

SERMON NOTES

April 18, 2010

“Worship?”

John 4:1-26

• The Importance of Worship

- **The first reason for our study of worship**
 - There is so much CONFUSION and so little understanding and practice of worship.
- **Negatively, there is a second reason**
 - *All Worship Is NOT Acceptable to God*
 - **Just because worship is given does not make it acceptable.**
 - **Worship that God rejects.**
 - CAIN’S sacrifice was rejected by God because it was false worship (Genesis 4:5).
 - Three thousand people died in one day because of the false worship of the golden calf fashioned by AARON (Exodus 32).
 - The kingdom of Israel was divided because of the idolatry and false worship of the nation (1 Kings 11:31-33).
 - The fall of Jerusalem was directly attributable to the apostasy and false worship of the nation (Jeremiah 1:16; 16:11; 22:9).
 - Misdirected worship was the cause of untold hardship and suffering in the Old Testament.
 - In the first chapter of Romans, PAUL wrote that God was justified in condemning man because he worshiped in error:
- **The third reason**, and by far the primary one for considering the subject of worship worthy of our consideration is because worship is of great IMPORTANCE to God. That is the clear teaching of passages such as John chapter 4.

• The Essence of True Worship

- HUMILITY . REVERENCE . SERVICE.
- **Some More Light on Worship**
 - RESPONSE.

“We love, because He first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

“For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen” (Romans 11:36).

- ADORATION.

“Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 3:9-11).

- SACRIFICE.
- PROCLAMATION.
- **Worship Through Time**
 - BEFORE the Law
 - Under the Law
 - In the MILLENNIUM
 - In Heaven
 - In Eternity
 - In THIS Time
- **Principles of Worship for This Time**
 - God Is the INITIATOR of True Worship
 - God Is the ENABLER of Acceptable Worship
 - God Is the OBJECT of Acceptable Worship
 - There are two types of worship, public and private
 - Acceptable Worship Is Worship in SPIRIT
 - Acceptable Worship Is Worship in TRUTH

Some Scriptures that show how God has designed us to worship Him.

- We are to proclaim the Word of God (1 Tim. 4:13).
- We are to respond gratefully to the truth of the Word of God (Ex. 24:3).
- We are to remember the Lord's sacrifice through the celebration of communion (1 Cor. 11:24, Acts 2:46, 47).
- We are to live godly lives (1 Cor. 11:2).
- We are to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Eph. 5:19).
- We are to pray in the Spirit (Eph. 6:18).
- We are to present our entire selves to God (Rom. 12:1).
- We are to offer a sacrifice of praise (Heb. 13:15).
- We are to confess the name of God (Heb. 13:15).
- We are to do good things (James 2:14-26, Heb. 13:16).
- We are to be generous and share with others (Heb. 13:16).

May God help us to worship Him in spirit and in truth.

CALVARY COTTAGE COMMUNITY

Discussion:

Prayer Requests:

Praises:

Verse to memorize:

CORE CHRISTIAN VALUES – WEEK 1

BELIEF – “What We Need to Know”

Belief #1 - Trinity: the belief that the God of the Bible is the only true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

PRACTICE – “What We Endeavor to Do”

Practice #1 - Worship: worshipping God for who he is and what he has done for us. (Psalm 95:1-7)

VIRTUE – “What We Expect to Be”

Virtue #1 - Joyful: having inner contentment and purpose in spite of our circumstances. (John 15:11)

APPLICATION:

Application is Hard Work:

1. ...because it requires serious thinking.
2. ...because Satan fights it viciously.
3. ...because we naturally resist change.

Four Steps to Practical Application:

- I. **Pray** for insight on how to apply the passage.
- II. **Meditate** on verses you have chosen to study.
 - a. Put yourself in the biblical scene.
 - b. Emphasize words in the passage you are studying.
 - c. Paraphrase the passage.
 - d. Personalize the passage you are studying.
 - e. Use the S-P-A-C-E-P-E-T-S acrostic. *
- III. **Write** out an application – (Personal, Practical, Possible, Provable)
- IV. **Memorize** a key verse from your study.

Questions to Ask When Studying the Bible:

1. What attitude do I need to change (surrender)?
2. What do I need to start doing? Stop doing?
3. What things do I need to believe? Stop believing?
4. What relationships do I need to work on?
5. What ministry should I be having with others?

*S – Sin to confess?

P – Promise to claim?

A – Attitude to change?

C – Command to obey?

E – Example to follow?

P – Prayer to pray?

E – Error to avoid?

T – Truth to believe?

S – Something to praise God for?