

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, September 5, 2025

“To God Be the Glory ~ Worship”

Revelation 5:1-14 and John 4:5-26

OT and NT are not only clear that it's the _____ and _____ of all people to worship their Creator, but also that God clearly expects us to worship. It's our _____! God expects us to worship because worship is our primary _____!

Although these, and other _____ are an important part of our worship, they're not the essence of worship, and focussing solely on them, is majoring in the minors. The essence of worship is what's going on on the _____.

“This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me.” (Matthew 15:8-9)

“After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.’ At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne!” (Revelation 4:1)

John's vision is literally out of this world, as he's called to “come up here;” to leave the _____ bounds of this earthly plain and to peak beyond the veil into the spiritual realm in which the worship of God is _____ stage.

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!” (Revelation 4:8)

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” (Rev 4:11)

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and honour and glory and blessing!” (Revelation 5:12)

Worship = **worship** (Saxon) - To worship God, means to ascribe the proper _____ to God, to _____ His worthiness of praise; or to approach and address God as He is worthy.

A simple definition: Worship is _____ on and _____ to God.

THE REVELATION OF THE INVISIBLE GOD

- _____.

“Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse...” (Romans 1:20)

- _____.

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16)

- _____.

“Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being.” (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Our response to God's revelation of Himself to us, should be to _____ Him by means of Christ, as revealed in the _____, trusting in His promise.

“When you seek me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart....” (Jeremiah 29:13)

As we do this, the Holy Spirit opens the eyes of our _____ so we can see God as revealed in Scripture and respond with the _____ of worship.

The Bible reveals God to us so that we can _____ on Him, and to the extent we focus on Him we'll worship Him. In other words, if there's little _____ of God, there's little _____ on God.

Bible reading and preaching are _____ in public worship because they're the closest, most direct, most extensive _____ of God in the gathering.

One caveat: Since worship is focussing on and responding to God, regardless of whatever else we're doing we're not worshipping if we're not _____ about God. Although worship includes words and actions, it must go beyond them to the focus of the _____ and _____. Worship is the God-centred focus and response of the soul; it's being _____ with God, and not _____.

ENSURING OUR WORSHIP IS NOT IN VAIN

#1. We glorify God and our worship is not in vain when it is done in _____.

“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is

spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:23-24)

Before we can worship in spirit and truth we need to have the One who is the “Spirit of Truth” _____; and the Holy Spirit only _____ in those who have come to Christ in _____ and faith.

“Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says ‘Let Jesus be cursed!’ and no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

The Spirit is the One who _____ God to us, who _____ us of our sin against God, and who makes Christ and His saving power _____. The Holy Spirit opens _____ to the truth of Scripture, awakens hearts that were _____ toward God, and causes the souls that were once cold in worship to burn with passion for Christ.

Having the Holy Spirit residing within us doesn’t _____ we’ll always worship in spirit and truth, but it does mean we can. To worship God in spirit involves worship from the _____.

No matter how spiritual the song we’re singing, no matter how poetic the prayer we’re praying, if it isn’t _____, it isn’t worship. It’s _____.

The balance to worshipping in spirit is to worship in _____. This means worshipping God as He’s revealed in the _____ and not as we might want Him be. It also means worshipping God in the ways in which He’s given His _____ in Scripture

If we worship with too much emphasis on the spirit we’ll be mushy and _____ on truth, worshipping mainly based on _____. However, if we overemphasize worship in truth and minimize worship in spirit, our worship will be cold, grim, and _____, lacking any heart _____.

#2. We glorify God and our worship is not in vain when it is both _____.

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:25)

The Church isn’t a collection of _____; but is rather described in the NT using metaphors like:

To “meet together” undeniably means to gather in the _____ presence

of other believers. The blessing of a consistent, high quality, personal devotional life doesn’t _____ us from worshipping with other believers.

Jesus’ example shows us that public worship will not _____ us from private worship. We _____ our joy when we neglect the _____ worship of God in private.

What an incredible blessing that God doesn’t _____ our access to Him and the enjoyment of His presence to only one day a week!

“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)

#3. We glorify God and our worship is not in vain when it is _____. True worship displays evidence of _____. Worship can’t be _____, produced, or _____. It’s _____; it’s the response of the heart _____ by the beauty, glory, and allure of the object of focus—a holy God.

Without disciple, our worship will be thin and _____. Worship is a spiritual discipline insofar as it’s both an _____. The worship of God is an end in itself because to worship, as I’ve already said, is to focus on and respond to God. It is also a means, in the sense that it’s a means to _____. The more we truly worship God, the more we become like Him. Why? Because people become like their _____.

The rigid _____ of a routine isn’t the same as rightly _____ a spiritual discipline.

Failure to experience the spiritual growth we want when we want it doesn’t disprove the _____ of the discipline to make us more Christlike.

If you are _____ by the seemingly snail pace of your sanctification, get _____ from those who seem to be growing in godliness through public and private worship

This involves far more than just Sunday morning _____ at church. It involves all that we are—our entire _____.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” (Romans 12:1)

**Will you commit yourself to the discipline of daily Worship?
How are you glorifying God through your worship?**