

WHAT GOD REALLY WANTS

John 4:20-24



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Worship conferences, worship seminars and worship experiences abound within the landscape of the American church, but in all these there's something that seems to be always lacking—worship is confined to the activity of singing songs.

What God Really Wants

John 4:20-24

When the subject is brought up in this chapter, Jesus talks plainly and openly about true worship: what it is and what it isn't. Let's explore these few verses to discover what God is seeking after and how to be part of fulfilling that.

What God Really Wants

John 4:20-24

There is no greater activity than the worship of God alone. A.W. Tozer called worship the missing jewel of the evangelical church. “It is scarcely possible in most places to get anyone to attend a meeting where the only attraction is God”

What the Bible Says About Worship

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Worship is mentioned over 400 times in the
Bible

In John it is mentioned 20 times

What the Bible Says About Worship

Worship Can be Confusing

Samaritan woman confused by her sinful past

Looks at life through the lens of her experience

Until sin is dealt with, we are confused about
worship

What the Bible Says About Worship

Samaritan woman confused by her background

History of mixed race and mixed religion

(722 BC Assyrians captured the northern

kingdom, intermarriage of Jews with Assyrians

and pagans, Samaritans offered to help rebuild

the temple, rejected by Jews,

What the Bible Says About Worship

Samaritans tried to stop with a letter [Nehemiah 4:2] and with an army, built their own temple on Mt. Gerazim, their temple destroyed in 129 BC, but still offer blood sacrifices on the mountain, only accepted the first five books of the Bible)

Our culture and upbringing shape our belief system

What the Bible Says About Worship

Worship Can't be Confined

To a Single Place

It's not where, it's whom (Acts 7:48)

We think of God near or far spatially - not a building, seat or pilgrimage (Jeremiah 23:23)

To A Single Activity

Not an event, a lifestyle

Has to affect life

What the Bible Says About Worship

George Smith

“There are not four gospels, there are five gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the Christian.”

Submission of lifestyle to God

Your life is a gospel

What the Bible Says About Worship

Worship Must be Candid

Truthful, honest, whole-hearted

From your own human spirit - pneumatikōs

From depth of heart, core being, who you really
are (Matthew 15:8)

What the Bible Says About Worship

Steven Charnock

"Without the heart it is not worship. It is a stage play. An actor acting a part without being that person really. A hypocrite. We may truly be said to worship God even though we lack perfection but we cannot be said to worship Him if we lack sincerity."

What the Bible Says About Worship

Not worship - right God, right manner, wrong attitude (Malachi 1:6-8, 1:12-13)

Worship Must be Credible

In Truth

Based on the truth God has revealed about Himself in the Word

Tethered to God's truth

What the Bible Says About Worship

Failure in worship can be traced back to wrong thoughts about God

Worship Will be Consequential

Result of a relationship with God

True worshiper is a believer

You become like the god your worship.

Primary purpose of salvation not to make us happy or keep us out of punishment, but for God's glory.