

## 101 Worship—An Introduction

### What is it? Some Definitions

#### A. The Historical Sacrificial Aspect

Somehow the giving of a life and the shedding of blood were involved in worship.

This is found in the first pages of Scripture [our study next week]

#### B. The Subjective Side—The Private and Personal Aspect

Matthew 22:36-38 The First and Greatest Commandment

“You shall love the Lord, your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might (strength).”

To adore, to show profound devotion, to have a love based on a sense of appreciation, admiration and adoration

This, of course, comes from the Old Testament, Deuteronomy 6:5 and is called Israel’s creed: “Shma Yisrael Yahveh Elohaynu Yahveh ekhawd. You shall love the Lord, bekol lebbekhaw vabekol nefeshekhaw vabekol me-odekhaw.”

#### C. The Objective Side—The Public Aspect

Matthew 6:19 The First Prayer Jesus taught his disciples:

“Hallowed by your name.”

To show deep respect and regard for God, His name, His person and character

Exodus 20:7 The Third Command of the Ten Commandments

Do not misuse God’s name (NIV & ESV) KJV = Do not take His name in vain




The Hebrew uses the word    Shwa’ --something base, ignoble, evil)

Do not treat God’s name (character) as though it is nothing or base.

#### D. The Communal Aspect

That celebration of God’s person and work instituted in the Tabernacle ceremonies and later expanded in the Temple worship

#### E. This Concept derives from the etymology of the word in Hebrew and Greek.

The three letter stem of the Hebrew    (abd or avd) gives the idea of a slave, a servant, a worshiper. Avodat = service or worship. The Arabic is the same.  $\alpha\upsilon$  ∴  $\square$  Abdollah = slave of Allah, servant of Allah, worshiper of Allah.

In the Greek  $\delta\upsilon\omicron\theta\lambda\alpha$  ∴  $\upsilon$  (latría) can be translated either as service or worship. See Romans 12:2. Rev. 22:3,4 (and 7:15) do the same. We will serve God (NIV) or worship Him (ESV).

I like the way Rev. 22:3,4 brings all the aspects of worship together in the coming age

- 1] In the coming age the LAMB is at the center of all things
- 2] We will enjoy a permanent intimate relationship with God—“face to face”
- 3] His name is now our name “on their foreheads”
- 4] There is no need for a temple any longer
- 5] Service and worship are indistinguishable