



Is Worship an Action or an Emotion?

(John 4:23-24)

Introduction:

1. When discussing the topic of worship, many questions surface.
2. One of those questions that arise is, "Is worship an emotion?" or "Is worship just and emotion?"
3. This morning we seek to answer this question. Let us study together...

I. What is Worship?

- A. By looking at a couple of the words used for worship in the Scriptures (Hebrew – "*sarah*"; Greek – "*proskyneō*") we were able to see that worship is a bowing down toward, to prostrate, to show respect, to show homage, to show reverence.
- B. Worship is showing respect, reverence, homage, bowing down toward, and prostrating one's self toward God.

II. Is Worship an Action or an Emotion?

- A. Worship involves our actions.
 1. Worship involves showing respect, reverence, homage toward God.
 2. Bowing down, prostrating one's self is an action.
 3. Has God given us certain actions to follow in our worship to Him:
 - a. Singing (Matthew 26:20, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16)
 - b. Praying (1 Timothy 2:8; James 5:16)
 - c. Teaching (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 14:19, 34-40)
 - d. Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34)
 - e. Collection (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)
- B. Worship involves your emotions.
 1. Worship involves your mind. You must be focused on who you are showing homage, respect, reverence toward.
 - a. A hindrance is that our worship can become man-centered instead of God-centered.
 2. Look at 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. Was emotions involved in the Lord's Supper?
 3. Are emotions involved in singing? (1 Corinthians 14:15)
 4. (Matthew 15:8-9)

III. What Can We Learn from these Scriptures?

- A. Worship is not just emotions.
 1. Did Nadab and Abihu have a bad attitude or preform a sinful action? (Leviticus 10:1,2)
 2. Was it possible to express emotions in Ethiopia? (Acts 8:27)
 3. Was the sacrifice of Cain with a wrong attitude? (Genesis 4:3-5)
- B. Worship involves are mind as well as our actions:
 1. Our mental focus must be God.
 2. Our actions must be the ones prescribed by God.

Conclusion:

1. Our worship toward God consists of our minds and our actions.
2. Both our actions and our minds must be God-centered.