

Worship – Its Affect on My Salvation

Introduction

1. **Could my worship to God keep me from an eternal home in Heaven?**
2. **Is the worship I offer so important that I could spend an eternity in Hell for “vain” worship?**
 - A. **Many have varying opinions on this subject but we need to know what God has said concerning our worship to Him.**
3. **We are duty bound to make sure we worship God in a way that pleases Him!**
4. **There must be a way that is pleasing to God because Malachi wrote of God’s pleading for His children to repent and worship Him correctly.**

Malachi 3:7 Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. **Return to Me, and I will return to you,**” says the LORD of hosts. “But you said, ‘In what way shall we return?’

Worship Defined

- **Definition of “Worship.”**
- 1. **We first need to know how we are to worship God. We can go to God's Word, the Bible to find out how it is that we are to worship Him.**
John 4:20-24
 - A. **The word “in” means “in connection with.”**
 - 1) **Jesus was literally saying that we must worship in connection with the spirit, and in connection with the truth.**

2. What is the “spirit?”

A. It is those things related to the spiritual realm. Jesus shows that the true worshipers of God need to be focused on spiritual matters, not physical.

1) Paul tells us:

Romans 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

B. We come to worship to gain for our soul.

3. What is the “truth?”

A. Jesus answers this question in John 17:17 by saying:

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

1) Peter wrote:

1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God...

2) Our worship then must come from what has been revealed in God’s Word. He is the one that gives us direction on how to worship Him.

a) To deviate from God’s plan of worship is to jeopardize our soul, and the souls that follow us.

We Are Commanded to Worship God

1. In the Old Testament man was instructed to worship God. God has always required man to worship Him and God has always stipulated how that worship would be done.

A. There are many verses that indicate that man is to worship God. Here are just a few:

1 Chronicles 16:29 Give to the LORD the glory due His name; **bring an offering**, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!

1) Today we bring our hearts to Him.

Exodus 34:14 for **you shall worship no other god**, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God

2 Kings 17:36 but **the LORD**, who brought you up from the land of Egypt with great power and an outstretched arm, **Him you shall fear, Him you shall worship, and to Him you shall offer sacrifice.**

2) God's people long ago knew who they were to worship and they were instructed exactly how to worship. Likewise, we today can learn from God's Word that we are to worship Him.

Luke 4:8 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and **Him only you shall serve.**'"

Worship to God Can Be Corrupted and Perverted

1. **Nadab and Abihu learned very quickly that when God set down the law of worship that He fully expected man to obey it.**

Leviticus 10:1-2

2. **Manasseh corrupted and perverted worship to God by allowing and doing those things that God did not authorize.**

2 Kings 21:3 For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; he raised up altars for Baal, and made a wooden image, as Ahab king of Israel had done; and he worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.

- **Amon – Manasseh’s Son:**

2 Kings 21:21 So he walked in all the ways that his father had walked; and he served the idols that his father had served, and worshiped them.

3. **God told Moses what He expected to be done to all the places that were set up for worship that was not done in accordance with His directions.**

Deuteronomy 12:2-4

4. **Paul tells the Romans about the children of old and how they exchanged the truth of God’s law for a lie.**

Romans 1:25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

5. **Jesus tells us today that our worship is in vain when we teach the doctrines of men and not those of God.**

Matthew 15:8-9 These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

A. Do we see that our worship does and will affect our salvation?

We Must Have the Right Attitude in Worship to God

1. **Worship to God must be reverent, and done in adoration which we as His creation render by means of specific acts.**
 - A. **In every act of worship that we do, whether it be singing, praying, partaking of the Lord's Supper, Giving, or listening, we must do so with the right attitude of heart **unto God**.**

2. **We must be attentive to the lesson that we hear from God's message as we come and worship Him in a public way.**
 - **We are here to respect God and to respect others. **Think about why we are here**.**
 - A. **The people who listened to Peter's first sermon on the day of Pentecost were both attentive and receptive to the words He spoke as the Spirit was giving him utterance. (Acts 2:1-41)**
 - 1) **As a result, over 3,000 souls were saved because they had the right attitude in listening to God's Word.**

3. **When we have the right attitude toward God we will joyfully worship Him. The Psalmist wrote:**
Psalms 95:1-8
 - A. **We know what happened to those of long ago that hardened their hearts!**
 - B. **Do not harden your heart today.**
 - 1) **Always come to worship Him with the right attitude.**

Conclusion

- 1. The worship we offer must please God or else we stand to lose our home in Heaven.**
 - A. How sad it would be to know that we could have made it to heaven if we had only worshiped God as he commanded us to.**
 - 1) Have you determined within yourself to worship God as He has commanded?**
 - 2) Have you been worshiping Him in the proper spirit and in all truth, or has your worship become corrupted and perverted over time?**
 - 3) Do you really have the right attitude in your worship to God?**
- 2. Our worship does make a difference, and it will affect our very soul's eternal destiny!**

