Worship in Spirit and in Truth

John 4: 21-24

What is Worship?

Definition:

Show reverence and adoration for (a deity)

Oxford Dictionary

"...the happy and holy communion which the faithful have with God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

John Wesley, Spiritual Worship

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may WOrship me."

Exodus 9:1

"If you come to worship for any reason other that the joy and pleasure and satisfaction that are to be found in God, you dishonor Him... <u>God's</u> greatest delight is your delight in Him."

Sam Storms

What is True Worship?

- Focused on the delight of our Lord God Almighty
- Not confined to any particular (religious) place

"Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

John 4:21, 24

An Illustration of Worship

The (Worshipping) Heart of King Jehoshaphat

2 Chronicles 20

Threat

Enemies are Approaching

After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat.

² Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Dead Sea. It is already in Hazezon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi).

2 Chronicles 20: 1,2

Inabilities

Limited Resources at Hand

¹⁰ "But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they turned away from them and did not destroy them. ¹¹ See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. 12 Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do..."

Navigation:

The Theological Paradigm

¹² We do not know what to do,

but our eyes are on you."

¹³ All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the LORD.

¹⁷ Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you."

Yield

Adopt God's Strategy

After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the lord and praising him for his holy splendor.

This is what they sang:

"Give thanks to the Lord; his faithful love endures forever!"

2 Chronicles 20:21 NLT

¹⁸ Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all the people of Judah and Jerusalem fell down in worship before the LORD. 19 Then some Levites from the Kohathites and Korahites stood up and praised the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

Worship under Challenging Circumstances

Threat: Enemies are approaching

Inability: Limited Resources at hand

Navigation: The Theological Paradigm

Yield: Adopt God's Strategy

Worship transforms our perspective radically

Threat: Enemies are approaching

Inability: Limited Resources at hand

Navigation: The Theological Paradigm

Yield: Adopt God's Strategy

TINY

2 Key Lessons

A Tiny Step for King Jehoshaphat

A Giant Leap for the Kingdom of Christ

What has been your perspective on Worship?

How has today's meditation on His Word transform your understanding of Worship?

Would like you to develop a deeper level of worship?

A Prayer of Dedication