

O WORSHIP THE KING

1. Text: Psalm 99:1-9
2. Worship is one of mankind's greatest privileges and responsibilities.
3. Worship has become in our day often a confusing subject. Much misunderstanding has made worship far less than it could or should be.
4. Let's carefully make some distinctions concerning the nature of worship.

I. **Worship Is Essentially Internal And Not External.**

1. Worship must be centered in the heart, mind, spirit, soul of man.
2. Yes, there are external acts, but the movement in worship is inward to outward.
3. Matthew 15:8 With mouth and lips they honor but their hearts are far from me.
4. John 4:24 God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit.
5. Lifeless ritual and formalism and ceremony are out!

II. **Worship Is God-centered, Not Man-centered.**

1. Worship should never be adapted to man's interests, desires, perceived needs, but to the will of Almighty God.
2. Matthew 4:10 You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.
3. Psalm 99:9 Exalt the Lord our God and worship Him.
4. A maker or market mentality?

III. **Worship Is Essentially And First Giving, Not Getting.**

1. "I didn't get anything out of that worship." What an ignorant shame!
2. Worship is giving to God reverence in attitude and action.
3. Serendipity: receiving a fortunate by-product in pursuing something else. True of worship.
4. Matthew 2:11 They worshiped and gave gifts.

IV. **Worship Is An Extension, Not Exception To The Rest Of Our Week.**

1. Worship that excels is simply one other facet of a total commitment of one's entire life and week to God.
2. I Samuel 15:24-26 Saul's tragic story: His worship and life-style did not match.
3. Is our worship contradictory or complimentary and is this why joy is missing in it?

V. **Worship Is Spiritual, Not Sensual In Nature.**

1. Does this sound strange?
2. Old Testament and New Testament paganism.
3. Modern Issues: Worship as entertainment, fun, anything for interest and attention, pleasing, exciting, never boring.

VI. **Worship Is Conscious, Not Constant In Its Intent.**

1. Some today say "All life is worship."
2. Misuse of Romans 12:1 "Spiritual service"
3. Worship must have a conscious intent or purpose: I Samuel 1:3; Acts 8:27, 24:11 All say persons went certain places "to worship."

VII. **Worship Is By Prescription, Not Preference.**

1. Prescription: to establish official rules, directions. Preference: to choose as more desirable by opinion or personal taste.
2. John 4:22 You don't know what you worship. Verse 24 Worship in truth (John 17:17). Acts 17:23 You don't know the God you worship.
3. Colossians 2:23 Will or self-made or preferred religion versus Colossians 3:17 Whatever you do, do in name of Lord Jesus. (II Thessalonians 3:6)

Conclusion:

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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