

# What is Worship?

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines worship as ...

... to show honor, reverence, respect & devotion to God

H1245 - bâqash - to search out, to strive after: - ask, beg, beseech, desire, enquire, get, make inquisition, procure, (make) request, require, seek (for). (225 occurrences)

H7812 - shâchâh - bow (self) down, crouch, fall down (flat), humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, make to stoop, worship. (172 occurrences)

G4352 - proskuneō - prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore): - worship (60 occurrences)

G4576 - sebomai - to revere, that is, adore: - devout, religious, worship (10 occurrences)

G1391 – doxa - dignity, glory (-ious), honour, praise, worship (168 occurrences)

G3000 - latreuō - render religious homage: - serve, do the service, worship

G2151 - eusebeō - to be pious, that is, (towards God) to worship, or show piety, worship. (Total KJV occurrences: 2)

G2356 - thrēskeia - ceremonial observance: - religion, worshipping (Total KJV occurrences: 4)

**Summary** – *there are two major kinds of words for worship*. The first means to bow down, to kneel, to put one's face down as an act of respect and submission. Our body language is saying:

- I will do whatever you want me to. I am ready to listen to your instructions and I am willing to obey.
- The other kind of biblical word means to serve.

**Types of Worship** - Individual or Group

- Worship involving Speaking, Listening, or Doing
- Worship involves the heart, the mind, the body

- **Actions** speak louder than words, and if our **behavior** isn't changed by God, then our actions are saying that God isn't important — He's a **nice idea**, but not **relevant** to our day-to-day lives. When we really believe that God is worthy of every praise, then we will be willing to **listen** and to **change** the way we live in response to such a worthy God. We will **trust** Him and **seek** Him and want to **please** him as much as we can.



# True worship Is ...

## 1. Prayer

**1Pe\_3:12** FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE ON THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN TO THEIR **PRAYERS** ...



**Rev\_5:8** Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the **prayers** of the saints.

**Rev\_8:4** And the smoke of the incense, with the **prayers of the saints**, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

## 2. Bible study

**Deuteronomy 11:18-23** ESV “You shall therefore lay up **these words of mine** in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall **teach them** to your children, **talking** of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall **write them** on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth. For if you will be careful to do all this commandment that I command you to do, **loving the Lord your God**, walking in all his ways, and holding fast to him...

**2Tim 2:15** Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

## 3. Meditation

**Psalms 19:14** ESV Let the words of my mouth and the **meditation** of my heart be **acceptable** in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

**Psalms 104:34** ESV May my **meditation** be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

## 4. Fasting

**Isa 58:6-8** "Is this not **the fast that I have chosen**: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh? **Then** your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Dear God,  
Please let me win  
tonight's Mega  
Millions lotto  
so I can prove that  
money can buy  
happiness.

your  cards  
someecards.com



## True Worship is not ...

### -1. Bad Prayer

**Mat 6:7** And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

**Exo 20:5** (*Graven images ...*) you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

### -2. Bad Bible study

**Psa 56:5** All day they twist my words; All their thoughts are against me for evil.

**2Pe 3:16** as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

### -3. Bad Meditation

Eastern meditations all aim at a supposedly "higher" or "altered" state of consciousness. Meditation guides claim that *normal consciousness* obscures sacred realities. Therefore meditation is practiced in order to suspend rational patterns of thought. **Yikes! Avoid it!**

**Mic 2:1-2** Woe to those who **devise** iniquity, And **work out evil on their beds!** At morning light they practice it, Because it is in the power of their hand. They **covet** fields and take them by violence, Also houses, and seize them. So they oppress a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.

### -4. Bad Fasting

**Isa 58:3-4** 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?' "In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, And exploit all your laborers. Indeed you fast for strife and debate, And to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, To make your voice heard on high.

**Mat 6:16** "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

## A *Missing ingredient* to correct worship...

**Joh 4:23-24** But the hour comes, and now is, when the **true worshippers** shall worship the Father in **spirit and in truth**: for the Father seeks such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

**In spirit** ... refers (to not worshipping just with physical “things”), ... but instead to the “mind,” the “soul,” the “heart.” They shall worship God with a sincere “mind;” with the simple offering of gratitude and prayer; with a desire to glorify Him – a Relationship! And a time when the Holy Spirit of God will be in us, leading us to follow Jesus’ example.

