

The Loveliness and Power of Worshiping God

- I. **In one conversation with a Samaritan woman, Jesus revealed what the worship of God really looks like (John 4:19-26).**
 - A. We are the new temple of God in which the Spirit lives individually and corporately. We can pray and worship God at any time or place (I Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19-20).
 - B. Our whole life is a living sacrifice to God (Romans 12:1-3). The Spirit living inside of us transforms our mind and renews it so we can discover what God's will is--that is, "His good, pleasing, and perfect will" for every one of us.
 - C. If just two of us come into agreement about something in prayer, the Father will answer. "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18-20).

- II. **The benefits of worshiping God**
 - A. Worship reveals to us the beauty and favor of the Lord (Psalm 27:1-4) and causes the defeat of our enemies (Psalm 27:5-6). Examples: David and his lyre (I Samuel 16:23); Jehoshaphat and the Valley of Berakah [*praise*] (II Chronicles 20:17-30); Paul and Silas (Acts 16:25-34)
 - B. Worship renews our confidence and hope (Psalm 27:13-14).
 - C. Worship comforts and reassures us when we have failed or become distant from God (II Samuel 12:18-25).
 - D. Worship is where we find a new heart for truth (Psalm 51:10-12). Some of the holiest moments in my life have come when I turned to the Lord in the face of discouragement or failure (Psalm 51:15-17).
 - E. Worship helps us hear God's voice and direction for our lives (Acts 13:1-3; II Kings 3:14-19).
 - F. Worship is directly connected to thanksgiving and being filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:17-20; Psalm 100:1-4).
 - G. Worship is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances" (Thessalonians 5:16-18).
 - H. Rejoicing in the Lord with thanksgiving and petition directly leads to a peace that transcends all understanding and "will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4-7).

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