

## How Vital is Worship?

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God made man in His image for the purpose of worship. Any man or woman not fulfilling this purpose of worship and relationship with the Creator is not fulfilling his or her purpose for living.

Before man's creation on earth, God allowed Lucifer and a countless number of angels under Lucifer's command, to roam the earth and freely possess it. When Lucifer, the most beautiful angel God created, became rebellious against God, and wanted to take God's place on the throne, God no longer allowed Lucifer to have free habitation in heaven. So, Lucifer and all his followers were expelled from Heaven. The earth, where the rebellious angels did roam, became "void and without form". The earth was emptied by God after the dispensation of Lucifer.

In the first book of the Bible, Genesis, the earth was renovated. God created the Heavens, the Earth, and All Life. He communed with Adam and Eve in the cool of the day. Adam and Eve had pure and holy worship with the Father. They were the only creatures in the beautiful Garden of Eden who were made in God's likeness with Spirit, Emotions, Intellect and Free Will. God is complete within Himself and does not need anything; nevertheless, He chose to have intimacy and relationship with man. Man is His crowning achievement, for His own glory. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve broke fellowship with God by disobeying Him, but the original purpose was not abandoned by the Creator.

Now, as we attempt worship with God, we must be careful to worship according to His request for worship and not according to our own imagination of what worship is to us. Cain presented God a gift of his own choosing. He completely disregarded the nature of God, which required a blood sacrifice for atonement.

Worship is a heartfelt expression of appreciation, gratitude, admiring awe and sense of humbling delight and astonished wonderment of who God is. This can only be acceptable to God through a clean vessel that has been purged from sin through acceptance of Jesus Christ's atoning death on the cross and indwelling power of the Holy Spirit. Worship brings pleasure, joy, and fellowship to God, which is the foundation of all genuine worship. Man must worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

Worship is not to be confused with the emotion bought about by music. Music elevates the mind and raises the heart to near rapture. Music brings an individual to concentrate his mind and body upon the art of a high sense of enjoyment. True worship is controlled by the Holy Spirit of God only, and not by the music. Worship is spiritual. It is not confined to walls, buildings, nor churches. Seek worship and intimacy with God in true holiness that we may remain in the atmosphere of God's holy and delightful presence without location, space, or time.

There is a seed in man that longs for worship with God. When God made the human soul in His own image, He did so that we might act according to that Divine nature. He never intended the virus of sin to infect that sacred place within man. Sin, therefore, is the unnatural thing. It is a foreign substance defiling man's heart and life, repelling God's gaze. Because of this condition in man, sin is natural, worship is unnatural; and so fewer people do worship.

It is vital that we worship God in the beauty of holiness daily and expect to receive a word from God and deliverance through the Holy Spirit every day. We worship God according to our potential, relationship, and level. Worship is an inward attitude and is not confined to emotions and feelings. Worship is based on an individual's trust and confidence in God as we seek to grow, mature, and yield ourselves into His hands.

The Lord Jesus died on the cross that He might make His people worshipers of God. That is why we were born, that we might show forth the excellencies of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. "He is thy Lord, worship thou Him" (Psalm 45:11).

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ESSAY

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