

Searching His Word
Worship #1 – True Worshipers
By Russell Earl

Worship – one of the most basic and fundamental actions of an obedient Christian. As a Christian you are to worship God and Him only. In John 4:23 the Bible says “*But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.*” How many times have we read this verse and missed the point? The Father seeks “*true worshipers*” because the “*true worshipers*” will worship Him “*in spirit and in truth*”.

By Christ making such a statement He tells us that there are those who are not “*true worshipers*”. There are those whose worship is not “*in spirit and in truth*”. Thus their worship is done in vain. It is empty or even useless (Matthew 15:9). If we are to be “*true worshipers*” we must worship God in “*spirit and in truth*”. If we are to worship God, then the worship we offer up to Him ought to be done in such a way that is pleasing to Him and done according to the authority He has given us in His Word.

Ask yourself who is the worship service for? Is it for God or is it something that is done that pleases you? If we are to offer up worship that is pleasing to God it must be worship that He authorizes and is pleased with. Just ask Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 10:1-2). Worship in some places has become very selfish. Some no longer enter into worship with the attitude of “I want to give God what He desires.” Instead many enter into worship with the attitude of “what can I get out of my worship today.” Offering up worship to God is not about us. It is about Him. It is ALL about Him and when it becomes anything else we have either gone beyond what pleases Him or have fallen short of it.

A “*true worshiper*” of God comes to give God the very best in worship and praise to Him. False worshipers come with the attitude of seeking to worship God in a way that pleases themselves rather than God. Oh, how worship has changed over the year’s. We see so much of “well I like this or I think we should do this” instead of turning to the Bible and seeing what type of worship God authorizes from His obedient followers! If we are to be one of the “*true worshipers*” of God we must get one very important aspect correct. Worship is NOT about what we want it is about what God authorizes and what pleases Him. We have too much “self” worship and not enough “Him” worship today.

Are you a “*true worshiper*” of God? We have various groups who have many rituals in their worship but no real feeling and on the other hand we have those who are all emotions and feelings but focus only on themselves in their worship services. We need to get away from selfish worship and focus upon the type of worship the Bible actually authorizes: It only authorizes worship that is pleasing to God. After all, what does God get out of something that is only present to please man?