

## True Worshippers

**Text: John 4:23** *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

**Introduction:** Jesus separated the Father's worship from tradition, formalism, professionalism, and other ideologies of what people call worship.

1. God is seeking Worship to Himself
2. God is a spirit
3. The worshipers must be in spirit and truth

**John 4:3-26** *He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee. <sup>4</sup> And he must needs go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. <sup>7</sup> There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. <sup>8</sup> (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) <sup>9</sup> Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said unto her, **If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.** <sup>11</sup> The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: **from whence then hast thou that living water?** <sup>12</sup> **Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?**<sup>13</sup> Jesus answered and said unto her, **Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: <sup>14</sup> But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.** <sup>15</sup> The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw. <sup>16</sup> Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. <sup>17</sup> The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: <sup>18</sup> For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly. <sup>19</sup> The woman saith unto him, **Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.** <sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.*

**In the Old Testament, the concept of worship is multifaceted. The Hebrew word for worship is “shachah,” which signifies actions like prostration, reverence, and submission before a deity.** It involves physically bowing down and serving God, acknowledging His worthiness and authority. So, worship encompasses both adoration and obedience, emphasizing our relationship with the Creator.

The Samaritans, a group with partial Israelite ethnicity, had a unique religious practice. After the return of Judah, they ceased to worship idols but invented an alternate religion. They chose **Mount Gerizim**(Mount of Blessing and Mt Ebal the Mount of Cursing) **as their holy mountain**, in direct opposition to Jerusalem. This action continued Jeroboam's policy of separating the ten northern tribes from the one true God in Jerusalem

**John 4:21** *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. <sup>22</sup> **Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.***

**John 4:23** *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. <sup>25</sup> The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. <sup>26</sup> Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.*

## HIS NEW FOCUS: Worship in spirit and truth

### 1. God fathered our spirit – We worship in spirit

**Romans 8:15** *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. <sup>16</sup> The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: <sup>17</sup> And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

### 2. Jesus the way, truth and life

**John 14:6** *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

**John 17:17** *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

### 3. Enter Boldly into the Holiest of His presence

**Hebrews 10:16** *This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; <sup>17</sup> And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. <sup>18</sup> Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. <sup>19</sup> Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; <sup>21</sup> And having an high priest over the house of God; <sup>22</sup> Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) <sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: <sup>25</sup> Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

### 4. Your spirit prophesies, prays and sings to the Lord

**1 Corinthians 14:13** *Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. <sup>14</sup> For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. <sup>15</sup> What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. <sup>16</sup> Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? <sup>17</sup> For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.*

**1 Corinthians 14:24** *But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: <sup>25</sup> And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.*

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## Worship God with your tithes (10%), first-fruits, sacrifices and offerings

**2 Corinthians 9:6** *NLT Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. <sup>7</sup> You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.*