

IS THERE A RIGHT WAY TO WORSHIP?

July 31, 2016 John 4:20-24 by Bob Branch
Believing Into Life, Part 12

MAIN IDEA: Is there a right way to worship?

²⁰ Our 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. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet 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.

²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” **John 4:19–24**

What does “Worship” mean? (lit, *pros* towards, *kuneo* to kiss) to bow down before another and kiss the hand/ground; to adore on one’s knees

1. Worship is no longer about a PLACE OR TIME, (21)

God has not given up on the Temple idea... a place set apart for him. (1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; Eph. 2:21)

Worship is an offering. (Heb. 13:15; Ex. 23:15; Deut. 12:6)

“Worshippers the Father seeks...”

2. God cares more about the quality of the WORSHIPPER than the actual worship activity.

“These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.” **Isaiah 29:13** NLT

You prepare of heart...

You shift your mindset from worship as an *activity* to a *lifestyle*.

“I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”

Romans 12:1

“Worship the Father...”

3. Worship is NOT ABOUT US, but about God.

“Will worship in Spirit”

4. To touch the invisible-but-real God, you must be AWAKENED by his Spirit.

God puts his Spirit inside a person when they believe, AND visits us with his Spirit.

“Worship in truth”

5. Worship must be anchored into what is TRUE ABOUT GOD. What he has revealed about himself. (1 Chron. 13; 15; Deut. 12:4-8; 13, 31)

We must always anchor our worship to what God has revealed about himself in his Word.