

PERSONAL WORSHIP

A Study of the Christian's Life and Attitude Toward God

Lesson Nine

Memory Verse: *Hebrews 10:25*

Lesson Verse: *Psalms 9:1,2*

"I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High." Psalm 9:1,2

I. Introduction

- A. To the Christian, **God** has first-place. He is worthy of all our worship, all the time.
- B. Yet most people believe worship is something only to be done in a church building, or only when everyone else is worshipping God.
- C. Worship is how we personally honour God! It is not praying or sitting in church. It is actively giving God your best efforts, your sharpest thoughts, your deepest love, and your richest gifts. Worship is showing our love for God.
- D. This study will examine how to develop and improve your personal worship of our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ (**Rev 5:12,13**), like we will in heaven!

II. The Purpose of Creation - To Honour and Glorify God!

- A. **Genesis 1:1** tells us that, "*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*" But WHY did God create everything? What is the biggest purpose of creation?
 1. The answer is found in **Revelation 4:11**. "*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive _____ and _____ and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy _____ they are and were created.*"
 2. Everything that exists was created to glorify the Creator - much like a watch is usually manufactured to adorn the wearer of it.
 3. To **glorify** means to make beautiful, to praise, worship, or bring all good attention on someone you have lifted higher than yourself.
 4. To **honour** means to esteem highly, to greatly respect, or to place great value upon something or someone.
- B. **Psalm 19:1** states that "*The _____ declare the **glory** of God...*" Did you know that all of creation automatically glorifies the Creator - it reflects Him, and praises Him by its order and beauty. But why don't humans? We are part of God's creation as well! The answer is found in our _____, where sin, self and Satan usually receive our worship instead of God (**Jer 17:9**).
- C. God _____ us to worship Him (**John 4:23,24**).
- D. For any part of God's creation to not honour Him as its Creator, and Lord and God, is the worst form of disrespect and contempt!

III. The Purpose of Salvation - to enable us to honour and glorify God!

- A. Sin in us does NOT honour God! So, Jesus Christ came to deliver sinners from sin so that they might honour and glorify God once again (**Eph 2:4-6; Eph 1:4-6,12**).
- B. When we were unsaved, we served our own pride and fleshly desires. But now we glorify the Lord. **1Peter 2:9** says we are a "_____ generation, a _____ priesthood, an _____ nation, a _____ people; that ye should shew forth the _____ of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."
- C. If you are saved, then show it!

IV. The Constant Attitude of the Believer Towards God is to be One of Praise!

- A. The **attitude** of your heart and mind is most important, if you expect to bring praise and honour to the Lord by your life. With so much *pessimism* in our world, we must be careful to maintain a daily attitude of praise (not because things are good, but because our God is good). The flesh (our old sinful nature), and Satan are totally opposed to the Christian maintaining this type of attitude.
- B. There are three kinds of attitudes that a Christian can have towards God (**Rev 3:15,16**):
1. **Cold Attitude** - *unthankful, angry, hurt, bitter, rejecting.*
 2. _____ **Attitude** - *uncaring, apathetic, unconcerned, numb!*
 3. **Hot Attitude** - *rejoicing, thankful, passionate, and serving fervently.*
- C. You have to re-train your mind to think on things that honour the Lord. Look at **Philippians 4:8**. Think on the things that are "*true, _____, just, _____, lovely, and of good report.*" Concentrate on things that promote virtue, and promote PRAISE. The Christian should focus on these things! The act of godly worship is based upon your choice to have a right attitude! Make this a verse for you to memorize this week!

V. How To Develop Your Personal Praise and Worship of God

- A. First, realize that **worship is not just for church time**. Praise is something that should be radiating from the heart of the Christian throughout each day (**Psalm 33:1; 35:28; 71:8; 71:14**). Even when times are hard, or not "in season." It should be something you do as naturally as breathing.
- B. **Worship God spiritually** – with your spirit (**John 4:24**). The words you say are not nearly as important as the heart behind the words. To worship spiritually means:
1. Humble yourself – offer to God nothing but praise.
 2. Be honest and real to God.
 3. Don't worry about your surroundings – they do not make or break worship.
 4. Worship whether anyone else is.
 5. Bow your head and close your eyes – worship is a time to focus on God, and nothing else.
- C. **Worship God the way HE wants you to – the Bible way** (**2Tim 2:15**) – there is a right way! Most people worship any way they feel like. THAT is not acceptable with God (**Psalm 19:14**)!
1. "_____" **in God's word daily** – that means KEEP God's word in your thoughts and obey it throughout each day (**John 15:7,8**).
 2. **Meditate on God's word** (**Psalm 1:1,2; Josh 1:8**).
 3. **Live God's word daily** (**Jam 1:22; Matt 5:16**) – that is what faith is – trusting God enough to *obey* every word!
 4. When our thoughts are filled with God's words, our heart will naturally worship!
- D. **Learn to be Spirit filled** (**Eph 5:18**). A Christian is "sealed" (preserved) by the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation, but can often be very empty of His power. The following are practical steps to having a Spirit-filled life:
1. Remember that the Holy Spirit is God, and is a Person that seeks a prominent place in your life (**John 16:13**)!
 2. **Get saved** (**John 3:3-6,12**). You cannot be spiritually-minded unless you get the Spirit of God in you (**John 4:24; 1Cor 2:14,15**). There are SO MANY "christians" who never have been born again the Bible way that bang their "head against the wall" so-to-speak every day trying to be "spiritual" instead of "Spirit-filled!" It is simply because they are trying to do it without the *Holy Spirit in them!*
 3. Be sure to **confess and forsake all sin daily** (**1John 1:9; Prov 28:13**).

