 1:12; Eph. 1:3-7)

2. **The primary reason we should truly worship God is because we were saved or redeemed for this purpose!**

One who truly understands their salvation cannot help but want to truly worship God, God's way!

Conclusion: Our worship should never be boring, because we are celebrating, focusing on and honoring and giving ourselves in worship to the one who saved us for all of eternity!