

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Worship

Genesis 4 relates man's first attempt to worship God. Abel, a shepherd, brought an offering of the firstlings of his flock. Cain, a farmer, brought an offering of the fruit of the ground. The Bible says, ***"And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering, but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard"*** (Genesis 4:4-5) and ***"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts"*** (Hebrews 11:4). Whatever may have been the difference in this case, one thing is clear: God does not accept everything offered Him as worship.

The Concept of Worship

Worship is our acknowledgement of God's worth. Occasionally, the Bible uses the term of everyday living which respects His will (Romans 12:2). Mostly worship refers to special acts of devotion intended to express to God our regard for Him. Either way, the underlying principle is reverence for God. Worship may therefore be defined as a reverent attitude which is expressed by a life of service and special acts of devotion.

Common Mistakes

The prophets of the Old Testament had much to say about the ancient Israelites' worship. While the forms were different back then— offering animal sacrifices, burning incense, tithing, etc.— we can still learn much from their experiences. The prophets identified three common mistakes: (1) People often mixed their own preferences with God's instructions. Instead of honoring God by doing what He said, they added or substituted what they liked. (2) Even when people were doing exactly what God said, worship at times became a boring ritual. Isaiah called it "lip service," "traditions learned by rote" (Isaiah 29:13). (3) Daily lives were too often segregated from what people expressed in formal worship. People praised God in songs and prayers but lived in complete disregard for His will. This was perhaps the prophets' most common complaint (Isaiah 1:10-17; Jeremiah 7:1-11; Amos 4:1-4; 8:4-6; etc.). Surely you understand why God would not accept worship from people who are just going through the motions or who substitute their own will for His. How does that honor Him?

Modern Applications

Jesus taught that ***"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth"*** (John 4:24). "Spirit" emphasizes that worship is the product of a spiritual relationship. Worship is a privilege, not a right. It is the privilege of those who are in Christ, who ***"through Him ... offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name"*** (Heb. 12:15). In the formal and the broad sense of daily living, it is the conscious expression of a heart devoted to God. "Truth" emphasizes worship as God directs. Only that kind truly honors him. Omission of spirit leaves empty formalism. Omission of truth results in honoring self, not God.

The New Testament reveals several avenues of formal worship, either in individual or group settings. The history of the first-century church begins, ***"And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer"*** (Acts 2:42). Instruction in God's Word clearly has a part in our assemblies. Breaking bread refers to eating the Lord's Supper, a memorial of Jesus' death (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). This is to be eaten on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), the day also specified for the contribution, a means of Christians joining together to do the work God has assigned us collectively (1 Corinthians 16:1-2). Prayer is our means of communicating with God, both for praise and requests (1 Timothy 2:1-6). Singing is another

means of praising God, with the added benefit of teaching and admonishing each other (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).

God's honor, not our pleasure, is the goal of worship. Therefore, His Word dictates what is done and how. Is it surprising that the means He has given appeal more to the spirit than the flesh? How it looks, how it sounds, how it feels—these are not the critical factors. Instead, God says, ***“Let all things be done for edification”*** (I Corinthians 14:26). Remember, ***“God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”*** (John 4:24).

—Frank Himmel

Concerns Update

Leo Holloway (Karla Warren's father) did not have to have heart bypass surgery. He had no blockages, just calcium deposits. But, Leo will have a valve repair done within the next few weeks.

Paulie Ann Easlon (Don & Nancy's granddaughter) came home last Monday evening.

Conchida Williams underwent her back surgery last week. Everything went well; she is pain free without any meds.

Debbie Howard (Devida's cousin) is still in the hospital due to a heart problem. She is in such a weakened state they are unable to perform any procedures to help her at this time.

Bryn Berry (Bill & Vickie's granddaughter) had an eye procedure done in Columbus, OH. It went very well and she was able to go home the same day.

Prayer List

Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sharon Brown; Bill Butler; Shawn Callendar; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Jazmine Duron; Paulie Ann Easlon; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Debbie Howard; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Jed Martin; Patsy Mitchell; Ora McAfee; Jason Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Lavern Neithercutt; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Bill Ryan; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Debra Shipley; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; George & Jurlean Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; Carolyn Wilkerson; Conchida Williams; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question... (Multiple Choice)

When the Philistines captured the ark of God they put it beside what pagan image?

(a) Asherah; (b) Dagon or (c) Zeus

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

The Ethiopian eunuch was in the service of Queen Candace.

Events

Watch ***“In Search of the Lord's Way”*** every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the ***“Speaking the Truth in Love”*** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

The “22nd Annual Lubbock Lectureship” will be held on October 13th-16th. The flyer is posted on the bulletin board listing all the speakers and topics. This year’s theme is “Man is justified by Faith.” Please try to attend one or more of these lectures if you can.

Office News

SEPTEMBER ATTENDED NURSERY

09/29/19 Sylvia & Gloria

OCTOBER ATTENDED NURSERY

10/06/19 Patsy & Holly

10/13/19 Tracie & Lanie

10/20/19 Virgie & Wanda

10/27/19 Sonia & Jaque

Today is our “Fifth Sunday Services”. We will have a potluck luncheon after our morning service in the Annex. Then meet back in the auditorium for a brief sermon followed by a presentation given by Chris Amthor from Iraan. He will be giving us instructions from the “Texas Commission Alert Seminar.”

The Missing Lamps

In a certain mountain village in Europe several centuries ago, a nobleman wondered what legacy he should leave to his townspeople. At last he decided to build them a church building.

No one saw the complete plans for the church building until it was finished. When people gathered they marveled at its beauty and completeness. Then someone asked, “But where are the lamps, how will it be lighted?”

The nobleman pointed to the brackets on the walls. Then he gave each family a lamp which they were to bring to worship with them.

“Each time you are here the area where you are seated will be lighted,” the nobleman said. “And, each time you are not here, that area will be dark. This is to remind you that whenever you fail to come to church, that part of the church building will be dark.”

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:14-16).

—via Findlay church of Christ
Sparta, TN

September 29, 2019

A.M.

P.M.

Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Rudy Ochoa
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Doug Guynn	Jacob Carson
Second Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Trinidad Wood	Scot Straw
Lord's Supper		
(Scripture Reading)	<u>Don Easlon</u>	
West...	Craig Wesson	Clint Titlow
	Oliver Hernandez	Communion
	Gary Loving	(In Library)

East

Jr. Munoz
Miguel Lozano
John Wood

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Allen Weakland 254-8209—*Deacon*.: John Wood 413-7444—*Pulpit*.; Richard Siler 556-2151—*Table*: Clint Titlow 972-804-2402 — *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons*; Cody Wesson 934-4646—*Collections*: Cody Wesson 934-4646

Sunday AM

“Anchor of the Soul”
(Hebrews 6:19)

Sunday PM

“Answer to Sin”
(1 John 2:1-2)

Our Records

Bible Class... 65
Morning Worship...NC
Evening Worship...63
Wednesday...67
Contribution...\$5,817.00