True Worship

John 4:21 (NASB95) Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Worship is the most intimate connection with God.

I. Do we know how to worship

John 4:22 (NASB 2020) You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews.

1.) Position of Worship

John 4:23 (NASB 2020) <u>But a time is coming, and even now has arrived, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.</u>

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 (do reverence to, adore): — worship.

Genesis 22:5 (NKJV) And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

Worship: h7812. שָׁהַה šâḥâ; 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.

Psalms 95:6-7 (NLT) Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our maker, for he is our God. We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care. If only you would listen to his voice today!

This type of worship is more private, But it can be done in public!

What is the highest form of Worship? Prayer!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19 (NKJV) Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and in everything, give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not guench the Spirit.

Pray: g4336. προσεύχομαι proseuchomai; from 4314 and 2172; to pray to God, i.e. supplicate, worship: — pray (x earnestly)

Prayer grants us a personal audience with the One who created the universe!

Matthew 6:4 (NKJV) ...and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV) <u>But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who</u> is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

2.) Praise Vs. Worship

Psalms 105:1 Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples.

Praise: Hebrew; Yadah: "to give thanks, laud, praise." A common Hebrew word in all its periods, this verb is an important word in the language of worship. Yadah is found nearly 120 times in the Hebrew Bible and in the Book of Psalms (some 70 times).

What am I doing when I give praise?

The goal of praise is threefold. (1) Praise magnifies the Lord. (2) Praise intensifies your appreciation for salvation. (3) Praise witnesses to those outside the covenant community.

***Psalms 116:12 (NKJV) What shall I render to the LORD, For all His benefits toward me?

3.) Worship in Spirit and truth

John 4:23-24 (NLT) <u>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."</u>

Worship: h2331. חָוָה ḥâwâ; a primitive root; (compare 2324, 2421); properly, to live; by implication (intensively) to declare or : — show.

True Worshiper, in Truth!

God is Looking for True Worshipers!

Romans 12:1 (NLT) <u>And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done</u> for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him.

What you do in secret will manifest in the open! What you do not do in secret will manifest in the open!

***Isaiah 43:21 (NASB 2020) The people whom I formed for Myself, Will declare My praise.

God is looking for meaningful adoration from the hearts of those who appreciate Him and exalt Him in their lives.

Matthew 6:33 (AMP) <u>But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right)</u>, and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.

II. The Great Deception

Matthew 4:1 (NASB 2020) Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

Devil: g1228. διάβολος diabolos; from 1225; false accuser, slanderer, prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely.

Slander: the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations which defame and damage another's reputation.

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NASB 2020) But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness although they have denied its power; avoid such people as these.

Jude 1:10 (NLT) But these people scoff (blaspheme) at things they do not understand. Like unthinking animals, they do whatever their instincts tell them, and so they bring about their own destruction.

Slander opens the door to the Demonic.

Proverbs 6:16-19 (NASB 2020) There are six things that the LORD hates, Seven that are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, A false witness who declares lies. And one who spreads strife among brothers.

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT) Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

James 3:2-6 (NLT) <u>Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.</u> ... **Vs.6** And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire...

James 3:9-10 (NKJV) With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

James 3:13-14 (NKJV) Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.