

Ephesians Series

Lesson #235

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Elements of Worship
Ephesians 5:18–21; Isaiah 6:1–6



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Results of being filled by the Spirit:

Eph. 5:19, “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 5:20, “giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus

Christ,

Eph. 5:21, “submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”

Results of the Word dwelling richly:

Col 3:16b, “... teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Col. 3:17, “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

What are Our Assumptions?

Summary:

- **The Scripture is our sole authority on worship.**
- **God and God alone defines worship.**

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

**The Immensity
of God**



What the Bible Teaches About

The Holiness of God



Isa. 6:3, “And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ ”

Rev. 4:8, “The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!’ ”

ESSENCE OF GOD

Holy

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

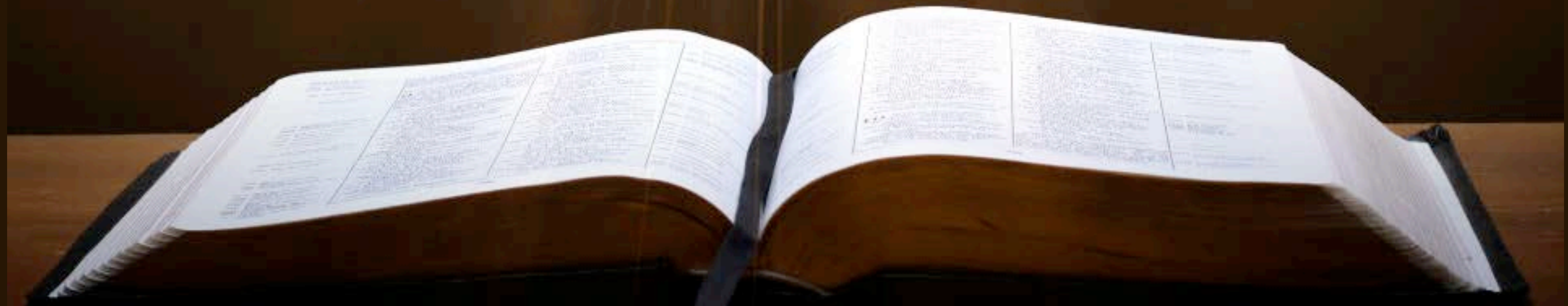
Immutability

Isa. 45:18, “For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: ‘I am the LORD, and there is no other.’”

Isa. 45:21, “Tell and bring forth your case; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, a just God and a Savior; There is none besides Me.”

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

The Meaning of Worship



Biblical Uses of Worship

“Worship” is primarily a mental attitude of submission to God.

Worship is not a feeling, not an experience, but a mental attitude, even when we do not *feel* so worshipful.

Worship is communion or fellowship (i.e., partnership) with God. Focusing on our communication to God in prayer and singing, and God communicating to us in His Word.

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

Corporate Worship



**What the Bible Teaches
About**

The Origins of Music



1. Job 38:4–7

Job 38:4, “ ‘Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.

Job 38:5, “ ‘Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

Job 38:6, “ ‘To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,

Job 38:7, “ ‘When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?’ ”

Three implications:

First, that it was perfect in itself, that it was a form and function of music that was uncorrupted and untainted by anything less than ethical perfection.

Second, this implies necessarily that there is a standard by which music should be evaluated. In other words, there is GOOD music and BAD music.

Third, we must understand that music as music, is a language that communicates. It communicates nonverbally just as the “heavens declare the glory of God.”

Psa. 19:0, “To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

Psa. 19:1, “The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Psa. 19:2, “Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge.

Psa. 19:3, “There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.

Psa. 19:4, “Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,”

2. We learn that “Lucifer,” *Helel ben Shahar*, Satan’s name before the Fall, was a master musician.

Ezek. 28:12, “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Ezek. 28:13, “ ‘ “You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.” ’ ”

Concluding Observations

- 1. Worship must be in Spirit and Truth, John 4.**
- 2. Worship is a response to who God is and what He has done in history.**
- 3. The central focus of Worship is God's work of redemption. For us in the Church Age this is a reflection on what He did and our future hope.**
- 4. Thus at the center of Worship is the study of God's Word, for only in this do we learn who God is, what He has accomplished, and our future destiny.**

Concluding Observations

- 5. Worship is integral to the spiritual life. A spiritual life without worship is empty, and worship without the spiritual life is meaningless.**
- 6. Worship is both corporate and individual.**
- 7. Worship involves ritual, reflection, remembrance, and learning.**
- 8. Worship is not measured by emotion, but by objective standards of the Word of God based in our own personal thoughts in response to what we have learned about God through our hymns and the teaching of the Scripture.**

The Impact of the World Upon Worship

The Greek word used in Romans 12:2 is not *kosmos*, but *aionos*, a word that emphasizes the time element. It is the spirit of the times or the worldview.