**In truth** ... It is hard to think of God in a relationship with someone “worshipping” Him & thanking Him ...

- For their immortal soul,
- For keeping them out of the ever burning Hell fire
- For reserving a spot in Heaven for them forever
- & For the tasty Easter Bunnies they lovingly have taught their children about

## More True Worship ...

### 5. Singing & Music ... & *Dance!?! & Clothing*

“Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. **Isaiah 12:5**

All the earth **worships** you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.” Selah **Psalms 66:4**

“The whole assembly bowed in **worship**, while the musicians played and the trumpets sounded. All this continued until the sacrifice of the burnt offering was completed” **2 Chronicles 29:28**

**2Sa 6:14** Then David **danced** before the LORD with all his might; and David was wearing a **linen ephod**.

**Exo 3:5** ... Take your sandals off your feet...

### 6. Observing Sabbath & Holy Days

**Exodus 31:13-17** ESV “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘**Above all** you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is **a sign** between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. You shall keep the Sabbath, because **it is holy** for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death. Therefore the people of



Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a **covenant forever**. It is a **sign forever** between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.”

**Isa 58:13-14** "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honorable, And shall **honor Him**, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth

**Lev 23:1-2** And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be **holy** convocations, these are My feasts.

**Zec 14:16-17** And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to **worship the King**, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.



#### 7. Tithing (& Offerings) to God (& His work)

**Gen 14:19-20** ... Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And **blessed be God** Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he (*Abram*) gave him (*Melchizedek*) a tithe of all.

**Mal 3:10** Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

**Proverbs 3:9** ESV **Honor** the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce

**Deuteronomy 16:16** ESV

“Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Booths. They shall **not appear before the Lord empty-handed**.

## 8. True Religion

**Jas 1:27** Pure and undefiled religion (worship) before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

## 9. *NOT* Doing Worship used for False gods

**Deu 12:29-32** "When the LORD your God cuts off from before you the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.' **You shall not worship** the LORD your God in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods. "**Whatever I command you**, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it.

**Jer 10** – no Xmas trees    **Jer 7** – Hot cross buns



## 10. Serving the brethren (ie “inheritors” where God’s Holy Spirit dwells)

**Mat 25:33-40** And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch **as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.**'

**Gal 6:7-10** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us **do good to all, especially** to those who are of **the household of faith.**

11. Live an honorable life – because **your** actions can reflect on people's perception of God

### **Nathan Rebukes David**

**2Sa 12:1-14** Then the LORD sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor.

2Sa 12:2 The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds.

2Sa 12:3 But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him.



2Sa 12:4 And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him."

2Sa 12:5 So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die!

2Sa 12:6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

2Sa 12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "**You are the man!** Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.

2Sa 12:8 I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more!

2Sa 12:9 Why have you **despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight?** You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon.

2Sa 12:10 Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, **because you have despised Me,** and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'

2Sa 12:11 Thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.

2Sa 12:12 For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.'

2Sa 12:13 So David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

2Sa 12:14 However, because **by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme**, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."

## 12. Sacrifice

**Exo\_29:18** And you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD; it is **a sweet aroma**, an offering made by fire to the LORD.

Five Key Jewish Offerings		
OFFERING	PURPOSE	SIGNIFICANCE
<b>BURNT OFFERING</b> Lev. 1 - Voluntary	To make payment for sins in general	Showed a person's devotion to God
<b>GRAIN OFFERING</b> Lev. 2 - Voluntary	To show honor and respect for God in worship	Acknowledged that all we have belongs to God
<b>PEACE OFFERING</b> Lev. 3 - Voluntary	To express gratitude to God	Symbolized peace and fellowship with God
<b>SIN OFFERING</b> Lev. 4 - Required	To make payment for unintentional sins of uncleanness, neglect, or thoughtlessness	Restored the sinner to fellowship with God; showed the seriousness of sin
<b>GUILT OFFERING</b> Lev. 5 - Required	To make payment for sins against God and others. A sacrifice was made to God, and the injured person was repaid or compensated	Provided compensation for injured parties



**Rom 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable** to God, which is your reasonable service (*worship*). And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so **worship God acceptably with reverence and awe**, for our “God is a consuming fire” **Hebrews 12:28**