

## **Studies in Christianity Christian Worship #7**

**S#1.**

### **Offering Sacrifices to God**

**S#2.**

**Text : Psalms 95: 1-8 ; Psalms 51: 1-13**

#### **A. This series about worship has been a joy for which to study.**

**S#3.**

1. The etymology of the word “worship”
  - a. The Greek “proskuneó” = **worship** = to kiss the ground, pay complete obeisance
  - b. The Old English “weorthscipe” = **worship** = to attribute honor, reverence paid to
2. The worship of God is to pay complete obeisance to Him because of what He is.

#### **B. We express our worship differently when assembled than when we’re alone.**

1. God will only accept worship when it is expressed as He directs.
2. There aren’t a lot of directions given for Christians so we are careful to follow examples we find in the N.T.
3. We perform certain rituals as we worship, **but** worship is an expression of one’s heart toward God, an acknowledgment of what one feels about Him.

#### **C. We have looked at the rituals so let us transition into the feelings.**

**S#4.**

1. When I speak of rituals, I speak of the acts of obeisance we perform.
  - a. Eating the Lord’s Supper
  - b. Singing God’s praises
  - c. Acknowledging God in Prayer
  - d. Sacrificing from our means
  - e. Listen to God’s word read
  - f. Being taught God’s word
  - g. Fellowship with God’s family
  - h. Encourage and edify God’s family
2. When we assemble we do all or part of this acts because of what we feel.

#### **D. This lesson will look at some of the emotions behind our worship.**

**S#5.**

1. Joy because we are permitted to approach the throne of grace.
2. Gratitude for all that God has done for us. ( *Esp. salvation* )
3. Longing to be near to God.

**I. The assembly of the saints should be a time of great Joy.****S#6.****A. Any occasion to gather around the feet of God is a reason to rejoice.****S#7.**

1. **Psa. 122: 1** – I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
2. What is your mood like on Sunday morning ?
  - a. I'm tired; I wish I could sleep in.
  - b. Well, let's get this over with.
  - c. I wonder if Sally is going to be there. She posted that she had a date last night.
3. OR .. are you optimistic and looking forward to being in the assembly.
  - a. I wonder who is going to lead the singing; I hope they lead ...
  - b. Hurry up; I want to get there early to talk to Miss Jane before services.

**B. Worshipping Jesus has been a cause of joy since before his birth.**

1. **Luke 1: 39** – Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, **40** and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! **43** "And how has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? **44** "For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. **S#8.**
2. When the shepherds learned of the birth of Jesus it was a time of great JOY.  
**Luke 2: 10** – But the angel said to them, " Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; **11** for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **S#9.**
3. When the wise men came to worship Jesus, it was a time of great JOY.  
**Matt. 2: 10** – When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. **11** After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. **S#10.**

**C. God is the giver of JOY even in the time of suffering.**

1. Jesus rejoiced even though He had to endure the cross.  
**Heb. 13: 2** – ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **S#11.**

2. The followers of Jesus have the same attitude toward suffering.

**Heb. 10: 34** – For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one. **35** Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. S#12.

3. God gives JOY to His people.

**Neh. 12: 43** – And the singers sang, with Jezrahiah their leader, **43** and on that day they offered great sacrifices and rejoiced because God had given them great joy, even the women and children rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard from afar. S#13.

4. God has filled our hearts with a JOY that goes beyond happiness. S#14.

a. **Psa. 4: 7** – You have put more JOY in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. (ESV)

b. Joy is a gift from God; happiness depends upon circumstances. S#15.

#### **D. The Christian's JOY is based upon his salvation and his relationship with God.**

1. We rejoice in our salvation even as did God's people of old.

**Isa. 35: 10** – And the ransomed of the Lord will return and come with joyful shouting to Zion, with everlasting joy upon their heads. They will find gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. S#16.

2. When his relationship with God was broken, David longed for his joy to return :

**Psa. #51: 12** – Restore to me the joy of Your salvation  
And sustain me with a willing spirit.

3. Only in Christ do we have eternal peace with God and eternal salvation.

**Rom. 5: 1** – Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. S#17.

S#18.

\*. *The assembly of the saints is a time to rejoice in our common salvation.*

**Psa. #107: 2** – Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the adversary.

## **II. We come into the assembly with deep feelings of gratitude.**

S#19.

### **A. The scriptures urge us to express our gratitude for salvation.**

S#20.

