

Worship

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

New Covenant is the '**coming hour**' that '**now is**' God is **SEEKING** genuine worshippers. Because God is Spirit we must bow to His will True Worship **MUST** be in spirit and truth.

God is Spirit

John 4:23-24

Hour has come:

Genuine *Worshipers*

*Will **worship** the Father*

*In **Spirit** and **Truth***

*Such does the Father **seek***

God is Spirit

Must *Worship in **Spirit** & **Truth***

Worship in Spirit and Truth

By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks. Heb. 11:4

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Rom 10:17

Abel obtained witness –God Testifying through his gifts
Gifts given more excellently by faith.

Abel's Testimony:

“always offer your gifts of worship by faith”

Are we heeding his testimony following his example?

Giving in Spirit and Truth

- *On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. 1 Cor 16:2-3*
- Lay something aside storing up as prospered.
- This act is the closest one to Abel's.
- A gift brought by faith.
- How do we do this by faith?

Worship in Spirit & Truth

- **How we pay our monthly bills:**
- **Save them up. Sit down and write checks.**
- **Is this how we give? :**
- **Gross income * percent / 52 weeks = gift**
- **Write checks with no thought?**
- **Put check in plate with no thought?**
- **Is this worship in spirit and truth?**
- **I did this for years and thought it was ok**

Worship in Spirit & Truth

- Lay something aside storing up as prospered.
- It is done upon the first day of every week:
- Does this mean we consider how prospered every first day?
- We can reason their amount changed every week? Is that a safe conclusion?
- God rejected Cain because it was not of faith.
- Could He reject ours?
- Do we have any other passages to shed light?

Worship

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2Cor 9:6

Is it sparing or bountiful? Once a year /each week?

As purposed in heart Once a year /each week?

Not grudging Once a year /each week?

Not of Necessity Once a year /each week?

God loves a cheerful giver Yearly / Weekly

True Purpose of An Offering

- Not just a financial obligation.
- A manifestation of gratitude and respect.
- For it to be worship, it must create the proper emotions and attitudes.

An important Assessment

- Deut 8:11-20
- *Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God*
- *lest — when you have eaten and are full*
- *when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God*
- *you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.*

True Worship in Spirit

- *Deut 8:11-20*
- *you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth*
- *Storing up as he may prosper.*
- A vital part of our worship in giving is to remember and feel gratitude and awe to God who has made all that happened this past week possible.

True Giving in Spirit

- 1 Chron 29:10-15
- *Blessed are You, Lord God of Israel*
- *Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty*
- *all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours*
- *Both riches and honor come from You*
- *In Your hand it is to make great*
- *Now therefore, our God, We thank You*
And praise Your glorious name

True Giving in Spirit and Truth

- *1 Chr. 29:10-15*
- *We thank You And praise Your glorious name.*
- *But who am I, and who are my people, That we should be able to offer so willingly as this?*
- *For all things come from You, And of Your own we have given You.*
- *For we are aliens and pilgrims before You*

Learning it is more Blessed

- Acts 20:35 *It is more blessed to give...*
- Jn 3:16 *God so loved He gave.*
- Jn 15:13 *greater love has no man than to lay down his life for his friends.*
- 2Cor 8:9 *Though He was rich He became poor for you sake so you could become rich*
- 2Cor 12:14-15 *I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls;*
- The more we give the more we learn this.

Giving in spirit

- *Before we come... ponder and consider how God has prospered us.*
- *When we are giving. Feel grateful and cheerful. It is not a bill or obligation.*
- *It is an act of worship in which we are showing God we truly believe:*
- *It is all from him!*

Summing up

- **All belongs to God I Cor 6:19-20**
- **body a living sacrifice. Rom 12:1-2**
- **We are to give as prospered. I Cor 16:1-2**
- **With Abundance and Liberality. 2 Cor 8:2-5**
- **Give bountifully as purposed. II Cor 9:6-7**

Foundation of All Giving Source; Agency; Purpose

*For of Him and through Him and
to Him are all things, to whom be
glory forever. Amen. Rom 11:36*

It All Starts at Home – in spirit

- We don't want this to become a ritual:
- *“something we do without thinking because we've always done it.”*
- The path to *“you have left your first love”* Rev 2:4
- Emotions and attitudes must remain constant and should actually grow and become stronger.
- *When we are giving. Feel grateful and cheerful. It is not a bill or obligation.*
- *It is an act of worship in which we are showing God we truly believe:*
- *It is all from Him! It is all for Him!*
- *Remembering how God prospered us is just as important as giving it!*

How we Lay up/Treasure in Heaven

- *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also. Mt. 6:19-21*
- It is wise to incorporate this also into our meditations about our giving made prior to coming and while we are giving.

Other Considerations

- 1Cor 6:19-20 we were bought with a price
- Rom 12:1-2 our body a god's living sacrifice
- Rom 12:8 When we give – with liberality
- 2Cor 8:2-5 With Abundance & Liberality
- 2Cor 9:6-7 Give Bountifully as purposed
- 1Tim 6:17-19 *Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches ... Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share*