1 – **Acceptable Worship**

Leviticus 10:1-3; John 4:23-24

2 - **What Is Worship?**

Defined, “to **prostrate oneself in worship**… do **reverence, adore**” (Strong) . “**Homage to a superior**” (Thayer)

1. **Done together when assembled**:
* Observing the **Lord’s supper** (1 Corinthians 11:17ff)
* **Laying by in store** (1 Corinthians 16:1)

3 - **What Is Worship?**

1. **Together in the assembly or alone**.
* **Singing** (Ephesians 5:19; Acts 16:25; Matthew 26:30)
* **Praying** (Colossians 4:3; 1 Thess. 5:17, 1 Corinthians 14:16)
* **Preaching/teaching** (Acts 20:7-8, 20; 19:8-9)

4 - **Who Is Worshipped?**

* **Only God!**(Acts 10:25-26; 12:23; Luke 4:8; Revelation 19:9-10; 22:8-9)

5 - **Why Worship?**

* He is our **Creator and Maker**. (Psalms 95:1-6; Romans 1:21-25)
* **Salvation He authored** and **blessings** and **hope** made possible. (Ephesians 1:3-13; Hebrews 5:9; 1 Peter 1:3-4)
* Our **adoption as sons** and **joint heirs** with His Son. (Romans 8:14-17; Galatians 4:4-7)
* **Because of His love and patience.** (John 3:16; Romans 5:8;
2 Peter 3:9)

**God seeks it!** (John 4:23)

6 - **Unacceptable Worship**

**Not all worship accepted by God**.

* *“****Shut the gates****…* ***uselessly****”* (Malachi 1:10)
* God, *“I have* ***had enough****… I take* ***no pleasure****…* ***worthless****…* ***cannot endure****…”* (Isaiah 1:10-14)
* There is worship that God ***“hates”***, ***“rejects”*** & considers ***“noise”*** that He will not listen to. (Amos 5:21-24)

**What is acceptable worship?**

7 - **Authorized Worship**

* Leviticus 10:1-3, Nadab and Abihu used ***“strange fire”*** which God had not commanded.
* 1 Samuel 13:8-14, King Saul was not authorized to offer the sacrifices.
* We must accept our roles in the body. (2 Chronicles 26:18)
* Genesis 4:3-7, Abel offered the sacrifice ***“by faith”*** rather than Cain.
* John 4:24, Worship must be according to truth.

8 - **Not just when it’s convenient**

* 1 Kings 12:28-30, *“It is* ***too much*** *for you to go up to Jerusalem…”*
* Acts 8:27, we read of an Ethiopian who traveled to Jerusalem to worship.
* True worship **involves sacrifice of our time, energy and blessings**.

9 - **Reverent Worship**

* 2 Samuel 6:7-8, God struck Uzzah down because of his irreverence. How was Uzzah irreverent?
* Ecclesiastes 5:1-2, *“****draw near to listen****, rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools…”*
* 1 Chronicles 16:29, worship should be in a manner worthy of the glory due His name.
* **To whose glory? (**Haggai 1:7-8, 12; Psalms 95:6-7,
Hebrews 12:28-29)

10 - **Zealous/knowledgeable Worship**

* John 4:22, do we worship that which do not know?
(2 Kings 17:24ff; cf., Romans 10:2)
* Malachi 1:6-14, ***“my how tiresome it is”*** (cf., Psalms 122:1;
1 John 5:3.) **God would rather not have it**. (Amos 5:21-23; Isaiah 1:11-16)
* Jeremiah 26:2, true worship is to overcome ignorance.

11 - **Unhypocritical Worship**

* **Deal with our sin**. (Matthew 5:23-26; Jeremiah 7:3-11)
* With sincerity/**Not in vain**. (Matthew 15:1-9; Amos 5:21-24; Isaiah 1:11-15)
* Worship with integrity - i.e., ***“a whole heart”*** (1 Chronicles 29:17)

**Unrepented sin interferes** with our worship. (1 Peter 3:7)