

“TRUE WORSHIP”

*Recovered in the Reformation*

John 4:20-26

INTRODUCTION

I. HOW VITAL IS TRUE WORSHIP OFFERED TO GOD?

- Key Passage – Romans 12:1-2
- Worship of the True & Living God is not limited to a Sunday service
- Acceptable worship is defined by God in His Word. Self-styled worship is totally unacceptable. Reformed theologians call this the “regulative principle of worship.”

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT?”

- It is not “where” we worship that is important but “HOW” we worship.
- We worship in “spirit” meaning that part of man, created by God, that enables to connect with God who is spirit Himself.
- We must not conflate “spirited worship” (lots of movement, emotional, high energy) with “worship in spirit.” True worship is a matter of the “heart” more than the physical body. An outcome of true worship can be a stirring of the emotions, movement of the body (such as lifting of hands in prayer or praise), but does not necessarily include such.

III. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “WORSHIP GOD IN TRUTH?”

- Worship that is energized by the Holy Spirit, gospel centered, and honoring to God as the elements of worship conform to His Word in all aspects whether public or private.

LIFE TAKEAWAYS

- Do you know that you have been “born again” (John 3) by God’s Spirit so that you may worship Him in and by your God-given spirit and in truth?
- As a professing believer (Christian), are you consistently worshipping the Lord “in spirit and truth?” He calls us to a life of worship, not just a couple of hours out of Sunday to glorify Him in worship. What might need to be “reformed” in your own worship habits so that your worship is truly in “spirit and truth?”

“TRUE WORSHIP”

*Recovered in the Reformation*

John 4:20-26

INTRODUCTION

I. HOW VITAL IS TRUE WORSHIP OFFERED TO GOD?

- Key Passage – Romans 12:1-2
- Worship of the True & Living God is not limited to a Sunday service
- Acceptable worship is defined by God in His Word. Self-styled worship is totally unacceptable. Reformed theologians call this the “regulative principle of worship.”

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT?”

- It is not “where” we worship that is important but “HOW” we worship.
- We worship in “spirit” meaning that part of man, created by God, that enables to connect with God who is spirit Himself.
- We must not conflate “spirited worship” (lots of movement, emotional, high energy) with “worship in spirit.” True worship is a matter of the “heart” more than the physical body. An outcome of true worship can be a stirring of the emotions, movement of the body (such as lifting of hands in prayer or praise), but does not necessarily include such.

III. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “WORSHIP GOD IN TRUTH?”

- Worship that is energized by the Holy Spirit, gospel centered, and honoring to God as the elements of worship conform to His Word in all aspects whether public or private.

LIFE TAKEAWAYS

- Do you know that you have been “born again” (John 3) by God’s Spirit so that you may worship Him in and by your God-given spirit and in truth?
- As a professing believer (Christian), are you consistently worshipping the Lord “in spirit and truth?” He calls us to a life of worship, not just a couple of hours out of Sunday to glorify Him in worship. What might need to be “reformed” in your own worship habits so that your worship is truly in “spirit and truth?”

## John 4:20-26 (ESV)

20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." 25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." 26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

## John 4:20-26 (ESV)

20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." 25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." 26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."