

“True Worship” John 4:19-24
Message Notes, August 21, 2022

John 4:19-24

¹⁹“Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”
²¹“Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

Worship is Central to Spiritual Life

Worship is the essential practice by which we meet with God, fellowship with God, pray, learn God’s will, become a person who pleases God, and live in a way that pleases God. To Experience this abundant grace and blessing, we must understand what kind of worship we are offering.

- **Jesus Teaching:** Let’s Listen to What Jesus Taught about Worship
“Worship God in Spirit and Truth.” This is the true worship that the Father seeks and the kind of worshiper that God is looking for. He communes intimately with such people, hearing and answering their prayers.
- **The First Time Human Beings Worshipped**
Genesis 4:26 “Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of the Lord.”
From the line of Seth came Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David. The eyes of the Lord will be upon the true worshipers, through whom God’s plan will be accomplished.
- **Israel’s Corrupted Worship**
However, even in Israel the number of true worshipers was always small, and the nation degenerated into idolatry. Finally, in 586 BC, Jerusalem fell and the Temple was destroyed.
- **The New Era of Worship**
A new era began with the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. “The time is now.”

What Changes were Instituted?

- ① Fulfillment of the work of Atonement for the sins of humanity, through the blood of Christ Jesus the Son.

Hebrews 9:12 “He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Ephesians 1:7 “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace

- ② The Filling of the Holy Spirit. After fulfilling His work of redemption, the Lord Jesus has taken His place on the throne in heaven, and He continues to pour out the promised Holy Spirit on the Church and her members.

- ◇ True worship is communion with God through the Holy Spirit: In worship, through the Word and prayer, we commune intimately and deeply with the Holy Spirit, and we are freed from false spirits. Our true spirituality (the spirituality and faith to pray for, realize, know, and willingly obey the will of God) is nurtured, and we become true worshipers of God the Father in Spirit and in Truth.
- ◇ This is a work of the grace of the Holy Spirit

The Importance of Daily Devotions

- It is an immeasurable grace that through the Lord's Word and daily prayer we can and do commune with God the Father personally, guided by the Holy Spirit, anytime, anywhere, regardless of the problems we face.
- Through His Word the Bible, He reminds and teaches these worshippers about His will (that far surpasses human thoughts) about the way of true solutions and about true wisdom.

Isaiah 55:9-11

⁹“As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

- “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” In this way, the Lord always answers the prayers of those who daily come before Him to offer worship and prayer, and He teaches us His will.