

A Different Take on What Worship is Meant to Be

Unfortunately, our comprehension of worship had been ‘polluted’ by paganism and religion. That then puts us at cross-purposes with the Trinity, which should not happen for sons. Our responsibility is to find out from them what they expect of us, both personally and corporately, in regard to everything.

Our concepts of worship may be:

- prostrating ourselves
- bowing our head
- putting our hands together in prayer
- singing hymns
- singing worship songs
- attending mass
- engaging in the Eucharist
- And, there are many more.

But what really is worship?

Worship by definition is showing the worth of something (“worth-ship”) that elicits our honour or respect.¹ That’s the original (archaic) meaning, according to its derivation.² That puts a different perspective on what worship really is – **it’s what we do to show honour and respect to Father or our King.**

Putting aside all religious ideas about worship, here’s how it’s done spiritually and from the right heart attitude:

Romans 12:1 (AMP) – *Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, which is your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship.*

Romans 12:1 (EXB) – *So [Therefore] brothers and sisters, since God has shown us great mercy, I beg [urge; appeal to] you to offer your lives [selves; bodies] as a living sacrifice to him. Your offering must be only for God [holy] and pleasing to him, which is the spiritual [or authentic; true; or appropriate; fitting; or rational; reasonable] way for you to worship.*

Romans 12:1 (MIRROR)³ – *Live consistent with who⁴ you really are, inspired by the loving kindness of God. My brothers⁵, the most practical expression of worship is to make⁶ your bodies available to him as a living sacrifice; this pleases him more than any religious routine. He desires to find visible, individual expression in your person.*

NOTE: This verse is usually quoted using the expression “reasonable service”, instead of “logical worship”. ‘Worship’ is properly used by numerous versions other than the three above.⁷

From this verse, then, our worship is to voluntarily and totally commit ourselves (our whole being) to the Trinity. This is to be done out of love, not obligation, otherwise our heart attitude is wrong and our action is unacceptable to them.⁸

1 – This is exemplified by the statement of the elders and living creatures around Father’s throne: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!” (Revelation 5:12)

2 – ‘Worship’: “Middle English *worschippe*, *wortschipe*, from Old English *weorþscipe*. Synchronically analyzable as worth (“worthy, honorable”) + -ship.” en.wiktionary.org/wiki/worship

3 – Scripture taken from THE MIRROR. Copyright © 2012. Used by permission of The Author. Mirror Bible (www.mirrorword.net)

4 – The word, *parakaleo*, comes from *para*, a Preposition indicating close proximity; a thing proceeding from a sphere of union; to have sprung from its author and giver; originating from a place of intimate connection; and the word *kaleo*, meaning to identify by name, to surname. Jesus introduces the Holy Spirit in the same capacity: *parakletos*, meaning close companion, kinsman [John 14:16].

5 – The word, *adelphos*, comes from *a*, as a connective particle, and *delphos*, meaning womb. Commonly translated as brother. [See Heb 2:11]

6 – The word, *paristemi*, means to exhibit, to present. In the context of the New Testament, the sacrificial system no longer involves dead animals, but living people. “You died in his death and are now alive to God” [Rom 6:11].

7 – (e.g. CSB, CJB, DLNT, ERV, ESV, GNV, ISV, PHILLIPS, NASB, NIV, NLT, RSV)

8 – They assess everything about us, according to our hearts, not our mind, soul or actions.

Next, we have the words of Jesus on the subject:

John 4:24 (NKJV) – *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*

This verse is straight forward and is translated as such in all other versions.⁹ The only exception is the addition of ‘reality’ with the word ‘truth’, as clarification, in the J.B.Phillips and the Amplified translations.

From this verse, then, our worship is a spiritual activity. That may have a natural outworking, but it’s something that’s done spirit-to-Spirit, not natural-to-Spirit, as it is in religious activities. That’s the directive of our King, so that’s what we need to train ourselves to worship properly, so it’s spirit-to-Spirit.

A person can do all the religious activities they like and those are not rejected by the Trinity, provided:

1. The person’s heart is right towards them, &
2. The person hasn’t had revealed to them by the Spirit that what they are doing is unacceptable.

That being said, what the Trinity desires from us in the form of worship is:

- Total commitment and dedication
- Worship via our spirit which is real

Laurence

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)

9 – i.e. on www.biblegateway.com/verse/en/John%204:24