



Berean Family Worship Center
One Church In Two Cities
www.bereanfamilyworshipcenter.org

Wednesday, May 26, 2021 - Group Study
Lesson Series: The Purpose Of Praise & Worship
Lesson Series Text: (*Psa. 22:3 NKJ*)
Lesson 1: In The Beginning
Lesson 1 Text: (*Gen. 1:26-28*)
All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.
Prepared By Dr. Walter Henderson III

- I. Everything in life was made to function within the particular environment that God prescribed for it before He created it. (*Gen. 1:3-25*)
 - A. God spoke to each source of environment to produce the creation that He wanted, and placed the creation in its environment.
 - a. He spoke to the environments of earth, heavens, waters, and Himself.
 - B. A creation that is taken out of its environment is subject to malfunction.
 - C. God placed the man in the garden that He had prepared eastward in Eden where the man and woman could be in His presence. (*Gen. 2:8; 3:8*)
 - D. After Adam and Eve rebelled, they could no longer dwell in their prepared source and environment.
 - E. Mankind began to malfunction.
 - F. Man's greatest need is God's presence.
- II. In this series, I hope that each of us will learn the conditions that are required for God's presence to draw near to us.
 - A. God's presence doesn't come near just because we desire it or pray for it.
 - B. His presence is conditional; He comes when the conditions are right.
 - C. When we learn first to establish the right conditions and to maintain them; then we can continuously enjoy His presence.
- III. Initially, the Lord wanted to extend His family.
 - A. His plan was to have seed that would rule and reign with Him.
 - a. He didn't want servants or slaves; He wanted kings and priests. (*Rev. 1:6*)
 - B. This is the reason Jesus is called "King of Kings and Lord of Lords". (*Rev. 19:16*)
 - C. The Lord, as King, would lead His family and govern territory through them.
- IV. In order to accomplish this, the Father in creation did two important things.
 - A. He created man in His image and likeness. (*Gen. 1:26*)
 - a. Image – resemblance, representative, or figure.
 - b. Likeness – fashion or manner¹
 - B. He placed man in His presence. (*Gen. 2:8; 3:9-10*)
- V. In the garden, the Lord didn't establish religious activities, worship patterns, religious holidays, etc.
 - A. The whole relationship revolved around the intimacy of God and His children.
 - B. Maintaining this relationship was then and is now important to the Father.

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- C. He is much more concerned about our fellowship with Him than our ministries, works, activities, or our traditions.
- D. What the Father initially intended and where man finds himself today is so skewed from God's original purpose; but the failed condition is not without a remedy.
- VI. God is a God of truths.
 - A. These truths are expressed as laws, statues, testimonies, commandments, judgments, etc. (*Psa. 19:7-14*)
 - B. We will call these truths "principles".
 - C. Principles are rules or methods, that are taken from accepted laws or truths.
- VII. Our ability to fulfill our purpose and to be all that the Father intended us to be is predicated upon us obeying the principles that our Father has set for our environment.
 - A. Whenever a creator or inventor creates something, there are manuals created to inform the owner on how to get the maximum potential out of his or her creation.
 - a. The manual gives you the dos and don'ts.
 - b. The manual informs you of the proper environment for the maximum performance.
 - B. In other words, the creator, through his or her manual, gives laws or principals for proper operation.
 - C. These laws are not meant to stifle creativity, but to give guidelines to get the most of his or her creation.
- VIII. Characteristics of God's Principles and Examples.
 - A. They are eternal.
 - B. They never change.
 - C. They will work anywhere in the environment that God created them to operate.
 - D. They protect creations.
 - E. They can never be broken – (they can be acted upon creating a change, but not broken).
 - F. When violated, they produce destruction.
 - a. What may seem good to you may be detrimental.
 - G. They contain built-in judgments when violated.
- IX. If we disregard the Principles of God, death is the consequence. (*Rom. 6:23*)
 - A. Physical Death is the result of Spiritual Death.
 - B. Spiritual Death caused man to be separated from God's Presence.
- X. Mankind can never have the Garden of Eden (*pleasurable*) without God's Presence.
 - A. Jesus death, burial, and resurrection not only gave us the Garden of Eden back, but much more.
 - a. We became the direct descendant of God; His seed. (*1 John 3:2*)

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