**Worship: What is it and why does it matter? — Part 3**

1. Worship Terminology in the New Testament
   1. To bow down, pay homage, worship [*proskyneō* (προσκυνέω)]
      1. Common New Testament Uses
         1. Worship performed at the temple (Jn. 12:20; Acts 8:27)
         2. Worship directed toward Jesus (Matt. 2:2, 11; 14:32-33; 28:9, 14; John 9:38; Heb. 1:6; Rev. 5:13-14 w/ Rev. 19:10 & 22:9)
         3. Worship fulfilled in Heaven (Rev. 4:10; 7:11; 11:16-17)
      2. The New Testament Shift
         1. The nature of the shift

*In the New Testament, worship moves away from being centered around a place and moves away from outward ceremonial forms and rituals. Proskyneō (προσκυνέω) disappears almost entirely from the Epistles*!

* + - 1. Reasons for the shift (John 4:20-24)
         1. Focal point is no longer the temple but Christ who is in heaven.
         2. Ceremonial forms are no longer required; the requirements are exclusively heart-level realities.
      2. Implications of this shift
         1. The essence of this worship [proskyneō (προσκυνέω)] is still carried out by believers.

In corporate worship

In personal worship

* + - * 1. Worship is not constrained by outward ceremonial forms; it doesn’t forbid them but neither does it require them.

Form (while not biblically mandated) can still be good and helpful.

Be on guard against contenting yourself with fulfilling external forms while neglecting the heart!

* + - 1. Exceptions to this shift: contexts of conversion (1 Cor. 14; Rev. 14:7)
  1. To worship, serve, minister [*latreuo* (λατρεύω)]
     1. This worshipping-service is the goal of redemption (Luke 1:68-75; Acts 7:7; Heb. 9:14; Rev. 7:15; 22:3).
     2. This worshipping-service described temple activities (rituals and offerings) (Luke 2:37; Acts 26:6-7; Heb. 9:9-10; 10:2).
     3. This worshipping-service was performed in a lifestyle of devotion.
        1. This lifestyle is the distinguishing mark of true believers (Acts 24:11-4; 27:23; 2 Tim. 1:3)
        2. This lifestyle grows out of a life transformed by the Spirit and dependence on the Gospel (Phil. 3:3)
           1. Because of the cleansing from sin and guilt (Heb. 9:14)
           2. Because of the expectation of promises (Heb. 12:28)