- a. The Holy Spirit fills only clean “vessels,” or bodies (2Tim 2:21).
 - b. So, have clean, wholesome thoughts. Your heart and mind cannot contain both spiritual and wicked thoughts at the same time (2Cor 10:4,5).
4. Learn to **ignore your self and your wants daily** (Gal 2:20), and focus on doing *Christ’s* will according to His word (Mt 26:42). This is probably the hardest step for most new Christians – we don’t know how to “let go” of what we are so used to carrying (grudges, bitterness, sorrow, anger, lusts, etc).
 5. In prayer, **present your body (your hands, your mind, your plans, etc) to the Lord** as a living _____, for Him to use (Rom 12:1). Be ready to pay the price of serving Him! He is worth it!
 6. “_____” to be filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:9-13), so that you can minister to others. You have not, because you _____ not (James 4:2).
 7. **Love God** (John 14:23). Sounds so simple, but it is the foundation for worship.
 8. **Obey the Holy Spirit** when He directs you (Acts 5:32). Most Christians are unaware of His guidance, and then very disrespectful when He gives it (Eph 4:30)!
 9. Believe that the Holy Spirit will empower you to do what He has called you to do (Heb 11:6; Acts 4:29-31; 13:1,2).
- E. **Maintain an attitude of gratitude.** Just become thankful for absolutely everything!
1. "*In every thing give _____ for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you*" (1Thes 5:18,19). A bad attitude of a Christian can “quench” (turn off) the work of the Holy Spirit.
 2. Jesus died to conquer not just your sins, but your complaining too! It is THIS one thing that so limits God’s work in our lives (Ps 78:36-42).
 3. **So, constantly express your thankfulness**, verbally praising God with your lips, for all His care, His wonders and blessings (Ps 100:4; Col 3:15)! Our worship is often so empty because we *neglect* to praise and thank God.
- F. **Enjoy personally worshipping God.**
1. Your time in prayer and in the Bible can be so full of joy if you try to *enjoy* it, instead of *endure* it (1John 1:4).
 2. Enjoy worshipping alone, **and** in the presence of other believers - in singing, testimony times, and prayer times. When the preaching is good, say "AMEN," and "PRAISE GOD," even when it steps on your toes!
 3. This is what the congregation did in the Old Testament at the reading and preaching of the word of God (Neh 8:1-6)!
 4. And this is what we will be doing for all eternity in heaven (Rev 19:1,4-6).
- G. **Worship God together as a Church** (Heb 10:25; Psalm 95:6).
1. Our personal worship should blend with other believers in congregational worship.
 2. Public worship is never a time to be ashamed, or to show off. It is a time of focusing ONLY on the Lord Jesus Christ, and worshipping Him!
 3. God means for all believers in an area to gather together and worship God together so that they can live for God as a unified, assembled body in this world.
 4. Our worship should be decent and orderly (1Cor 14:33,40).
 5. So, make sure you and your family are faithful members of a Bible believing Baptist church, attending all services, and even serving in various ministries so that any number of believers can worship the God of heaven and earth without distraction.
- H. **Have Family Devotions.** Make worship a family affair!

1. Devotions are when you set aside time every day to worship (show your devotion to) God. The idea is to pray, praise, and give thanks to the Lord TOGETHER as a family by singing spiritual songs in the car or at home (Col 3:16), quizzing each other and honouring each other's spiritual growth in the word of God.
2. The best time to have family worship time is every morning, right after breakfast (make sure to have the whole family eat together – stop letting everyone eat when they want, and on their own)! You only need to set aside 15-30 minutes.
3. Have everybody get their Bible, and then read out-loud through a Book of the Bible (like Psalms, or Proverbs, or Matthew). Let each person read a verse, and help them understand what it is saying. Try to make the Scriptures apply to your family and the things you are going through.
4. Hold your family close during this time of worship.
5. After about 15 minutes, have someone bow their heads and pray about what you all have learned, asking God to help you all be like Jesus, and to do right throughout the day. Pray also for the needs of your family, and your church, and missionaries.
6. You can switch the time to right after your dinner, or just before bed. Whatever will work best for you and your schedule. Just make sure you set a time, and then do it EVERY DAY!

I. Surround your home life with the right kind of music (Eph 5:19; Cf Eccl 7:5).

1. Be very careful about what kind of music comes into your heart (Jer 10:2).
2. Listening to godly music will lift your heart to praise God (Ps 150). Worldly, carnal, lustful music (Rock Music, etc), will quench the Spirit, and will hinder and block your ability to worship the God of heaven!
 - a. So, purchase a lot of good, godly music to listen to throughout the day.
 - b. How do you tell the difference between good music and worldly music?
 - 1) The world's music emphasizes the rhythm and beat of the music.
 - 2) Godly music has no drums, and emphasizes the words of Scripture and Bible truths. In other words, you will mainly hear the words sung instead of the music performed.
 - c. If you want to fill your home and mind with praise, you need to throw away all your worldly music, and buy as much Godly Christian music as possible!

J. Fellowship with the right friends! Maintaining good friends in the church will provoke you to praise and worship God more. God says in 1Cor 15:33 that “*evil _____ corrupt good manners.*”

1. When we hang around with “bad influences,” it usually affects us for the bad.
2. So, be careful who you spend all your time with so that their filthy language, and wicked thoughts don't overtake all the work of the Holy Spirit in your life.
3. If we don't protect our walk with God, it just crumbles, because, God will just simply back away from your life if you so desire - He cannot totally leave you, but it will seem like He has when you push Him away (Psalm 35:22; 38:21).

K. Just remember, you were saved to praise the Lord (Psalm 9:1; 33:1; 34:1)!

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