

STRAIGHT TALK ON WORSHIP, Pt 2

9-7-2008 Pastor Dale James

Too much about worship creates acrimony among fellow believers rather than adoration of God. What are key biblical principles to guide and establish our worship as people of God? Where are some of the places where we easily mix things up?

1. We view worship as **OPTIONAL** rather than essential.

⊖ The question is not “Do we worship?” but “Who or what do we worship?”

2. We make worship about **US** rather than about God.

⊖ The critical issue: **LOVING** God, not **LIKING** the event

⊖ **STYLE** vs. **SUBSTANCE**

3. We make worship about **FORMS** rather than **HEART**.
(Isa. 1:11-15; Ps. 51:16-17; 1 Sam. 15:22; Hos. 6:6)

⊖ The peril of self-styled worship

⊖ Performance rather than **RESPONSE**

⊖ The **BALANCE** of *spirit* and *truth* (Jn 4:23-24)

What does it mean to worship *in spirit and in truth*?

- Emotion and Understanding
- Heart and Art

4. We reduce worship to an **EVENT** rather than a _____ -
(Rom 12:1-2)

⊖ Worship services languish when they cease to be the _____ of lives of worship!

5. We give ourselves to the worship of _____ **GODS**.
(Ps. 4:2; 40:4; cf 2 Chron. 30:14)

⊖ What false gods are you most likely to worship?

6. Worship ceases to _____ us to faith and obedience.
(2 Chron. 32:7-8; 1 Sam. 15:22)

For reflection and discussion:

1. What stands out most to you in this message?
2. What is the strongest part of your worship life?
3. Where can you grow as a worshipper?
4. What is one step you can take this week to strengthen your worship?