

Rediscovering Worship

A God Who is Worthy

*“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power:
for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”*
Revelation 4:11

Objects of Worship

- The English word *worship* comes from a compound of root words meaning “state of value, merit, honor” and “quality or condition of”.
 - This meaning is still the foundational idea today, that *worship* is to express honor or reverence to something deemed worthy of such praise.
- In Scripture, *worship* is the idea of bowing oneself with intent to honor its object.
 - The primary Hebrew word for *worship* in the Old Testament is *shachah* (Strong’s H7812), which means “to worship, prostrate oneself, bow down” (Vine’s)
 - The primary Greek word for *worship* in the New Testament is *proskeneo* (Strong’s G4352), which means “to make obeisance, do reverence to” (Vine’s)
- Mankind is worshipful by nature. Our problem with worship is twofold:
 - Having the wrong object of worship.
 - Expressing worship in a correct manner.
- The question we face in this lesson: “Is God worthy of worship”.

Why God is Worthy

- God has not left us to wonder if He is worthy of worship because He has abundantly revealed it to us – Acts 17:22-31, Hebrews 11:6
- He is worthy because He is.
 - The Scriptures testify of a God that is real – Genesis 1:1
 - We are not worshiping a fanciful creation of men’s imagination, but a Living God – Matthew 16:16
 - Only a fool rejects the truth that God exists – Psalm 14:1, 53:1
- He is worthy because of Who He is.
 - His essence: spiritual (John 4:24), self-existing (Exodus 3:14), immense (Jeremiah 23:24), eternal (Psalm 90:2).
 - His attributes: omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-12), omniscient (Proverbs 15:3), omnipotent (Matthew 19:26), immutable (Malachi 3:6), holiness (Psalm 22:3), righteous/just (Psalm 89:14), goodness (Mark 10:18), truth (John 17:3).
- He is worthy because of His actions.
 - He created all things – Genesis 1:1
 - He rules sovereignly – I Chronicles 29:11, Isaiah 45:9

- His work of salvation – Romans 5:8
- His promised future – Psalm 31:19

The Duty of Worship

- God does all things for His own glory, including His interactions with mankind.
- The Westminster Shorter Catechism of 1649 begins with:
 - Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?
 - A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, [*Ps. 86:9; Isa. 60:21; Rom. 11:36; I Cor. 6:20; 10:31; Rev. 4:11*] and to enjoy him for ever. [*Ps. 16:5-11; 144:15; Isa. 12:2; Luke 2:10; Phil. 4:4; Rev. 21:3-4*]
- It is our duty to glorify God in all that we do – I Corinthians 10:31