

True Worshipers (2)

by Larry DeLong

The True Worshiper Possesses Profound Gratitude for the Grace of God

The true worshiper seeks every opportunity to acknowledge his dependence upon God and realizes that without God's blessings, he could not live. Again, listen to the sentiment of the Psalmist. "*O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us,*" Psalm 117:1-2. "*What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?*" Psalm 116:12. "*Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever,*" Psalm 106:1. What kind of gratitude do we show?

The True Worshiper Gives Reverence to God and Worships from the Heart

True worship involves emotions; yet it is genuine and based upon knowledge. "*Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD,*" 1 Chronicles 16:10. "*The LORD... shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice,*" 2 Kings 17:36. "*I will praise thee with my whole heart,*" Psalm 138:1. The true worshiper is not passive in his worship, waiting for some mystical uplift from the performance of the song leader, preacher or others. Contrariwise, he lifts up praise and adoration to God, within the prescribed way, out of a heart filled with reverence, gratitude, compassion, praise and supplication.

The True Worshiper Realizes That God Is Close at Hand

Unlike many who think God is so remote that He cannot be sought or found, God has revealed to us that He is always close to help in time of need. Paul made known the true God to the idol worshipers in Athens saying, "*That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us,*" Acts 17:27. God dwelt among His people the Israelites as His glory filled the tabernacle and Solomon's temple on numerous occasions. Today, He dwells in His holy temple, the church of Christ (1 Corinthians 3:16-17). Thus, when we assemble together, He is in the midst of us (Matthew 26:28-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16). The righteous people of the Old Testament walked with God and desired to be in His presence. Should we not have the same desire?

I would like to finish with the verse I started with at the beginning of this article, God is "*not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance,*" 2 Peter 3:9. The key to being a true worshiper, one that is pleasing to God, is to make the necessary changes to become what God wants us to be. Don't be like the counterfeit worshipers in Matthew 7:22-23 and discover your error when it is too late. Repent today – put God first in your life and become a true worshiper!