



TRUE WORSHIP

Isaiah 66:1-2

Thus says the Lord: "Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist," Says the Lord. "But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word"

Worship God in Spirit and in truth

- John 4:23-24

God always desires worshippers. God created within us, a yearning to revere, honour and adore a greater being. This yearning should lead or drive us to worship Him.

- Rev 4:11; 5:11-13

Heaven is filled with continuous, uninterrupted worship. The twenty-four elders, four living creatures and myriads of angels bow down and worship God, declaring Him as Holy and Worthy!

THREE TYPES OF WORSHIP

1. RELIGIOUS WORSHIP

- Read: Psalm 50

This type of worship is not from the heart. There is no relationship or fellowship with God, just the rituals and motions. Many worship the unknown God

Acts 17:22-25

"Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things."

2. FAMILIAR WORSHIP

- 2 Samuel 6, 1 Chronicles 13:6-1

This is a form of worship which is not only religious and ritualistic, it is also very FAMILIAR. Familiarity with God and the things of God is a very dangerous thing.

- It was what killed Uzzah - Carrying the Ark on a cart, Uzzah reached out to stop it from falling and he was struck by God and died.



- This type of Familiar worship includes the following:
 - a. Setting our own standards for worship. God alone sets the standard for worship, not us. God had said that only the priests could touch the ark, yet Uzzah reached out to touch it
 - b. Borrowing worldly systems - the Philistines first carried the ark on a cart. The weight of glory must be borne on the shoulders and not on a cart. (1 Samuel 6)
 - c. Doing what pleases us – Familiarity with songs, music style and lyrics, in prayer, the word, the Holy Communion, etc
- This is no longer acceptable to God. He alone sets the standard and pattern for worship, not man. (*Read: Deuteronomy 12:1-14*)
- David's experience in bringing the ark back caused him to return to God's prescribed pattern and of worship. Not only that, God raised the standard for worship – from ritualistic through the ark to relationship through His Word and Spirit.

3. TRUE WORSHIP

Jesus gave us the God's standard for worship – worshipping God in Spirit and in truth. *The time is coming and now is, when the true worshippers will worship The Father in spirit and in truth (John 4:19-24)*

MOSES' TABERNACLE

A prescribed form of worship based upon the pattern showed him in heaven.

Hebrews 8:4-5

“For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

- Exodus chapters 19 and 20; Deut 19; Hebrews chapters 8 and 9

Background:

- Exodus chapters 34-40

God delivered and invited Israel to Mt Sinai to worship Him. God commands His people to prepare themselves to meet Him. God shows up but the people were terrified of God. And they rejected Him because the standard set was too high. Hebrews 12 tells us they could not endure what was commanded. They pleaded with God to speak with them through man.

Hence Moses was called up to heaven to be shown the pattern Earthly Tabernacle

- **Download diagram of the Earthly Tabernacle from our website.**



The Outer Court	The Holy Place	The Holy of Holies
a. The Brazen Altar b. The Brazen Laver	a. The Golden Candlestick b. The Table of Shewbread c. The Altar Incense	a. The Ark of the Covenant - Carrying the Presence and Glory of God

The weight of the glory - an ark made with of wood and covered with gold. It contained the 2 stone Tablets of the Law, a jar of manna, Aaron's rod - was to be carried on the shoulders of the priests - Hebrews 8:4

TABERNACLE OF DAVID

- *Jeremiah 3:14-17; Amos 9:11-12; Acts 15:15-17*
- **Download diagram of the Heavenly Tabernacle from website.**

The Heavenly Tabernacle

The Outer Court: The world, including the Gentiles	The Holy Place; The Church	The Holy of Holies The Christ-like Man
a. The Cross/Blood b. Baptism and Sanctification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spirit-Led Life ▪ The Word of God ▪ Worship 	The sons of God or matured believers - Carrying the Presence and Glory of God

- We can never truly worship God without coming to faith in Christ Jesus, by the Blood. To grow in worship, we engage with the Spirit and the Word.

(The priests were supposed to teach and instruct the people in the ways of God - Malachi 2:4-7. The in-dwelling spirit leading)

Hebrews 8:1-2 – *We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.*

True Worship

True worship is a life-style of obedience to His Spirit and His Word

- It is a lifestyle that begins with a relationship where God is not only our God and Lord, but also our Father. Even in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus showed to approach God as our Father, most hallowed and revered.
- This is a relationship which is fortified and developed through fellowship. Fellowship must be in spirit and in truth



- SPIRIT- Fellowship with the Father is through the in-dwelling Spirit of God, revealing the nature, character, substance and essence of God in Christ Jesus to us and through us, making us more like Him – Christ-like. – *1 Corinthians 2*
- TRUTH - Worship must be by revelation. (Worshipping the God we do not know is religion). Thus in worship we must engage with the word of God, in READING, STUDYING and LIVING it.
 - Through the Word and Spirit the truth of God is revealed to us.
 - Through the Word and Spirit we learn what The Father expects of us.
 - Through the Word and Spirit we learn how to act, behave and live like our Father
 - Through the Word and Spirit we are transformed from glory to glory

ULTIMATELY, the word of God must transform our lifestyles and cause us to grow in the image of God. By this, the Glory of God begins to be revealed in and through us.

Psalm 15:1-2

"Lord, who shall dwell [temporarily] in Your tabernacle? Who shall dwell [permanently] on Your holy hill? He who WALKS and LIVES uprightly and blamelessly, who WORKS rightness and justice and SPEAKS and THINKS the truth in his heart"

Psalm 24:3-4

"Who shall go up into the mountain of the Lord? Or who shall stand in His Holy Place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted himself up to falsehood or to what is false, nor sworn deceitfully."

- **Psalm 19**

THE INTEGRITY OF TRUE WORSHIP

The integrity of True Worship is that there is a consistency:

- There is a consistency between what is inside and what is outside
- There is a consistency between belief and behaviour
- There is a consistency between our word and our ways,
- There is a consistency between our attitude and our actions
- There is a consistency between our values and our practice

*****All our service to God must flow from this place (Mark 3:13-19)**