

## Questions About Worship

### Part 2

#### Int.

1. Aim: To answer some questions that have been asked about worship.
2. John 4:24
  - a. God wants us to worship Him - God wants us to worship Him correctly
  - b. Lev. 10:1-3 Nadab and Abihu are examples of men who did not worship correctly and were killed.
3. The word "worship" in its various forms is found many times in the Bible.
  - a. Three Greek words are the main words in the N.T.
  - b. They are:
    - i. Latruo = means to serve, in respect of God to serve or worship him. 21 times \*  
17=serve 4=worship
    - ii. Sebomai = means to worship, implying deity as its object. 10 times \*\* 6=worship  
4= an equivalent term
    - iii. Proskuneo = means to bow down, to kneel, to prostrate one's self, thus to express  
homage. 66 times = always translated "worship" - Jn.4:24
4. Last week we answered some questions about worship such as:
  - a. Is There any Benefit to me when I Worship?
  - b. Do I really have to attend any worship Service?
  - c. What Can We do to make the worship services more meaningful?
  - d. What about Spontaneous Worship?
5. In this lesson we will consider such questions as:

Discussion**I. ARE WE WORSHIPING GOD IN EVERYTHING WE DO?**

A. No! Not everything the church does is worship. Four areas of the activities of the church:

1. Evangelization
2. Edification
3. Benevolence
4. Worship

B. The church is not merely a worshiping society

1. It is a part of the obligation of the church to worship God
2. But that is not the only thing God commands us to do in the church.
3. God commands the church to practice Benevolence:
  - a. Gal. 6:10 "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."
  - b. Jas. 2:14-17
  - c. Helping a brother in need is not worship to God
  - d. It is obedience to God and is pleasing to God.

C. Everything we do individually is not worship

1. As a husband and father we are to provide a living
  - a. I Tim. 5:8 "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."
  - b. Working at a job to make a living is not worship

2. A wife is to be a keeper at home
  - a. Tit. 2:5 "To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."
  - b. Doing the housework is not worship
- D. We do not worship God in everything we do as a church or individually

## **II. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WORSHIPPING GOD AND SERVING GOD?**

- A. Serving God would be obeying God
  1. Rom. 6:16-18 obeying God we become his servants
  2. Scriptures about serving God -
    - a. Acts 20:19 "Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:"
    - b. Rom.12:11 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;"
    - c. Eph. 6:7 "With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:"
    - d. Heb.9:14 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"
    - e. I Thes.1:9 "For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;"
  3. Obedience is simply doing what God has commanded us to do.
  4. We are serving, or obeying God in worship, but all service to God is not worship.

## B. Examples

1. A part of our service to God as Parents is to train our children
  - a. Eph. 6:4 "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."
  - b. This training would sometimes involve the necessary discipline for a child
  - c. I am serving God in doing this as a parent, but that is not worship.
2. Children are to obey their parents
  - a. Col.3:20 "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."
  - b. A child can be a Christian serving God by being obedient to his own parents.
  - c. This sometimes will involve doing certain chores around the house. This is service to God but not worship to God.
3. The church must sometimes practice discipline
  - a. II Thes. 3:6 - withdraw from those who walk disorderly
  - b. This is serving God, because we are obeying Him. But that is not worship.
4. We are to let our light shine - Mt. 5:16
  - a. There are many good works we can do that will glorify God
  - b. Being honest in giving back change that was too much.
  - c. But that is not worship
5. Christians are to practice pure and undefiled religion - Jas. 1:27
  - a. We are to visit the fatherless and the widows - help or assist them
  - b. We are to keep our self unspotted from the world
  - c. That is serving God to practice pure religion, but it is not WORSHIPING God.

### **III. WHAT ABOUT HAVING CHORAL GROUPS?**

- A. Would it be wrong to have a chorus to sing for our worship, and to have someone sing a solo?
1. Yes!! It is not authorized in the New Testament.
  2. The Bible authorizes congregational singing -
    - a. Col. 3:16 "...teaching and admonishing one another"
    - b. Eph. 5:19 "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;"
  3. The command to "sing and make melody" is plural and one person singing or a choral group would violate that command. All are to participate in worship to God in singing. The entire congregation must participate in singing to God!
  4. There is no authority for solos and choirs in worship to God
- B. What about having a choral group from a college? Would it be wrong to have a chorus come here and sing?
1. No! Not if it was not a part of our worship service.
  2. There is nothing wrong in a group of people singing.
  3. We have done this many times at funerals.
    - a. At a funeral the audience is not invited to sing, but a small group will sing some hymns.
    - b. There is a reason. The bereaved family is too sad to sing in most cases. The audience may be too scattered, or be unfamiliar with the songs.
    - c. This is not a worship service, but a special funeral service in honor of the deceased.

