"Worship in All of Life"

The Ministry of the Spirit October 25, 2026

Jn 4:23-24 [23] But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. [24] God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

…The "Father's Seeking" is what was shared with a "thirsty woman" who was also "seeking" something in her life!

"WORSHIP affects everything else in our lives! …God "in the right place" puts all of life in the right place!

Ps 73:23-26

Job 42:1-6

Jer 9:23-24

??...what concludes Asaph's "tussle with life" (Ps 73) ...what concludes **Job's plunge into desperation** (Job 42) ...**the prophet's great summary of pursuits** (Jer 9)

...**At the Apex of Our Existence is this Concept/Experience Called WORSHIP!** ...the deeply impacting and satisfying encounter with God as Our Unique Ultimate in Life!!

...The O.T. Anticipated the Age of the Spirit ...Jesus Anticipated the Age of the Spirit ...the N.T. Is describing the Arrival of the Age of the Spirit ...Today's Church is Living in the Age of the Spirit

— THIS has been our ultimate destination in this Study for the Last 2 years! ...The Ministry of the Word and the Ministry of the Spirit are like "Magnetic Poles" aligning us to fulfill God's purpose in and through us!

CONTRAST - *"Worship Needs Sanctuaries & Ceremonies"* (Last Week) ...vs... *"All of Life is Worship"* (This Week)

...Coming to Understand—"All of Life is Worship" (Traveling through the theological recovery at the close of the last century)

** **Out of This "Season" comes our thoughts that "ALL OF LIFE IS WORSHIP"** (it was like a "protest & plea" to STOP elevating buildings, ceremonies, services, holy days, etc.—because "ALL of LIFE is WORSHIP"!!

...**This is TRUE! ...and yet**, like most things formed in moments of "Protest & Revolution", **it is also a bit of an "Over-Course-Correction".** ...and We Could Get Some Help from being Guided by BIBLICAL THEOLOGY (How Does This Discussion Get Informed by the BIG STORY of God in Scripture?)

> "One of Francis Shaeffer's most memorable sayings was that Christianity does not start with 'Jesus saves you from your sins.' It starts with 'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.' ...It is perfectly true that Jesus came to save us from that deforming disorder called 'sin.' But starting with that theme is like going into a movie theater halfway through the film. You don't know who the characters are, you can't figure out the plot, and you are constantly guessing at the events leading up to that point." **Nancy Pearcy** (from the Foreword to "The Story of Reality", p. 13)

...Before we exclusively focus on getting the doctrine of Justification right, should we also keep in mind—What was Man's Purpose from the Beginning?

— **The Father is Seeking WORSHIPERS!! ...not merely people who can explain the Doctrine of Justification by Grace Alone through Faith Alone!!**

BIG STORY HELP

...**In the Beginning God Created!** (Purpose, reason, design is being installed in Earth & Humanity)

Gen 1:26-28

...Image of God ...male/female ...family/multiplying ...filling the earth with God's glory ...subduing/having dominion ("paracreating" with God)

?? - When Does "WORSHIP" come on the Scene? ...Is it HERE in Gen 1?

>> THIS is God's Original Design! ...and Clearly, "ALL of LIFE is WORSHIP"

Gen 2:7-8, 10-12, 15 7 then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his
nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. 8 And the LORD God planted a garden
in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ...
10 A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. 11 The
name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is
gold. 12 And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.
15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

...man is placed in a garden (a "sanctuary" where God would uniquely dwell on earth); he is given the role of "tending & keeping/guarding" this sanctuary

> "...the garden was the first tabernacle, and humanity's home was in the presence of God, in his Most Holy Place. ...Wherever God is, there is the tent of his dwelling. ...Humanity had a mission in his tabernacle--'to work it and keep it' (Gen. 2:15)—which is the same language used for the priests and Levites in Israel's tabernacle. The priests were to serve and 'keep guard' over it (Num. 1:53; 3:36). This means that humanity's work in the garden was not restricted to gardening." **Ed Welch,** "Created to Draw Near", p.21-22

...**Mt. Sinai** is NOT a different plan/approach. Ex 25 ...it is the creation of a "Sanctuary" where God would uniquely manifest his presence on the earth!

**** Are You Under the Notion that "WORSHIP" Began at Mt. Sinai?** ...That there wasn't any "Worship" taking place before the order of the Levitical Priesthood? ...Remember the patriarchs? Remember Melchizedek? ...But quite simply, Remember Adam & Eve, Cain & Abel!!

...**At Pentecost** there is an Update to the Plan of Genesis 1-2 ...The dwelling place of God is back within men!

1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

1 Cor 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

>>NOTE: The Places of God's Dwelling are Places of WORSHIP!

1 Peter 2:5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, **to offer spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

...THIS is the Language of "Worship"!!! ...Yet, it's not confined to robes, cathedrals, and animal sacrifices!
...Peter is describing the settings of the church!

1 Pet 1:14-15 [14] As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, [15] but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

1 Pet 1:22-23 [22] Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, [23] since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

1 Pet 2:1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

?? – Do I see conformity to God's Holy Image (rather than my passions) **as "worship"?**

?? – Do I see "loving one another earnestly" as an expression of "worship"??

?? – Do I see "putting away malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander" as an expression of "worship"??

...Peter Did! ...Paul Did!...

...Paul fills in the "ALL of LIFE" Dimensions of this "Worship"—Eph 4-6

Eph 2:19-22 [19] So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [20] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, [21] in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. [22] In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

...From Gen 2 to Ex 25 to Pentecost to the New Jerusalem ... "ALL of LIFE is WORSHIP" —AND— there are Unique Sanctuaries & Ceremonies

Consider the "TEMPLE WORSHIP" in Ephesus!

...Eph 4:1 *"...walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called"* [to know, image, and glorify God—ie, "to Worship Him"]

…Eph 4:12 *"…equip the saints"* [to equip disciples is "Worship"]

…Eph 4:14-15 *"…no longer be children, tossed to and fro by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine …speaking the truth in love …grow up in every way into him"* [ie, growth & maturity is WORSHIP …striving for growth is an act of worship!]

…Eph 4:22-24 *"put off your old self …be renewed in the spirit of your mind …put on the new self"* [Change, transformation, engaging redemptive renewal is Worship!]

…Eph 4:25-29 *"put away falsehood …be angry and do not sin …give no opportunity to the devil …let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up"* [Our attitudes, words, and actions are Worship!]

…Eph 4:30, 5:18 "do not grieve the Holy Spirit …be filled with the Spirit" [mindfulness of, sensitivity to, carefulness about the Holy Spirit is Worship!]

…Eph 5:22ff …husbands/wives [How you model Christ and the Church is Worship!]

…Eph 6:1ff …children obeying, fathers fulfilling their call is Worship!

…Eph 6:5ff …master/servant godliness is Worship!

…Eph 6:10ff …spiritual warfare is Worship!

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all Contributing to the Ultimate Purpose of the Trinity

…The Father ORDAINED this Setting of Worship …the Son RECLAIMED this Setting of Worship …the Spirit EMPOWERS this Setting of Worship

LCC… God is seeking those who would "worship Him in Spirit and in Truth"! …in Particular "Sanctuary & Ceremonial Ways" —AND— in "All of Life Ways"!!