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of the spirit of the age [the *zeitgeist* of the culture], but be transformed by making your thinking new, that you may demonstrate that the will of God is good and acceptable and complete.”

**What the Bible Teaches
About
The Elements and Forms
of Worship**



Forms and Elements of Worship

1. God prohibits the addition of unauthorized forms to worship.

Lev. 10:1, “Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them.

Lev. 10:2, “So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

Lev. 10:3, “And Moses said to Aaron, ‘This is what the LORD spoke, saying: “By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.” ’ So Aaron held his peace.”

Col. 2:20, “Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations—

Col. 2:21, “ ‘Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,’

Col. 2:22, “which all concern things which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of men?

Col. 2:23, “These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.”

2. Elements of Worship.

a. A recognition that we are worshiping the Holy, Unique, Distinct, One-of-a-Kind Creator-Redeemer God of the Universe.

Isa. 6:3, “And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ ”

2. Elements of Worship.

b. As such, we recognize the need to admit (confess) that we are sinners, confession of our sin to God for cleansing in preparation to worship (1 John 1:9).

Isa. 6:5, “So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone. Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.’ ”

2. Elements of Worship.

Isa. 6:6, “Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.

Isa. 6:7, “And he touched my mouth with it, and said: ‘Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.’ ”

2. Elements of Worship.

c. Proclamation of God's revelation.

Isa. 6:8, “Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?’ Then I said, ‘Here am I! Send me.’”

Isa. 6:9, “And He said, ‘Go, and tell this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.” ’ ”

2. Elements of Worship.

d. Prayer, supplications, intercessions, thanksgivings.

1 Tim. 2:1, “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

1 Tim. 2:2, “for kings and all who are in authority, **that** we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

1 Tim. 2:3, “**For** this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

1 Tim. 2:4, “who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

2. Elements of Worship.

d. Prayer, supplications, intercessions, thanksgivings.

Col. 4:2, “Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

Col. 4:3, “meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,

Eph. 6:18, “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—”

2. Elements of Worship.

e. Public reading of Scripture.

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

1 Tim. 4:14, “Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.”

Col. 4:16, “Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea.

1 Thess. 5:27, “I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren.”

Mark 2:25, “But He said to them, ‘Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him:’ ”

Mark 12:10, “Have you not even read this Scripture: ‘The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.’ ”

2. Elements of Worship.

f. Teaching the Scriptures.

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

1 Tim. 4:14, “Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.”

2 Tim. 4:2, “Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

2 Tim. 4:3, “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

2 Tim. 4:4, “and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

2 Tim. 4:5, “But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

2. Elements of Worship.

g. Giving.

1 Cor. 16:2, “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.”

2. Elements of Worship.

h. Observing the two ordinances: baptism, Lord's table.

Matt. 28:19, “ ‘Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Matt. 28:20, “ ‘teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

g. Observing the two ordinances: baptism, Lord's table.

1 Cor. 11:23, “For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread;

1 Cor. 11:24, “and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’

1 Cor. 11:25, “In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.’

1 Cor. 11:26, “For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.”

2. Elements of Worship.

i. Singing.

Eph. 5:19, “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

2. Elements of Worship.

- a. Worshiping the Holy, Unique, Distinct, One-of-a-Kind Creator-Redeemer God**
- b. Confession of sin**
- c. Proclamation of God's revelation**
- d. Prayer, supplications, intercessions, thanksgivings**
- e. Public reading of Scripture**
- f. Teaching the Scriptures**
- g. Giving**
- h. Observing the ordinances**
- i. Singing**

Content

The content of our worship elements must be the Scripture, meditation on the Scripture, exhortation and teaching what is in the Scripture, such that others are taught and admonished by what we sing (Col. 3:16)

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”