

**Why We Do What We Do:
True Worship
John 4:21-24**

Introduction:

Today there is much focus on worship in the Lord's church. How are we supposed to worship God? Is there more than one way (contemporary and traditional)? Many congregations are split because of these two types of "worship" (January 2002, Christian Chronicle). What does God say about our worship?

- I. If there is a right way to worship, there must be a wrong way to worship God.
 - A. The wrong way (vain worship).
 1. Adding to the commandments
 - a. Lev. 10:1-2
 - b. I Cor. 4:6
 - c. II John 9-11
 - d. Matt. 15:9
 2. Not doing all that God has commanded.
 - a. Noah built the ark just like God told him to – Gen. 6:22; 7:5
 - b. Matt. 7:21 – ALL of the will of God, not just some.
 - B. If we are not worshiping properly, we are taking His name in vain.
 1. Ex. 20:7
 2. Example
 - a. Singing and not understanding what we sing
 - b. When you sing, do you concentrate on the words or the notes?
- II. Our worship must be done in spirit (right attitude).
 - A. Notice some Biblical examples of a proper attitude towards God.
 1. Holy ground (Because God was there)
 - a. Moses – Ex. 3:5
 - b. Joshua – Josh. 5:15
 2. The attitude of David towards God
 - a. Ps. 33:8
 - b. Ps. 89:7
 - c. Ps. 95:6
 - d. Ps. 111:9
 - e. Because this is the way that David viewed God: Ps. 122:1
 3. Hab. 2:20
 4. God's Name is to be hallowed (Gr. To make holy, purify or consecrate)
 - a. Is. 8:13
 - b. Matt. 6:9
 5. When we serve God, we do it with reverence and godly fear.
 - a. Heb. 12:28
 6. The attitude of those in heaven about God – Rev. 4:8-11
 7. We must have this same attitude towards God in our worship to him
 1. He is the central point in our worship.

2. We should feel this way about Him because of what He did for us on the cross.
- B. We get out of worship what we put into it.
1. If we do not put our all into our worship, we will not glorify God as we should.
 2. We must put out all worldly thoughts when we worship.
- III. Our worship must be done in truth.
- A. Truth came through Christ – **John 1:17**
- B. God must be the focal point of our worship.
1. God is the only one that we can worship.
 - a. **Matt. 4:10**
 - b. **Deut. 10:20**
 2. We are not to worship men, but God alone.
 - a. **Acts 10:25-26** – Peter and Cornelius
 - b. **Acts 12:20-24** – Herod's death
 3. We will be edified (**Heb. 10:24-25**), but that is secondary to praising God.
- C. We must worship according to what God tells us to do.
1. Pray – **Acts 2:46**
 2. Lord's Supper – **Acts 20:7**
 3. Giving – **I Cor. 16:1-2**
 4. Singing – **Col. 3:16**
 5. Teaching – **II Tim. 4:2**

Conclusion:

We search the scriptures to see if we are worshiping in truth. We search our hearts to see if we are worshiping in Spirit. Can you truly say that you are glad to be here?