

## ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP

Worship= to make obeisance, do reverence, (Gk: to kiss the hand towards)

Worship is as natural as living. Every culture worships but not all worship is acceptable to God. The bible is replete with examples of worship that were not pleasing to God. We therefore must make forsure that our worship is right.

- I. An Example from the Patriarchial Age. (Gen 4:3)
  - A. Abel's worship was of faith. (Heb 11:4)
  - B. Cain's worship was unacceptable.
  - C. Our worship must be acceptable to please God.
  - D. It is not enough to please ourselves.
  
- II. An Example from the Mosaical Age. (Lev 10:1-2)
  - A. Nadab and Abihu's worship was not acceptable.
  - B. Were destroyed because they didn't obey God.
  - C. It is a dangerous thing to worship without first seeking God's will.
  
- III. Some Lessons from the New Testament.
  - A. The Samaritan Woman. (Jn 4:19-24)
  - B. God expects two things from worshippers.
    1. Spirit: In the proper frame of mind and attitude.
    2. Truth: In the proper way and with proper methods.
    3. God's word is the truth we must go by. (Jn 17:17)
    4. We must have the proper spirit and accept the word. (Jn 17:8)

Note: YOU CANNOT WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT IF YOU DON'T HAVE TRUTH, AND YOU CANNOT WORSHIP GOD IN TRUTH IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE PROPER SPIRIT/ ATTITUDE.

  - C. God expects us to love truth and follow it. (II Thes 2:10)
  - D. If we love Jesus we will follow his commands. (Jn 17:7+)
  
- IV. Types of Unacceptable Worship mentioned in the New Testament.
  - A. Vain Worship: empty and worthless. (Mat 15:9)
    1. Can be caused by substituting man's doctrines.
    2. Examples: Individual cups, classes, Inherited sin, etc.
  - B. Will Worship: worship for show or manmade and not commanded by God.
    1. Doing things to appear religious. (Col 2:20-23)
    2. Examples: Praying to saints, being called Reverend, Lent, Hale Mary
  - C. Ignorant Worship: Not knowing about God or his word. (Acts 17:22)
    1. Many today go to church and don't know anything about God.
    2. Many are worshipping God ignorantly not knowing his will.
  
- V. We must follow God's word exactly when we carry out the 5 items of worship.
  
- VI. Some practical things to aid in acceptable worship.
  - A. Study God's word to see if you are worshipping in the right way.
  - B. Arrive early to each worship service. Make it your 1st priority.
  - C. Stop visiting long enough before services to center you mind. (5 min.)
  - D. Concentrate on each word of the prayer, songs, sermon, communion.
  - E. Take notes of the sermon and study them at home.
  - F. Don't take during services.
  - G. Apply what you learn in service to your every day life & service to God.
  - H. You are there to serve God and not be entertained.

