

## The Value in Worship

Worship is glorification to God

Worship gives clarification to God's people

Worship provides satisfaction in participation

Worship comes from a different place within our spirits. Worship should be reserved for God alone (Luke 4:8).

Worship is the art of losing self in the adoration of another. Praise can be a part of worship, but worship goes beyond praise. Praise is easy; worship is not.

Worship gets to the heart of who we are. To truly worship God, we must let go of our self-worship. We must be willing to humble ourselves before God, surrender every part of our lives to His control, and adore Him for who He is, not just what He has done.

Worship is a lifestyle, not just an occasional activity. Jesus said the Father is seeking those who will worship Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23).

*As a Result of Reverence for God There are According to [Peter Dieson, The Priority of Knowing God, p.43<sup>1</sup>]:*

### *Three Parts*

#### 1. Praise –

- Praise is the joyful recounting of all God has done for us. It is closely intertwined with thanksgiving as we offer back to God appreciation for His mighty works on our behalf.
- Praise does not require anything of us. It is merely the truthful acknowledgment of the righteous acts of another, and in this case we are speaking of praising God. Since God has done many wonderful deeds, He is worthy of praise (Psalm 18:3).

#### 2. Priorities –

- God created us for the ultimate priority of worshipping Him.
- As the Westminster Shorter Catechism puts it, "The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever."
- John MacArthur: "Worship is our innermost being responding with praise for all that God is, through our attitudes, actions, thoughts, and words, based on the truth of God as He has revealed Himself" (The Ultimate Priority [Moody Press], p. 127). Or, he gives a simpler definition: "Worship is all that we are, reacting rightly to all that He is" (ibid., p. 147).
- John MacArthur gives this helpful clarification (on gty.org, "Messiah: The Living Water," part 2): "Worship, by the way, is not music. Worship is loving God. Worship is honoring God. Worship is knowing God for who He is, adoring Him, obeying Him, proclaiming Him as a way of life. Music is one way we express that adoration."

3. Provision (God took the initiative in revealing how he was to be approached).

- The tabernacle of the Testimony was God's provision of a structure for true worship. It had to be constructed according to the pattern God gave Moses (Acts 7:43-44).
- It contained the ark of testimony, a box holding the ten commandments written on stone (see Ex 25:10, 16, 21-22).

Note:

Prayer is also an exercise of worship. Prayer is more than asking things from God. It is an exercise in the worship of God, to extol His name and to offer thanks for all His benefits. [E. Schuyler English, in Our Daily Bread]