

Created for Worship

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Part 3: “Word-Centered Worship”

Preview

- The Five Solas of the Reformation
- Liturgy: The pattern or order of worship used in a church service
- Primary views on the structure of Corporate Worship:
 - The Regulative Principle: The belief that only what God has commanded should be included in worship. Key question: *“Has God commanded it in Scripture?”*
 - The Normative Principle: Anything not forbidden by Scripture is permitted in worship, as long as it is edifying and God-honoring. Key question: *“Does it honor God and align with Scripture?”*

Watch video

The corporate worship of God’s people was of chief concern to the Reformers

- The reformation was not just theological, it was also liturgical

The 10 Commandments are a helpful place to start

- God begins by underscoring His saving work (Ex 20:2). Now, what is the response?
- In the first table of the law God reveals the who, what, how, and when of worship (Ex 20:3-8)

What is actually happening in corporate worship?

- The essence: We are meeting with God, and He is meeting with us in intimate communion (Ps 42:1-2; Ps 84:2)
- By its very nature, worship is never casual or boring (Heb 12:28-29)

“The sign of God’s children is to delight to be much in God’s presence.” – Thomas Watson

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So what should we do in corporate worship?

- In spirit, engaged as the Holy Spirit enables, and in truth, or according to how God has told us to worship. (Jn 4:23-24; Lev 10:1-2; 2 Sam 6:6-7)
- We read, preach, pray, sing, confess, and witness the Word in the (ordinances)
- According to the Regulative Principle:
 - Elements: Things that must be there, since they are fixed by God
 - Forms: Can look different as long as they don't violate the elements
 - Circumstances: Variations that don't affect the elements

“When we come together on Sundays and our sovereign, holy, saving God chooses to meet with us, that is the high point of the Christian’s week. And where it’s not, may God continue to work on us and enliven our joy for it.” – Rev. Jason Helopoulos