

WORSHIP - BELIEVERS EXPERIENCING GOD

3

Date: January 24

Introduction Session Three: What is God's standard for acceptable worship?

Scripture and Memory Verse: *Romans 12:1*

Introduction

God has given us His [Authoritative](#) Source, the Bible, as our primary means of knowing and doing His will. Therefore, a biblical theology of worship is concerned with the [true worship](#) of God. True biblical worship must be [reverent](#) (*Hebrews 12:28*). We must understand who is being worshiped. God is holy, just, perfect, powerful, loving, etc. We are sinners saved by grace coming before a holy God because of our Redeemer. There is no room for self-[pride](#) in adoration (see *Luke 18:9-14*). As we looked at in week one, we understand worship must be "in truth," that is, our worship must be properly informed (*John 4:24*). Unless we have biblical knowledge of God, there is no worshiping in [truth](#). Those who wish to worship biblically must worship God as He is revealed in Scripture.

Knowing God's Standards

God's biblical standard of worship will result in worshipers having a [changed](#) heart. The worshiper will [love](#) and obey Jesus and hunger to be more like Him. Worship and service go hand in hand; worship of God will compel into obedience. Jesus said those who love Him will keep His commandments (*John 14:15*).

A biblical theology of worship leads to the [conviction](#) that worship is a lifestyle, not a moment in time (see *1 Corinthians 10:31*). Our lives are to be [dedicated](#) to the worship and service of God. Worship is to be more than a temporary, experience-oriented activity on Sunday, after which we revert to a "normal" life the rest of the week. True worship is constant, inner praise to the God of Scripture, expressed in prayer, in song, in service, in giving, and in living.¹

Key Point

We can see the progression of redemption by looking into the Scriptures and seeing the very first recorded sacrifice. (see *Genesis 4*) Abel understood that he needed a favorable offering to worship the Lord. He was instructed in the ways of redemption at that time and his [obedience](#) pleased God. As we continue to look in *Exodus 12*, we see God clearly given instructions on His plan to reconcile sinful mankind with Himself. The blood of the Passover

¹ <https://www.gotquestions.org/theology-of-worship.html>

Lamb was sufficient to [cover](#) the sins of everyone in the family home from the wrath of God. In Leviticus, God moved man to have a sacrifice for the Nation. God made the way for true [worship](#).

Finally, we see the coming of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Christ died for the world. *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16.*

Clearly, we see God's plan and His progression of redemption:

1. A lamb for a [man](#) (Genesis 4:4).
2. A lamb for a [family](#) (Exodus 12:3-5)
3. A lamb for a [Nation](#) (Leviticus 16:34)
4. The Lamb for the [world](#) (John 1:29).²

Scripture Truth

We find God speaking so clearly through the Scripture. When we read His Word for ourselves, we [experience](#) God. We can know God. We can worship God. This truth should bring us to a point of spiritual [revival](#) and a place of gratitude. Let us read the Scriptures.

Psalm 15 (NLT) Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill? Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends. Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the LORD, and keep their promises even when it hurts. Those who lend money without charging interest, and who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent. Such people will stand firm forever.

Psalm 24 (NLT) The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. For he laid the earth's foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths. Who may climb the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. They will receive the LORD's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior. Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, O God of Jacob. Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty; the LORD, invincible in battle. Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. Who is the King of glory? The LORD of Heaven's Armies—He is the King of glory.

² Authors: Henry T. Blackaby & Ron Owens Publisher: LifeWay Church Resources 2001 pg.56