

COMPLETE CHRISTIANITY – PART 2

Matthew 4:10 ... “Then Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only you shall serve.’”

In part 1 of this 3-part series, we spoke about the most important component of your relationship with God, which is salvation. Today, we look at WORSHIP.

Sadly, many believers adopt the idea that worship is optional, or not very important. I think this is due to several factors. Some think the only form of worship is singing, and if they do not enjoy singing or are not good at it, then they feel worship is not for them. Others feel that as the style of music in the church changes from generation to generation, the worship part of a church service has left them behind; that worship is only for young people who enjoy modern music. Others find that the aging process affects their hearing and loud instruments actually hurt their ears and give them headaches. And still more object to the church only allowing young people to lead worship. These and other factors often leave older persons in the church feeling ostracized or left out during worship. Many times, older persons wait to enter the church after the worship portion has ended. I have even known pastors to skip the worship part of a service for similar reasons.

However, worship is not defined only by music. Worship is the act of praising God without expecting anything in return. You do not need an electric guitar, a microphone and a good singing voice to praise God. You do not even have to praise God audibly; you can do so silently. I often praise God silently as I drive down the highway, work in my shop, lay in bed, or when I’m baking bread.

In today’s verse, Jesus condemns satan for trying to tempt him into worshipping satan, instead of Father God. Jesus is referencing Deuteronomy chapter 6 wherein Moses instructed the people of God’s commands to not worship other gods, but to worship him alone. The Bible is full of instructions and commands that we must worship our heavenly Father. In Romans 14:11, Paul quotes the prophet Isaiah in telling us that at the judgment, every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess to God.”

Worship is not only important, but required. God understands our nature. He understands that if we do not worship him, we will find something else to worship such as wealth, fame, toys, friends, hobbies, recreation and more. Those things can become our idols and idols distract us from God and lead us away from him. Do not be misled. Your church may call the first 20 minutes of Sunday or Saturday services “Worship,” but you are not limited to public singing to worship God. You can worship God in prayer, as you work, or in your own home with your family. Teaching your children the importance and joy of worshipping God, is a responsibility of every Christian parent. Worship is the second of the three principle components of your relationship with God. In our next installment, we will discuss service.

Copyright © 2018 Datu Wali Mission Foundation