



Gathering at 502 Pike Street, Superior MT

TITLE: BIBLICAL LIFE-WORDS: Living By God's Word: WORSHIP

TEXT: John 4:19-26

DATE: 26 February 2023

Welcome to... or Back to...

"Biblical Life Words: Living by God's Word"

Sermon Series Foundational Scripture:

***¹⁶ All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
2 Timothy 3:16-17***

Our Word for this Week is the Word: **Worship**.

And we ask, "**What is Worship?**"

N.T. Wright says, that generally speaking, "*Worship is acknowledging the worth of something or someone. It means recognizing and saying that something or someone is worthy of praise. It means celebrating the worth of someone or something far superior to oneself.*" Worship, as it relates specifically to God, will unfold today as we turn our attention to **God's Living Word!** Remember, as with each word or phrase we feature, we want to learn God's truth as it's revealed in His Word. Man's definition may or may not line up with God's definition; and yes, God's definition always trumps man's definition; and God still wants us to understand.

There has been a great deal of interest lately on worship, revival, and all things God, especially throughout many of our college and universities. "Are these 'revivals' real? Is God moving afresh and anew in this world? And more importantly, are **you and I worshipping God?** When you **worship** God, do you truly **worship** God? Are we a fellowship that desires to genuinely **worship** God, God's way? **How will we know?**"

Worship is at the very heart of *all human activity!* We were made to worship. Today, you are **worshipping** someone or something. When we come to understand that we were made to **worship** the **Creator alone**, NOT anything created; we'll discover the fulfillment of our spiritual and personal relationship with God, our Father.

I. LOOK:

Let's go together to God's Word!"

Genesis 22:5: And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

Genesis 24:52: And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth.

Exodus 33:10: And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door.

Deuteronomy 11:16: Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

Joshua 5:14: And He said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my Lord unto His servant?

1 Chronicles 16:29: Give unto the LORD the glory due unto His name: bring an offering, and come before Him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

2 Chronicles 20:18: And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

Nehemiah 9:3: And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the LORD their God one fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the LORD their God.

Psalms 95:6: O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Matthew 2:11: And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 28:9: And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held Him by the feet and worshipped Him.

Acts 16:14: And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Philippians 3:3: For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Colossians 3:14-17: And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Revelation 4:10: The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne...

II. **LEARN:**

Learning Note 1: **SELECT** a Focal Passage: **John 4:19-26**

19 The woman saith unto Him, Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet.

20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

25 The woman saith unto Him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when He is come, He will tell us all things. 26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am He.

Learning Note 2: **STUDY**

Study Point 1: This passage in **John 4** marks a complete change in the **worship** of God, for that day and today. The troubled woman was confronted by her sin and immediately responded to the message of Jesus with the urgent need to **worship** God; but **where and how?**

Her limited knowledge was answered by the words of Jesus. His message for her on that day also provides "**worship truth**" for us today!

Study Point 2: As stated in **verse 21**, Jesus explains that the place of **worship** is not what's important. **Worship** no longer must take place in the temple or any other specific place and or location. Why? *Preacher's Outline states:* "God's presence now dwells in the hearts and lives of His people, His children. His people, His children can **worship** Him wherever they are, and they can **worship** Him every day, any time or all day long ... if so desired!"

Two important passages of Scripture come to mind here:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20: *19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

John 14:16-17: *16 And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

Study Point 3: As Jesus stated in **John 4:22**, "**salvation is of the Jews.**" Jesus simply stated and confirmed that the One and Only true Messiah would come through the Jewish people.

(Genesis 12:1-3) Preacher's Outline states: "Salvation is of the Jews. All other worship is an expression of man's own ideas, no matter how rational and highly esteemed and followed."

Study Point 4: In *John chapter 4*, Jesus makes a specific point of truth concerning **worship**. He states in *Verse 24*: "**God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.**" *Preacher's Outline: Jesus changed worship. Before Jesus, men worshipped God in Special places, for example, in temples and before alters. Since Jesus, the place and locality mean nothing. Jesus has opened the door into God's presence from any place in the universe.*"

1. To **worship** God **in spirit** reflects on the inner-most core of man, which enables the true worshipper an intimate communion and fellowship with God;
2. **Worshipping** God **in truth** means to **worship** God one way, God's way, in truth. God sees all and knows all and He can tell the intent and the content of every person's heart. The one and only way to come to God in **worship** is through Jesus Christ, His Son.
John 14:6: Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.

Learning Note 3: SUMMARIZE

Summary Statement 1: *N.T. Wright: "When we begin to glimpse the reality of God, the natural reaction is to worship Him. Not to have that reaction is a fairly sure sign that we haven't yet really understood who He is or what He's done."*

Summary Statement 2: Unfortunately, the issue of **worship** is much like many other Christian truths and doctrines, like prayer or evangelism, for example, we study it, memorize verses about it, criticize others about it, and yet, we spend very little time or effort in actual **worship**—just doing it!

Summary Statement 3: We've seen reports about "revival" on many campuses, with **worship** as a central theme. The statement made about these revivals is that it's not enough just to hear about them, but to personally experience revival for yourself. There was another report about a revival that we might experience as recorded by the Apostle John in *Revelation 4 and 5*.

III. LIVE OUT

Action Step 1: Plan to acknowledge that **worship** of God is not just on your "To Do" list; it is your one and only list!

Action Step 2: Plan to recognize that God, and God alone is deserving of your spirit-full, truth-full **worship**; stop with your excuses and leave all your cheap-fake-worthless idols at the door!

Action Step 3: Plan to celebrate and **worship** God any place at any time!

CONCLUSION

Of all the most exciting moments—memories—in your life; are there any of the times you experienced life changing **worship** of God?

INVITATION

God continually-graciously invites you to join Him in His Kingdom's work.

Come, just as you are; Hear the Spirit call.
Come just as you are; Come and see, Come receive,
Come and live forever.