1. **Psa. 95: 1** – O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation. **2** Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

2. As Christians we are commanded to be thankful and to express it in song. S#21.

**Col. 3: 15** – Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

- a. We are to **BE** thankful for our salvation.
  - b. We are to **express** our gratitude with songs from the **heart**.
3. This was a consistent theme we instructing about worship.

**Eph. 5: 19** – ... be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another in psalms **S#22.** and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; **20** always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

- a. Notice the consistent emphasis on the giving of thanks.
- b. “With your heart” refers to an emotional component, **not** just words said.

**B. The giving of thanks is offering a spiritual sacrifice to God.**

1. **Heb. 13: 15** – Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. **S#23.**
2. We praise God in the way that He desires to be praised :
  - a. Give thanks for His watchcare and sustenance.
  - b. Give thanks for His deliverance from sin.
  - c. Give thanks that we can anticipate eternity with Him

**C. The Christian is invited to make his request known to God, BUT not without expressing gratitude for blessings already received.**

1. **Phil. 4: 4** – Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! **5** Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. **6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **S#24.**
2. God is generous in all ways, but He wants His generosity to be acknowledged. **S#25.**

**\* Our assembly should be to joyfully acknowledge all God has done for us.**

**S#26.**

**III. Collectively our desire is be permanently assembled in the presence of God.**

**S#27.**

**A. We are Christians because we desire to be with God eternally through Christ.**

1. Before Christ, we were all separated from God by sins that we had committed.

**Rom. 6: 23** – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. ( cf - **Eph. 2: 12** ) **S#28.**

2. Spiritual death is to be separated from God. ( **Isa. 59: 1-2 ; II Thes. 1: 9** )

**B. We remember Jesus, because He promised to come for us to take us home.**

1. **John 14: 1** – Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also **S#29.**  
in Me. **2** In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.  
**3** If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself. that where I am, there you may be also.
2. Every time we partake of the communion to proclaim our faith that this is true.
3. For this reason we proudly exalt His name in the assembly and everywhere.

**C. When we are in the assembly we are with our eternal family.**

**S#30.**

1. We love our children and grandchildren, **but** they will die a rise up to face judgment.  
**Heb. 9: 27** – And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.
2. Only those who are in Christ will be saved from their sins.  
**II Tim. 3: 15** – and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings **S#31.**  
which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation  
through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
3. When Jesus returns He will glory in His own and banish the rest.
  - a. **I Thes. 1: 7<sup>b</sup>** – ... when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with **S#32.**  
His mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those  
who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of  
our Lord Jesus. **9** These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction,  
away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,  
**10<sup>a</sup>** when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day,
  - b. Those who are called His saints ( *Christians* ) will be glorified with Christ.
  - c. Those without faith and obedience will be eternally separated from God.
    - 1) Regardless of comforting doctrines, no second chance is mentioned.
    - 2) No allowance is made for those who were led astray by false religions.
    - 3) Once saved always saved offers comfort that is not real. **S#33.**  
**Christians who return to sin or join false religion are lost. – Heb. 10: 26**  
**S#34.**

**D. The assembly of the saints should always be a joyful celebration of salvation.**

**INVITATION :**

**S#35.**

- A. Will you rejoice to see the Lord coming in the air with His mighty angels?**

**S#36.**

- B. Jesus wants to save you if you'll surrender your life to Him and obey His gospel.**

## Lesson Text :

### **Psalms 95: 1-8**

- 1** O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord,  
Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.
- 2** Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,  
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
- 3** For the Lord is a great God  
And a great King above all gods,
- 4** In whose hand are the depths of the earth,  
The peaks of the mountains are His also.
- 5** The sea is His, for it was He who made it,  
And His hands formed the dry land.
- 6** Come, let us worship and bow down,  
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7** For He is our God,  
And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

### **Psalms 51: 1-13**

- 1** Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness;  
According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my  
transgressions. **2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity  
And cleanse me from my sin. **3** For I know my transgressions,  
And my sin is ever before me. **4** Against You, You only, I have  
sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are  
justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.
- 5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother  
conceived me. **6** Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being,  
And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom. **7** Purify  
me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be  
whiter than snow. **8** Make me to hear joy and gladness,  
Let the bones which You have broken rejoice. **9** Hide Your face  
from my sins And blot out all my iniquities.
- 10** Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast  
spirit within me. **11** Do not cast me away from Your presence  
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. **12** Restore to me the  
joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.
- 13** Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners will  
be converted to You.