



Notes

John 4:21-24: Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on 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 the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

- Worship would soon not be bound to a place but belong to a people whom God would personally seek out.

First, worship must be enabled by the Spirit

- We are born worshipping.
- Who or what are we worshipping?
 - Romans 1:18-23: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, *and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.*
 - We are by nature children of wrath and even our best deeds are compared to filthy rags.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:14 - The natural person **does not accept the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned
 - Romans 8:7 - **For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God**, for it does not submit to God's law; **indeed, it cannot**. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
 - Ephesians 2:1-3 - *And you were dead* in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of



our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, **and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind**

- Psalm 14:2-3 - The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.
- Second, we are capable of offering pleasing worship to God by the Spirit.
 - “Capable” implies that beforehand we were *incapable of* offering pleasing worship to the Lord.
 - “Pleasing worship” implies that beforehand our worship was *not* pleasing to the Lord.
- So what changed?
 - Titus 3:1-7 - Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 - Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” — **these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit**. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
- The Holy Spirit came and gave us new spiritual life.
 - I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. **And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of**



flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

- John 6:63, “it is the Spirit who gives life, the flesh is no help at all”
- John 3:5-8, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Worship is lived out by the power of the Spirit

- We must continue to rely upon the Spirit after conversion.
 - Gal 3:1-6: O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? **Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?** Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?
- Having come to faith in Christ by the power of the Spirit, are you thus going to be perfected (sanctified) by trusting in your own deeds and efforts?
 - In what ways are we trusting in our own works after conversion?
 - What do we boast in?
 - Do we secretly believe our progress in sanctification is a result of our own dogged determination and grit?
- We must walk by the power of the Spirit.
 - Galatians 5:16-26: But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.** For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.** And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **If we live by the Spirit, let us also**



keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

- Walking by the Spirit means humbling ourselves daily by relying on the Spirit in prayer and seeking to walk in obedience to God's word.
 - According to John 16:7-11, the Spirit convicts us concerning sin, righteousness, and the judgment, and in 16:13-15 the Spirit is the one who guides us into all truth.
 - The Spirit gives gifts to the church that equip the saints to serve and encourage one another in 1 Peter 4:10.
 - In Romans 8:26 the Spirit helps us in our weakness when we don't know what to pray by interceding for us with groaning too deep for words.
 - In Romans 8:16 the Spirit bears witness with our spirits that we are indeed sons of God.
 - Ephesians 1:14 says that the Spirit seals us for the final day of redemption.
 - Paul asks in Ephesians 1:17 that God would grant them the Spirit of wisdom so that they would grow in the knowledge of Christ and have the eyes of their hearts enlightened.