

THE HEART OF WORSHIP

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY ABOUT YOUR WORSHIP?

Matthew 15:1-20 Jeff Schreve

Vain worship is empty, fruitless, pointless and worthless.

True worship is pleasing to God and comes from the heart.

For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

2 Chronicles 16:9

How can you tell if your worship is worthless?

1. You have trouble rejoicing with Jesus.

And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent into all that surrounding district and brought to Him all who were sick; and they began to entreat Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it were cured. Matthew 14:34-36

*Do you rejoice in what He is doing or just find fault?

2. You elevate the traditions of men over the Word of God.

“Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.” And He answered and said to them, “And why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?” Matthew 15:2-3

“Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.” He was also saying to them, “You nicely set aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.” Mark 7:8-9

*Do you tend to make a sacred cow out of traditions?

3. You disobey God and cover it over with religion.

“For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him be put to death.’ But you say, ‘Whoever shall say to his father or mother, “Anything of mine you might have been helped by has been

given to God," he is not to honor his father or his mother.' And thus you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition. Matthew 15:4-6

*Do you cover over your sin with a religious smokescreen?

4. You are more concerned with looking right than being right.

*Then he said, "I have sinned; **but** please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and go back with me, that I may worship the LORD your God." 1 Samuel 15:30*

*Do you understand that God is all about the heart?

Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man. Matthew 15:16-20

Where is your heart in relation to Him?