

“O Worship the King”

John 4:24

Believers worship “in spirit” and “in truth,” both publicly and privately. Genuine worship has little to do with style but much to do with heart and attitude (i.e. “spirit”) and verbalizing a clear, biblical gospel (i.e. “truth”).

- I. A DEFINITION of worship. (What is worship?)
“worship: acknowledging the worth of the object worshipped; to adore, obey, revere, focus positive attention on.” Involves mind, emotion and will.
- II. A CONTEXT to worship (where does worship happen?)
 - A. Private (cf. Matt. 6:6)
 - B. Public (cf. Heb. 10:24-25)
- III. The RECIPIENT of worship. (Matt. 4:10, John 4:23) (Who or what do we worship?)
- IV. The INGREDIENTS to worship. (Of what does worship consist?)
 - A. Praying (private sincerity vs. public show) - Matt. 6:5-6
 - B. Praising (hypocrisy vs. humility) - Acts 16:24-25
 - C. Preaching (topical psychology vs. textual exposition) - II Tim. 2:15
- V. The HINDRANCES to worship. (cf. Mark 4:18-19) (What hinders our worship?)
 - A. Worldliness (“the worries of the world.”) - I John 2:15-16;
II Tim. 4:10
 - B. Wealth (“the deceitfulness of riches”) - Matt. 6:19-21; II Tim 6:10
 - C. Whims (“the desire for other things”) - Matt. 16:23; Col. 3:2

The British attorney and statesman, Sir Robert Grant (1779-1838) penned in 1833 the lyrics to what has become an often sung hymn in most English speaking countries:

“O worship the King, all glorious above, and gratefully sing
His wonderful love; Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient
of Days, Pavilioned in splendor, and girded in praise.”