

## “Worship”

I. The first mention of the word “worship” is **Genesis 22:5**.

**5** He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

A. It is the Hebrew word “shachah” (shaw-Kaw), which means:

1. to prostrate in homage to royalty
2. to bow down
3. to crouch
4. to fall down flat
5. to reverence

B. In the New Testament it is **Matthew 2:2** where we find the Greek word “proskuneo” which means:

**2** and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

1. to kiss “like a dog licking his master’s hand”
2. to crouch or prostrate oneself
3. to reverence

C. Also an example in **Matthew 4:9-10** and the last time in scripture in **Rev. 22:9**.

**9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

**10** Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

**9 But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!**

D. From Genesis to Revelation, it seems that the “act of worship” is willfully giving someone authority over yourself!

1. Abraham willfully built an alter and was willing to give his son!
2. Jesus had a choice to bow to satan...and refused!
3. The “act of John’s will” was interpreted by the angel and he was told to direct it toward God!

II. Don’t get distracted from the main thing...Worship!

- A. Christians tend to be very busy people with mission trips, conferences and endless church activities!
- B. Yet even the Ten Commandments direct us toward worship first!

**Exodus 20:1-5**

**20 And God spoke all these words:**

**2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.**

**3 “You shall have no other gods before me.**

**4 “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.**

1. God directs our thoughts toward Him. (verse 2)
2. Directs our hearts toward Him (verse 3)
3. Directs our worship toward Him. (verse 4-5a)

C. God demands purity of worship then and He demands it now!

#### **Ephesians 5:25-27**

**25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing[a] her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.**

D. Father, Son and Holy Spirit deserve our full attention!

#### **Luke 10:38-42**

**38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."**

1. Mary sat still and listened. (verse 39)
2. Martha was distracted. (verse 40)
3. When we get distracted we become anxious / troubled! (41)

4. When we sit still before Him, we get a little taste of eternity! (42)
5. **II Timothy 2:4** – Let's please Him!

**4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.**

- E. Only when we get the first step right, will we be effective with the next step.

**Mark 12:30-31**

**30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."**