

“The Heart of Worship”  
**John 4:20-24**

**I. Worship is the purpose of salvation.**

- A. Worship is glorifying God.
- B. God has commanded mankind to worship Him.
- C. God has saved people to worship God.

(Psalm 99:5; John 6:44-45, 61-65; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Colossians 1:15-20)

**II. Worship is directed toward the One True God.**

- A. God is the only One who should be worshipped.
- B. All worship should be holy (everything offered to God in worship should not be offered to any other person or thing).

(Isaiah 45:21-22; Revelation 15:4)

**III. Worship is either accepted or rejected by God.**

- A. True worship is accepted by God.
- B. False worship is rejected by God.

(Leviticus 1:3-4; Isaiah 1:11-14)

**Scripture References and Notes**

**Old Testament (Hebrew)**

- שָׁחַת (shachah)
  - to bow down
  - bow down, prostrate oneself, before a monarch or superior, in homage, etc.

**New Testament (Greek)**

- προσκυνέω (proskuneó)
  - I go down on my knees to, do obeisance to, worship.
  - from pros (“towards”) and kuneó (“to kiss”)

Genesis 22:5

Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you.”

John 9:35-38

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup> He answered, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you.” <sup>38</sup> And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped Him.

Luke 7:36-40

<sup>36</sup> Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee’s house and reclined at the table. <sup>37</sup> And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee’s house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, <sup>38</sup> and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. <sup>39</sup> Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner.”

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; <sup>27</sup> but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, <sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no man may boast before God. <sup>30</sup> But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, just as it is written, “LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.”

John 6:44-45

<sup>44</sup> No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets, ‘AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

John 6:61-65

<sup>61</sup> But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, “Does this cause you to stumble? <sup>62</sup> What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? <sup>63</sup> It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. <sup>64</sup> But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. <sup>65</sup> And He was saying, “For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father.”

Psalm 99:5

Exalt the LORD our God And worship at His footstool; Holy is He.

Colossians 1:15-20

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, <sup>20</sup> and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

Isaiah 45:21-22

<sup>21</sup> “Declare and set forth *your case*; Indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me. <sup>22</sup> “Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.

Revelation 15:4

“Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED.”

Leviticus 1:3-4

<sup>3</sup> If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without defect; he shall offer it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. <sup>4</sup> He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be accepted for him to make atonement on his behalf.

Isaiah 1:11-14

<sup>11</sup> “What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?” Says the LORD. “I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed cattle; And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs or goats. <sup>12</sup> “When you come to appear before Me, who requires of you this trampling of My courts? <sup>13</sup> “Bring your worthless offerings no longer, incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies—I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly. <sup>14</sup> “I hate your new moon *festivals* and your appointed feasts, they have become a burden to Me; I am weary of bearing *them*.