

### 1. Definition:

worship (OT)

**7812** שָׁחָה *shachah*

= to bow down, to prostrate oneself

= to take a position (stance) of submission

worship (NT)

**4352** προσκυνέω *proskuneo*

= to kiss toward someone in reverence

= to prostrate oneself

= to kneel down before

= to express by attitude and position one's allegiance to and regard for deity

Worship is the soul bowing before God in adoring contemplation of Himself

Worship is contemplating, seeing, approaching God

- it is only possible because of the death and shed blood of Christ (Heb 9:6-7,14; 10:19)

### 2. Whom are we to worship?

- God alone is worthy to be worshipped; it is His due

- God the Father

- God the Son

(Deut 6:13; Mt 4:10;

Jn 4:23; He 1:6; Ph 2:9-11; both Rev 4:&5)

### 3. Worship of human beings, angels, or other gods is forbidden

(Ac 10:25-26; Co 2:18; Re 22:8-9; 2 Ki 17:35-36; Ex 34:14)

### 4. Who is able to worship?

- true worship can only come from a washed, redeemed heart – all other worship is vain

- true worship can only come from a heart that desires Him alone – "whole-heartedly"

- only a truly saved, born again person can be a true worshiper

(Ps 24:3-4; 1 Jn 2:15; 2 Ki 17:28-41, 18:21; Ps 86:11; Heb 13:15)

### 5. Where are we to worship?

- true worship can take place wherever there are true worshipers

(Jn 4:19-23)

### 6. How are we to worship?

#### a) in spirit

- worship takes place in the heart or soul

- by the Spirit of God

- in the right spirit or attitude

- in reverence and godly fear (Heb 12:28-29)

(Jn 4:23; Ps 103:1-2; Ph 3:3; Jn 4:24; He 12:28-29)

#### b) in truth

- in sincerity, not in religious hypocrisy

- worship is the overflow of the heart to what is true about God

- according to the Word, not the world

- not all worship is truly worship

- if just lip service, the heart far from God

- if worship is a tradition learned by rote

(Ps 145:18; Jn 17:17; Hos 4:6; Mt 15:9; Isa 29:13)

### 7. What results when worship is true?

a) the Father has found what He seeks, true worshipers

(Jn 4:23)

b) the worshiper has found his highest joy

- he asks nothing of God

- he seeks nothing from Him

- he is occupied with and completely satisfied with the beauty of God Himself

(Ps 27:4; Ps 16:11)

c) the worshiper seeing his own weakness and weariness, gains new strength

(Isa 6:5; Job 42:5-6; Isa 40:31)

d) the worshiper is transformed into the likeness of God in ever-increasing glory  
→ beholding God we become like God

(2 Cor 3:18; Exo 34:29; 1 Jn 3:2)

8. True worship, the adoring contemplation of our glorious and awesome God, breaks out in responses both of the heart and of actions

(Ro 12:1-2)