

NEW TESTAMENT WORSHIP

I. SIX ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED.

- A. The New Testament church has all the practices of its worship backed by the Scriptures. Many people, both in and out of the church, do not realize that God has outlined in the NT how He is to be worshipped.
- B. Six items which make up our worship:
- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Singing. | 4. Prayer. |
| 2. Giving. | 5. Preaching. |
| 3. The Lord's Supper. | 6. Fellowship. |

II. THE PATTERN OF NT CHRISTIANITY (AND WORSHIP).

- A. Christians are prohibited from adding to or subtracting from the word of God. See:
1. Proverbs 30:6 a verse from the "middle" of the Bible
 2. Deuteronomy 4:2 a verse from the "beginning" of the Bible
 3. Revelation 22:18 a verse from the "end" of the Bible
- B. There is a pattern of doctrines (teachings) to follow:
1. Hebrews 8:5 Moses had a pattern for building the tabernacle
 2. Romans 6:17,18 we obey a pattern (form) of doctrine when we become a Christian
 3. 2Timothy 1:13 there is a pattern of sound words that is to be followed
 4. 1Corinthians 4:6 we are not to go beyond the pattern laid down
 5. 1Corinthians 4:17 the same teachings are to be delivered everywhere
- C. The words for worship:
1. Webster says *to worship* is to intensely love, to adore or to idolize.
 2. The Greek, *proskuneo* means an act of reverence.
John 9:38 the man born blind, but healed by Jesus worshiped Jesus
 3. The Greek, *latreuo* means to serve, or render religious service.
Acts 7:42 a lifestyle of religious service
Acts 24:14 serving God each day as part of a lifestyle
Romans 12:1,2 daily presenting ourselves as a spiritual sacrifice--a form of worship
- D. God seeks true worshippers:
1. God is worshipped in spirit and in truth.
John 4:23,24 God seeks true worshippers--not many worshippers
 2. God is not worshipped in:
 - a. Vain worship (Mt. 15:6-9). doing the commandments of men invalidates worship
 - b. Ignorant worship (Ac. 17:23). superstitious practices invalidates worship
 - c. Will-worship (Col. 2:18,23). trying to improve worship according to men invalidates

III. SINGING.

- A. Notice the following scriptures on singing:
1. Matthew 26:30 Jesus sang a hymn to calm Himself before the cross
 2. Acts 16:25 hymns may be sung during difficult times for cheer and encouragement
 3. Romans 15:9 we sing to glorify God, not to sound good or entertain
 4. 1Corinthians 14:15 we must understand what we are singing and do it with emotion
 5. Ephesians 5:19 singing is to be done with the mouth and heart
 6. Colossians 3:16 songs are to teach one another, based on the word of God

7. Hebrews 2:12; 13:15 congregational singing, giving praise unto God
 8. James 5:13 singing is a response to personal joy
- B. See the supplementary material about why the churches of Christ do not use instrumental music in the worship services.

IV. GIVING.

- A. Giving is a privilege Christians have, whereby they glorify and honor God. Giving is not restricted to monetary things.
- B. Notice the following scriptures on giving:
1. Regularly.
1Corinthians 16:1,2 the first day of EVERY week
 2. Individually.
1Corinthians 16:2 let each one of you
 3. Liberally.
2Corinthians 8:1-4 overflowed in the wealth of their liberality
 4. Purposefully.
2Corinthians 8:12-15 one's abundance to help in another's want
 5. Cheerfully.
2Corinthians 9:7 not grudgingly or under compulsion; but cheerfully
 6. Readily.
2Corinthians 8:12 the readiness to give should always be present

V. THE LORD'S SUPPER.

- A. This is not the most important part of worship. Of all of the acts of worship it is the most important way that we remember Christ.
- B. Notice the following scriptures:
1. A communion.
1Corinthians 10:15-21 sharing in the body and blood of Christ
 2. The significance is three-fold:
 - a. A memorial.
1Corinthians 11:24 done in remembrance of Christ's death on the cross
 - b. A proclamation.
1Corinthians 11:26 telling the world that we believe in the crucified Christ
 - c. An examination.
1Corinthians 11:28 looking inward and knowing we are not worthy of Christ
 3. A reason to assemble.
1Corinthians 11:17,18,20 one of the purposes of assembling is eating the Supper
 4. The first day of the week.
Acts 20:7 the NT example of frequency is on the first day of the week
 5. Not a common meal.
1Corinthians 11:33,34 a spiritual feast not to be confused with other food

VI. PRAYER.

- A. Prayer may be done collectively in worship, and individually outside the assembly. There are some specifics in public worship
- B. Notice the following scriptures on prayer:
1. The model.
Matthew 6:9-15 not intended to be recited, but to be followed in principle

2. In Jesus name.
John 14:13,14 the recognition of Jesus as our mediator (1Tim. 2:5)
3. Supplication, petition, intercession, and thanksgiving.
1Timothy 2:1,2 four different kinds of prayer (praise, requests, for others, in gratitude)
4. Men only in the assembly.
1Timothy 2:8,12 everyplace means in the assembly, men are to lead prayers offered
5. An attitude of prayer.
1Thessalonians 5:17 don't stop praying; an attitude of prayer

VII. PREACHING.

- A. The portion of the worship devoted to preaching is usually the longest but it is used to edify, encourage and reprove the listeners.
- B. Notice the following scriptures on preaching:
 1. Acts 20:20,21 publicly (in assemblies) and privately (house to house)
 2. For edification.
1Corinthians 14:26 psalm, teaching, revelation, or tongue
 3. Preach the word.
2Timothy 4:1-4 preach the word, always be ready, do so with great patience
 4. Equipment.
2Timothy 3:16,17 the word (OT & NT) is all sufficient for all things

VIII. FELLOWSHIP.

- A. Fellowship is sometimes overlooked as a function of the assembled church. Fellowship is an important part of the faithful remaining faithful.
- B. Notice the following scriptures;
 1. Acts 2:42,46 be devoted to it, at assemblies and in homes
 2. Galatians 2:9 follow accepted social customs that are not sinful
 3. 1John 1:6,7 fellowship with one another means fellowship with God (Mt. 5:23,24)
 4. Not with the world.
2Corinthians 6:14 being with the world is an unequal yoke that won't work

IX. NEXT LESSON.

The next lesson is entitled, "Offices in the New Testament Church." In preparation for this lesson take your concordance and look up the words; elder, deacon, evangelist, and teacher.

X. NOTES.

XI. **MATCHING.**

Based on this lesson and the scriptures discussed match the following phrase or central idea on the left with the appropriate scripture on the right. You may wish to review all the scriptures listed above before taking this test.

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <u> J </u> | 1. Publicly and from house to house. | A. 2Tim. 4:2. |
| <u> I </u> | 2. Worship in spirit and in truth. | B. Deut. 4:2. |
| <u> H </u> | 3. Upon the first day of the week. | C. 2Cor. 9:7. |
| <u> G </u> | 4. The pattern of sound words. | D. Eph. 5:19. |
| <u> F </u> | 5. Devoted to the fellowship. | E. Mt. 6:9-15. |
| <u> E </u> | 6. The model prayer of Jesus. | F. Acts 2:42. |
| <u> D </u> | 7. Make melody in your heart. | G. 2Tim. 1:13. |
| <u> C </u> | 8. God loves a cheerful giver. | H. Acts 20:7. |
| <u> B </u> | 9. Do not add to or take away from. | I. John 4:24. |
| <u> A </u> | 10. Preach the word. | J. Acts 20:20. |