

Worship the King

Introduction – 3 Key Components to Worship

Worship should be:

- Intelligent – having or showing intelligence, especially of a high level *(Oxford Language Dictionary)*
- Sincere – free from [pretense](#) or [deceit](#); proceeding from genuine feelings. *(Oxford Language Dictionary)*
- Pure - not mixed or [adulterated](#) with any other substance or material *(Oxford Language Dictionary)*

Developing a Culture of Worship

- ❖ Whatever you place most before you is what eventually takes the deepest roots in you – Deut. 6:5-10
- ❖ We must determine that we won't settle for anything less than genuine worship – 1 Kings 18:21; Joshua 24:15; Mat. 4:10

The Power of Knowledge, Understanding and Awareness

- ❖ It positions us to make wiser decisions – Pro. 18:15; Pro. 24:5
- ❖ Worship takes place when we come to an awareness of who God is and have both opportunity and desire
 - Awareness – Joh 4:22
 - Opportunity – Joh 4:22
 - Desire – Joh 4:24, Psalm 42:2; John 7:37

Worship exposes your motive and the depth of your devotion to God

- ❖ Mat. 13:24-20: Wheat and tares

Worship will change the direction of your life

- ❖ Acts 13:2-3: Barnabus & Saul set apart by Holy Ghost after worship
- ❖ Acts 16:25-26: Paul & Silas freed from prison

Is it just a show?

- ❖ Muscle memory or Heart-led Worship –
 - Outward appearance or inward pursuit of God – 1 Sam. 16:7; Mat. 23:28

Worshipping in Purpose

- ❖ When we come to God in purpose, He manifests Himself – Mat. 18:18-20
- ❖ Not merely our collective purpose but our individual purpose of bringing Him glory –
2 Chr. 5
 - Vs. 5: Great sacrifice
 - Vs. 11: All priests operating in purpose
 - Vs. 12: All musical Levites uniformed and united in sound
 - Vs. 14: The priests could not stand to minister – sermon over

Worshipping on Purpose – Examining the intent of our Worship

- ❖ Worship should be intentional and not accidental – Psa. 95:6; John 4:24; Psa. 34:1
- ❖ We can be intentional when we remove our confidence in our flesh – Phil. 3:3

The Temptation to Worship Other Things

- ❖ Not only does God want us to worship Him, but He enabled us to worship Him. However, when it comes to worship, there is always a temptation to worship other things.
 - Exo. 20:3-5
 - Notice that satan’s whole objective is to get us to worship ourselves and by doing so, him -
 - Temptation to worship self –
 - Manifested through pride – Eze. 28:14-15; Isa. 14:12-15; Lev. 10:1-2; Mat. 5:16
 - Manifested through ungodly independence – Psa. 95:6; Mat. 18:20; Heb. 10:24-25
 - Manifested through ignorance – Pro. 14:12; Num. 4:15; 2 Sam. 6:3-8; Hosea 4:6; John 4:22
 - Manifested through laziness – James 1:22; Mat. 25:26-30
 - Manifested through impatience – 1 Sam. 13: 8-9, 13
 - Isn’t it funny how we can wait when we are receiving but can’t seem to wait when we don’t sense that we are receiving or benefiting?
 - Manifested through legalism – Luke 10:39-42
 - Manifested through desire for selfish gain – Luke 4:5-8; Psa. 24
 - Manifested through traditionalism – 2 Cor. 3:17; Mark 7:10-13
 - The Problem of Worldly Influence – John 17:15-16; 1 John 2:15-16; 2 Cor. 6:14, 17

Worship the King

Part 1 – Worship At All Cost

- ❖ While salvation is free, worship comes with a cost
 - Sacrifice: Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:15; Psa. 141:2, Psa. 51:17
 - Surrender: James 4:7; Luke 9:23; Psa. 95:6-7
- ❖ Worship is more than a physical place but a spiritual one
 - The place we reach only by obedience and sacrifice
 - The place we see God provide for us as a result of our willingness to surrender at all cost
 - The place of total commitment to God and not merely His Hand...
 - The place where it no longer has to make sense to your flesh...
 - The place your will is proven towards God
- ❖ God wants us to worship Him in that place
 - David – 2 Sam. 20:12
 - Job – Job 1:20-22
 - For Abraham – Gen. 22
 - What about you and me?

