

The Purpose of Worship

Psalm 22:27

We are all planned for God's pleasure and to bring God glory. According to Psalm 22:27 "one day all the families of the nations will worship before God." Psalm 95:2 says, "Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker." The kind of worship that pleases God has four characteristics:

- I. God is pleased when our worship is RIGHT (i.e. ACCURATE) cf-John 4:21-24
 - A. Accurate worship is SPIRITUAL WORSHIP. (Romans 12:1)
 - B. Accurate worship is SCRIPTURAL WORSHIP. (John 4:24b)(For worship to be right, it must include the HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY BIBLE and A HOLY PERSON.)
 - II. God is pleased when our worship is REAL (i.e. AUTHENTIC) cf-Matthew 15:8-9
 - A. Authentic worship requires WORDS that are real. (v. 8a; Mt. 12:37)
 - B. Authentic worship requires HEARTS that are real. (v. 8b; Ps. 51:10)(Whether we are singing words or praying words or preaching words, we worship with words.)
 - III. God is pleased when our worship is REFLECTIVE (i.e. ATTENTIVE) cf-Matthew 22:37
(If worship is mindless, it is meaningless. We must engage our mind.)
 - A. We are to be attentive to the WILL of God in worship (thru prayer) Matthew 21:13
 - B. We are to be attentive to the WONDER of God in worship (thru praise) Psalm 150:6
 - C. We are to be attentive to the WORD of God in worship (thru preaching) Revelations 22:9
 - IV. God is pleased when our worship is RESPONSIVE (i.e. APPLICABLE) cf-II Samuel 24:24
- God is pleased with multiple sacrifices of worship:
 - A. Thanksgiving
 - B. Praise
 - C. Humility
 - D. Repentance
 - E. Money
 - F. Prayer
 - G. Service
 - H. Proclamation

The heart of the matter is a matter of the heart!