

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #158

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

TRANSITION TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST

- 1. The Corruption of Worship: Idolatry, then and now; Abominations under Manasseh**
- 2. The Reformation of Worship: (Rehoboam, Jehoiada/Joash, Hezekiah, Josiah)**
- 3. Divine Discipline on Corrupt Worship**
- 4. Restoration and Return: Ezra, Nehemiah, and the focus on Scripture**
- 5. Conclusion:
The Rise of the Synagogue
Legalism Destroys Worship**

The Development of the Synagogue

- 1. Possible roots: Ezek. 11:16; 8:1; 14:1;
33:30–33**

The Development of the Synagogue

- 1. Possible roots: Ezek. 11:16; 8:1; 14:1; 33:3–33**
- 2. By the late 1st century, before the destruction of the Temple, it is claimed there were at least 480 synagogues in Jerusalem.**

Matt. 15:2, “Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

Gal. 1:14, “And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.”

The Synagogue at Magdala



The presence of a place for ritual cleansing, a *mikveh*.



Magdala Synagogue, oldest known image of the menorah in the Temple.



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The Transformation of Worship

3. Not much is said about Worship in the New Testament

προσκυνέω *proskuneō* to fall down to worship; to do obeisance, used some 60 times. 33× in the Gospels and Acts; 3× in the epistles, 24× in Revelation

The English *worship* is used some 77×, 45× in the Gospels and Acts, 24× in Revelation, 8× in the epistles

σεβάζομαι *sebazomai* to worship, 1× in Rom. 1:25; noun *sebasma*, 2 Thess. 2:4; used for reverence, devoutness, religion, piety, godly

Rev. 4:10, “the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:”

Rev. 5:14, “Then the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped Him who lives forever and ever.”

Jesus in the Setting of Worship

Luke 4:16, “So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

Luke 4:17, “And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:”

Isa. 61:1, “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

Isa. 61:2, “To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,” [He stopped here]

“And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

Isa. 61:3, “To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”

Matt. 5:17, “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

Matt. 5:18, “For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one *yod* or one *tittle* will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

Matt. 5:19, “Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Giving

Matt. 6:2, “Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

Matt. 6:3, “But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

Matt. 6:4, “that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.”

Prayer

Matt. 6:5, “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.

Matt. 6:6, “But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matt. 6:7, “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.”

Luke 18:9, “Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

Luke 18:10, “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

Luke 18:11, “The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.’ ”

Luke 18:12, “ ‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ ”

Luke 18:13, “And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ ”

Fasting

Matt. 6:16, “Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.”

Legalism and Uninformed Ritualism

Matt. 12:9, “Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue.

Matt. 12:10, “And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, ‘Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?’—that they might accuse Him.

Matt. 12:11, “Then He said to them, ‘What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out?’ ”

Matt. 12:12, “ ‘Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.’

Matt. 12:13, “Then He said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other.

Matt. 12:14, “Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.”

John 7:22, “Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.

John 7:23, “If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?

John 7:24, “Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

Matt. 5:23, “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

Matt. 5:24, “leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.”

1 Pet. 3:7, “Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.”

John 4:21, “Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

John 4:22, “ ‘You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.’ ”

John 4:23, “ ‘But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

John 4:24, “ ‘God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.’ ” [by means of the Spirit and Truth]

Gal. 5:16, “I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Rom. 8:4, “that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Rom. 8:5, “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.”

Rom. 8:8, “So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

**John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth.
Your word is truth.”**

Characteristics of Biblical Worship

- 1. Substitutionary blood sacrifice, remembered in the Lord's Table.**
- 2. Proclamation of who God is and what He has done.**
- 3. The necessity of cleansing from sin in terms of justification and then ongoing sanctification.**
- 4. Organization and training for those leading the worship.**
- 5. The focus on the Scripture.**
- 6. Worship in singing. Eph. 5:19**

Characteristics of Biblical Worship

7. Worship in prayer. 1 Tim. 2:1–3

**8. Worship in giving. 1 Cor. 6:2;
2 Cor. 9:5–8**

9. Worship in reading Scripture.

1 Tim. 4:13, “Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to teaching.”