

## What is Worshiping God II

**John 4:23-24 (NLT)** *But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."*

**A. Worship: ḥāwâ**

**Worship:** ḥ2331. ḥwâ; a primitive root; (compare 2324, 2421); properly, to live; by implication (intensively) to declare or show: — show.

**B. Worship: šâḥâ**

**Worship:** ḥ7812. šḥâ; a primitive root; to depress, i.e. prostrate (especially reflexive, in homage to royalty or God): — bow (self) down, crouch, fall down (flat), humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, make to stoop, worship.

**C. Worship:**

**Worship:** chavah (296a); a prim. root; to tell, declare:

**I. It's a big deal to God – Worship: šâḥâ**

**Exodus 20:4-6 (NKJV)** *"You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: **you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.** For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.*

**Exodus 20:5 (NASB95)** *"**You shall not worship them or serve them;** for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God...*

**\*\*Numbers 25:2-3 (NASB95)** *For they invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and **bowed down to their gods.** So Israel joined themselves to Baal of Peor, and the LORD was angry against Israel.*

**Jeremiah 1:16 (NKJV)** *I will utter My judgments Against them concerning all their wickedness Because they have forsaken Me, Burned incense to other gods **And worshiped the works of their own hands.***

**1 Kings 19:18 (NLT)** *Yet I will preserve 7,000 others in Israel who have never bowed down to Baal or kissed him!"*

**What is satan trying to get Jesus to do?**

**\*\*\*Matthew 4:10 (NKJV)** *Then Jesus said to him, "**Away with you, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.**"*

**Worship:** g4352. προσκυνέω proskyneō; from 4314 and a probable derivative of 2965 (meaning to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand); to fawn or crouch to, i.e. (literally or figuratively) prostrate oneself in homage...

**II. What is it about bowing down**

**It's a heart thing and a pride thing!**

**Acts 13:22 (NASB95)** *"After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.'*

**Psalms 51:3 (NASB95)** *For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me.*

**Psalms 51:6 (NASB95)** *Behold, **You desire truth in the innermost being,** And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom.*

**Many will come in, raise hands, sing loudly, and even dance, but will you bow down before Him?**

**Revelation 4:10-11 (NKJV)** *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: "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."*

**Revelation 4:10 (NASB95)** *the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne...*

**Revelation 4:10 (NCV)** *Then the twenty-four elders bow down before the One who sits on the throne...*

**Revelation 4:10 (MSG)** *the Twenty-four Elders would fall prostrate before the One Seated on the Throne.*

**Matthew 22:37-38 (NKJV)** *Jesus said to him, "**You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.**" This is the first and great commandment.*

**It's a sign of total submission, total surrender!**

**Joshua 5:14-15 (NKJV)** So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.

**Exodus 3:5 (NASB95)** Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

**Philippians 3:3 (NASB95)** for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh.

Jack Hayford: God is so all-encompassing, all-filling, and above and over all that there really is no way to "make" Him even greater. Except one: coming lower. When we bow before Him, we come just a little bit lower before Him, allowing Him to take up even more of our space. Bowing down displays submission and complete surrender. It is a physical expression of absolute confidence in God's greatness and majesty. It is a concrete and tangible way to remind ourselves that we cannot—we must not—place any confidence in the flesh. The act of worship allows us the opportunity to constantly remind ourselves that without Him, we are nothing. Only in Him, through Him, and because of Him is there any worth in our existence. We boast only in Christ Jesus, as there is nothing in us we can boast about. Worshiping God doesn't make Him any bigger than He already is, but it does allow us to come a bit lower before Him.

**John 15:5 (ESV)** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

**Matthew 2:11 (NASB95)** After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him.

**Romans 14:11 (NASB95)** For it is written, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."

### III. Why do we not see this happen in worship services

**Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Matthew 15:8-9 (NKJV)** 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'

**Psalms 95:6-8 (NKJV)** Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice: "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion..."

**Psalms 96:9 (ESV)** Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness (sacred); tremble before him, all the earth!

**Psalms 99:5 (ESV)** Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!

**John 12:3 (ESV)** Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

**\*Luke 10:39 (ESV)** And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.