

The Father Seeks Worshipers

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Jesus' discussion with the Samaritan woman at the well

Joh 4:23-24 NIV Yet a time is coming and has now come when ***the true worshipers*** will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, ***for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks***. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

- Jesus said that the Father SEEKS TRUE WORSHIPERS
- True worshipers worship the Father in SPIRIT and in TRUTH

Satan Also Seeks to Be Worshiped

During Jesus' temptation in the wilderness

Mat 4:9-10 NIV "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (10) Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: '***Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.***'"

Satan has experienced the power of worship - he stood at the throne of God

Eze 28:13-17 KJV describes Satan

- He has been in Eden the garden of God
- Musical instruments [tabrets and pipes] were prepared in him the day he was created
- He was the anointed cherub that covereth

His pride led to his fall

Isa 14:11-15 KJV

- How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer,
- I will ascend into heaven
- I will exalt my throne above the stars of God
- I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation
- I will ascend above the heights of the clouds
- I will be like the most High.
- Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Satan will use the AntiChrist to move man to worship him

2Th 2:4 NIV He will oppose and will ***exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped***, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

Rev 13:8 NIV ***All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast***--all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life,

Why is Worship So Critical?

Worship Brings the Heart

- Mar 7:5-7 NIV So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" 6 He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "**These people honor me with their lips, *but their hearts are far from me.*** 7 **They worship me in vain;** their teachings are merely human rules.'

Worship Brings Surrender

- Rom 12:1 NIV Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship.

"Worship and Serve" Are Forever Linked

- Mat 4:9-10 NIV "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (10) Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: '**Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.**'"
- There are 29 verses in the Bible where "worship and serve" go together. These two ideas are intrinsically linked together.

The Best Way To Grow in Worship is To KNOW HIM MORE

The healed blind man worshiped Jesus when He found out who He was

- John 9:35-38 Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "**Do you believe in the Son of Man?**" 36 "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." 38 **Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.**

He experienced the revelation of God during prophesy and worshiped

- 1 Corinthians 14:24-25 But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, 25 and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. **So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"**

They experienced the reality of Christ's miraculous power and worshiped

- Matthew 14:29-33 "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand

and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" 32 And when they climbed into the boat, **the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."**

Job was able to worship, because He KNEW Him

- Job 1:20 **At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship** 21 and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." 22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Because the 3 boys knew the LORD, they worship Him Only

- Dan 3:28 ESV Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants, who trusted in him, and set aside the king's command, and **yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.**

How Do You Know Him? As Creator? As Your God? As Your Shepherd?

- Psalm 95:6-7 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; 7 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care...