4. Sometimes during a wedding we have a small group sing, or someone sing a solo.
  - a. This is not a worship service.
  - b. But is a special time when two become united in holy wedlock
5. There is nothing wrong with a group of people practicing singing and become very skilled. Then to show their skill they could invite others to come and listen.

#### **IV. WHO SHOULD TAKE PART IN CONDUCTING THE WORSHIP SERVICES?**

- A. Those who are faithful Christians
  1. In Acts 20:7 we have this example "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them,..."
  2. The disciples are members of the church - or those who obeyed the gospel
- B. Here are some considerations:
  1. Those men leading the congregation in worship should be men whose lives show that they are righteous.
  2. Their influence should be such that their fellow men respect them as a Christian brother.
  3. A man who is indifferent toward the church in his life, who will not attend the worship services on a regular basis, who lives a life that is questionable or doubtful, is not a good person to lead the worship service.
- C. Some have the idea that by using such men in conducting the worship service that it will be an encouragement to them and make them faithful.
  1. II Tim. 2:2 "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."
  2. It won't work. Men should be faithful and then used, not the other way around.

## **V. WHAT ABOUT A WOMAN'S ROLE IN WORSHIP?**

### A. The Bible Limits Women

1. I Tim. 2:11-12 "Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence."
  - a. Suffer not = do not allow
  - b. Women to teach = deliver didactic discourses
  - c. Nor to usurp authority over the man = this would prohibit her from preaching
2. There is no record in the N.T. in which a woman was ever sent out to preach the gospel of Christ or to be a public teacher or proclaimer in the church.

### B. Can a Woman speak in a Bible Class?

1. Yes.
2. The passage in I Cor. 14:34,35 applied to a special time in the first century when miraculous revelations were received.
3. If this applies to us today then a woman could not utter a sound, or emit a voice of any kind. Then this would not allow singing. It would keep her from audibly confessing the Saviour's name.
4. A woman may speak in a Bible class and not usurp authority over the man.

### C. Can a Woman lead in a public prayer during our worship?

1. No!
2. I Tim. 2:8 "I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;"
3. The word "men" is from a word which means a male in contrast to a female.

4. Therefore, only men may lead in public prayers.
5. This not only applies to the church services but "every where" as Paul writes.
6. A woman can not lead prayer when men are present.

D. Can A woman Serve the Lord's Supper?

1. No! Not if men are present.
2. If there were an assembly where only women were present then it would not be wrong.

E. Can a woman teach a Bible class after some of the young boys have obeyed the gospel?

1. Yes. She is allowed to teach children, but not men.
2. A boy does not automatically become a man just because he became a Christian.

**VI. DO WE WORSHIP JESUS OR GOD?**

A. We actually worship both.

1. Jn.17:11, 20-21, 22-23.
2. God and Christ are one - We worship God and Christ
3. Several verses talk about WORSHIPING Christ
  - a. Matt. 2:11, Matt. 14:33, Matt. 28:9,17
  - b. Mark 5:6 - Luke 24:52, Jn. 9:38
4. Others speak about WORSHIPING God -
  - a. Rev. 22:9
  - b. Rev. 19:10

5. Rev. 14:7 Says to worship him who made heaven and earth.

6. Heb. 1:6 the angels worshiped the first begotten.

B. We worship Deity!!

## **CONCLUSION**

1. We must worship God
  2. We must worship God correctly.
  3. Worship is more than mere attendance
    - a. An atheist might attend our services, but he does not worship
    - b. In worship we draw nigh to God not just nigh to the building
    - c. We need to be worshippers not merely church goers.
    - d. Worship involves more than going through a form
    - e. Our hearts must be involved in True Worship of God.
  4. These things are very important for us to consider.
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## **Sources Consulted**

1. F.H.C. Lectures 71 p.263-264
  2. Lipscomb & Sewell - Questions Answered p. 730ff
  3. File on Worship
  4. File on Role of women in Worship
  5. F.H.C. Lectures 86 p.210-212
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