

Worship of The Church

(Wednesday, May 26th 2010)

Time began in worship (Job 38:1-7) and ends with worship (Revelation 5:11-14).

In our series on The Church we have studied pictures of the Church which showed us who we are as the church which affects what we practice.

1. Pictures of the Church:

2. Practices of the Church (Acts 2:42-47):

Today there are “Worship Wars.”

War between *contemporary music and traditional music, seeker sensitive or evangelism and glorifying God and edification of believers, experience oriented worship and God centered worship, the regulative principle of worship (Lev 10:1-3) and the normative principle.*

True Worship

John 4 is the worship chapter. Jesus pursues and converts a non-worshiper into a “true worshiper” (4:23). From this chapter we learn that true worship

1. Is Directed to God *the Father* (John 4:21-24).
2. Is Directed to the Father through *the Son* (John 4:26).
3. Is Directed to the Father through the Son in *the Spirit* (John 4:24).

Elements of Worship

1. The influence of the OT Temple:

- A. There are no more animal sacrifices because of the death of Christ (Heb 9:23-28; 10:11 ff)
- B. The language of sacrifice continues (1 Cor 3:16-17; 6:19; Eph 2:21-22)

2. The influence of the Synagogue. There were three elements in synagogue worship

- 1) Prayer** was private (1 Thess 1:2; 5:17) and corporate (Acts 2:42, 46; 3:1; 1 Tim 2:1ff)
- 2) Praise** was expressed in song (Psalm 24; Matthew 26:30; Psalms 115-118; Acts 16:25; Col 3:16; Eph 5:19)

3) The centrality of the Word

- A. The Word was read (1 Tim 4:13; Col 4:16; 1 Thess 5:27; Rev 1:3)
- B. The Word was preached (Acts 2:42; 6:4, 7; 20:7ff; 1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2)