

"GLEANINGS FROM CHRISTMAS WORSHIP"

Matthew 2:1-18

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Examining the tainted Christmas story today:
 - 1. Tainting the facts;
 - 2. Redirecting the story with a "feeling" focus;
 - 3. What the word "Christmas" actually means;
- B. The importance of beginning the Christmas story with Biblical titles:
 - 1.
 - 2.
- C. Worship, what the true Christmas story is designed to generate: **(See back)**

II. WORSHIP IN "RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH": *(II Tim. 2:15)*

- A. The "search" to worship: **vv. 1-2**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- B. The one who coveted worship: **vv. 3-8**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- C. The pattern for true Christmas worship: **vv. 9-12**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- D. The expectations of worshipful obedience: **vv. 13-15**
 - 1.
 - 2.

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
- B.
- C.

SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, I was made by you and I was made for you, but I have been living for myself. I am sorry for that self-rule you call sin. I believe that Jesus Christ being my creator God, died, was buried, and rose again to pay the insurmountable debt that my sin has created since birth. So right now, I am turning from a life of going my own way, to by faith, place my trust in Jesus Christ, to pay the debt of all my sin, and to get me to heaven, when I breath my last breath. Lord Jesus, from today on, I am yours. Thanks for saving me, this very moment, in Jesus name, amen.

WORSHIP

Worship – (proskuneo) – “to kiss toward” conveying the idea of showing reverence or surrendering obeisance. It is a subjective feeling of awe, reverent humility, and respect as well as an objective activity of bowing, praising, prioritizing, and serving in prompt obedience. It is defined simply in Isaiah 46:6b as “they fall down, yea, they worship”. It very rarely in Scripture (less than 20%) has anything to do with music evidenced by a journey through any Bible concordance. The religious community again has chosen to redefine a Biblical term to make it less convicting and more palatable to our “Christian” culture.

“Jesus was born of a virgin, suffered under Pontius Pilate, died on the cross, and rose from the grave to make worshipers out of rebels!” *A. W. Tozer*

“The local church exists to do corporately what each should do individually, throughout the week.” *A.W. Tozer*

“From ‘shachah’ in the Hebrew Old Testament to ‘proskuneo’ in the Greek New Testament, worship is ALWAYS bowing physically or internally in submission to Jesus Christ. A heart that is not bowing in submission, is not worshipping.” *Ron Owen (See Gen. 18:2; Mt. 2:11; 4:9; 28:9)*

“No worship is wholly pleasing to God until there is nothing in me displeasing to God.” *A.W. Tozer*

“True worship examines us deeply; our motives and our values are scrutinized by God. In worship, God is calling us to wholeness. But first He must reveal our brokenness and blemishes. He is calling us to spiritual health, but first He must expose our wounds, bruises, and putrefying sores, and we cannot ask for a second opinion.” *W. Wiersbe*