

## *True Worshipers (1)*

by Larry DeLong

We live in a fast-paced world with many distractions that grab our attention and pull us away from where we are and what we should be doing. We need to slow down and focus on our true priorities – giving attention to our God! As I look out on the crowds on Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday evening, I wonder, “Where is everybody?” I realize that over the last few months we have been inundated with a pandemic of allergy and respiratory problems; however, not every absentee has been physically sick, or sick enough to legitimately miss worship. The problem goes much deeper for some – they have a heart problem – a spiritual heart problem!

The Lord God is our Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer, and Savior and is “*not willing that any should perish,*” 2 Peter 3:9. He has given us “*every good and every perfect gift,*” James 1:17. He was willing to sacrifice His only begotten Son that we might have eternal life (John 3:16). And God desires and demands that we worship Him. Jesus told the woman at the well in John 4:23, “*the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.*” So why is it we have such a lack of interest in paying homage to Him on a regular basis? True worshipers of God have certain and unique character traits. I think it would benefit us greatly if we considered what a true worshiper is and compare our own character traits to see if we fit that mold.

### *The True Worshiper Has a Desire to Worship*

We need the attitude of the sweet Psalmist, a man after God’s own heart, which he expressed in Psalm 148:12-13, “*Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children: Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.*” He exclaimed in Psalm 122:1, “*I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.*” Or how about Psalm 42:1-2, “*As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?*” Listen to Job’s attitude in Job 23:3, “*Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!*” Man needs to acknowledge his need for his Maker and thirst for Him. If we fail to recognize and understand that need, our worship will be lacking.