Key Points from Our Lesson tonight from Genesis 22

1. At some point in your life, your idea of worship we come face to face with what God commands of you.
2. Are you obedient to what God commands or what your flesh desires?
3. Can you trust God and not miss your opportunity by over-questioning?
4. Are you sensitive to God's intervention?
He may lead you differently when you are in worship.
5. Have you met God's sacrificial substitute?
6. Do you trust God to keep His promises?
7. Will you worship?

Worship the King

Part 2 – The Wise Men’s Worship – Matthew 2

IN THE DAYS OF HEROD THE KING (Vs. 1)

❖ HEROD

- An Edomite and not a Jew (descendant of Esau, father of Arabs)
- Came to power not by birthright, but by political and financial means
 - Carried out many building projects and won favor of Jews and Romans
- Was a cruel, paranoid man
 - Executed his wife and three eldest sons for fear of a rival...
 - Commanded that several leaders in city be killed when he died b/c he wanted people to mourn at his death...

THERE CAME WISE MEN

- ❖ Magi – scientists – they were astronomers from Persia (Babylon, modern Iraq believed to be founded by Daniel when official of Persian govt. some 500 years prior)
 - Not from Israel, but Persia – more than just Jews awaiting birth of Christ...
- ❖ **The Question: Where is he that is BORN King of the Jews?** Mat. 2:2
 - They wanted to worship the rightful King, the prophesied King they had been awaiting.
 - Are we worshipping the Rightful King? 1 Cor. 8:6; Isa. 9:6
 - From their studies, they knew the time was near – Dan. 9:25-27
- ❖ They came from far looking for the Savior...
 - Saw His star from the East and in the West...
- ❖ They came to worship (proskuneō: to reverence, kneel or prostrate in homage; show respect) Christ – Why do we come? Psa. 95:6-7

THE REACTION OF JERUSALEM

- ❖ Herod and all people were troubled
 - Herod: was an Edomite and not a Jew (Gen. 25:19-34)
 - His father Antipater converted to Judaism and Herod was raised as a Jew
 - People: maybe b/c of Herod’s possible reaction...
- ❖ Gathered religious leaders and wanted to know where Christ to be born
 - Micah 5:2 (vs. 6) – Gen 49:10; Rev. 2:27
 - ➔ **THEY ALL KNEW WHERE BUT NONE TOOK THE SHORT 4 MILE TRIP TO SEE JESUS...**
 - Knew the Word but didn’t want to meet The Word... Mat. 15:8

HEROD’S QUESTIONING OF THE WISE MEN

- ❖ What time did the star appear? Num 24:17
 - As a result of their answer, he has all children 2 and under killed

➔ **THE ENEMY WANTS TO KILL WHAT GOD DESIRES TO BIRTH BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT WILL GLORIFY GOD...**

SIGNS OF A PHONY WORSHIPPER

- ❖ Wants someone else to find Jesus for Him instead of looking for himself
- ❖ Too consumed with self-glorification to seek God for right reasons...

SIGNS OF A TRUE WORSHIPPER**❖ Same light that guided them thus far guided them all the way to Jesus**

- Jesus uses what they are familiar with – star
- Speaks of their diligence – Heb. 11:6

❖ Their response to God's light – the star

- They rejoiced with exceeding great joy (vs. 10)
- They weren't concerned about the building, but the light over it...

❖ They come in the house

- They had come so far and now it was time to come in...

➔ **YOU'VE COME THROUGH SO MUCH AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO COME IN...**

❖ Not only did they come in, but they came in with the proper perspective – fell down and worshipped him...

- Note that they bow and worship him not her
- Note they bow and worship and child – faith
 - God reveals to them who Jesus is

❖ They opened their treasures – they came with something to give...

- Gifts are customary and prophetic – Gen. 32:14; Gen. 43:11; 1Sam. 10:27; 1Kings 10:2; Psa. 72:10-15
- Their gifts were symbolic of why they worshipped Him...

(1) Gold – symbolic of His Kingship and Authority

(2) Frankincense – symbolic of His Priesthood

a. Burned as a sweet-smelling incense to God

b. Come from the *Oswellia* tree's bleeding sap when scraped and cut. The resin is called the tree's tears. Tree can grow in unforgiving places and the best tears come from trees that have had to endure the harshest environments, making the sweetest aroma. (Wikipedia)