

THE NEED FOR MEANINGFUL WORSHIP

Matthew 4:10

Introduction: Worship is one of the deepest needs of the Christian's life, yet it is one of the weakest points in the Christian's life. Because of a weak, almost meaningless worship of the Lord, there is often a lack of peace, an absence of spiritual power and constantly falling into sin. All these things and many more can be traced directly to the failure to worship the Lord God.

The story is told of Kamikaze pilots of World War II how that there was an invasion by Mongolians upon the Japanese islands. There was a typhoon that appeared and destroyed the invaders. Thus "kamikaze," the divine wind. During World War II, Japanese pilots volunteered to become "kamikaze" or the wind of god. Their intense dedication to a god showed results in a special kind of pilot/people. They deliberately, willingly gave their lives for this wind god and their country.

Is it possible that some Christians have not been worshipping right?

I. ONE MUST UNDERSTAND WHAT TRUE WORSHIP IS

1. In some religions there are rituals, dances, idols, gods, witch doctors, sacrifices, gifts brought.
2. Some people think that just going to a church service is worship.
3. True worship consists of an attitude as well as activity. A response of the soul to the Heavenly Father. Receiving from God and giving back all to God.
4. True worship is adoration and appreciation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. ONE MUST RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF TRUE WORSHIP

1. True worship brings a consciousness of sin that then leads to confession and then to forgiveness.
2. True worship brings one's soul into harmony with God's will.
3. True worship gives one a sense of security as the nearness of God becomes very real and clear.
4. True worship brings one above the mundane, hum-drum, temporary things of life.
5. True worship solves one's problems in family, business, and personal.
6. True worship brings a sense of responsibility toward God and others.

III. ONE MUST UNDERSTAND THE CONDITONS NECESSARY FOR TRUE WORSHIP

1. There must be adequate preparation. Just walking through the church doors does not automatically bring one into God's presence.

2. There must be participation. Are you a spectator or participant?
 - Do the songs speak to you?
 - Do you pray when other pray?
 - Does the message say anything to you?

CONCLUSION:

1. True worship is essential to spiritual growth.
2. True worship or not depends entirely upon the one worshipping.
3. True worship makes one noticeably different.
4. True worship pleases God.