

The Heart of Worship

Exodus 20.20-26

June 3rd, 2018

Introduction:

- “Worship is the first and most basic _____ of any believer...” - Stuart, NAC *Exodus* p.471
- God sets the tone here for how he is to be worshiped; all the things set forth relate to the person’s attitude.

Main Points: acceptable worship requires....

1. _____ -- ²² Then the LORD said to Moses, Tell the Israelites this: You have seen for yourselves that I have spoken to you from heaven:
 - Nehemiah 9.13-14; Hebrews 12.28-29
 - Reverence does not mean we are void of joy, but we must be _____ of who it is we are worshipping and behave appropriately.
2. _____ -- ²³ Do not make any gods to be alongside me; do not make for yourselves gods of silver or gods of gold.
 - Isaiah 44.13-20
 - When we come together we do so with the _____ on Christ alone.
3. _____ -- ²⁴ Make an altar of earth for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, your sheep and goats and your cattle.
 - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in his book *The Cost of Discipleship*, makes the point: if your faith costs you _____ it is worth nothing.
 - Mark 12.41-44

4. _____ - Wherever I cause my name to be honored, I will come to you and bless you.
 - God is ever present, but in worship we become more sensitive to his presence, a blessing to all who perceive it.
 - When we are able to release all of the distractions that surround us we can experience the blessing of being in the _____ of God.
5. _____ -- ²⁵ If you make an altar of stones for me, do not build it with dressed stones, for you will defile it if you use a tool on it.
 - 1Peter 2.4-5
 - It is the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the Lamb that _____ us for this role.
6. _____ -- ²⁶ And do not go up to my altar on steps, or your private parts may be exposed.’
 - Genesis 3.7
 - Genesis 9.20-27

Conclusion

- The Heart of Worship - the story behind the song...
- Worship has as much to do with the _____ as with the _____.
- We cultivate beliefs and attitudes in our _____.
- Those _____ prepare our hearts for worship.
- The _____ worship of God requires the attitudes of reverence, clarity, sacrifice, expectation, sanctity and dignity.
- These attitudes are _____ to the heart of worship.

So Will I - Hillsong

God of creation
There at the start
Before the beginning of time
With no point of reference
You spoke to the dark
And fleshed out the wonder of light

And as You speak
A hundred billion galaxies are born
In the vapor of Your breath the planets form
If the stars were made to worship so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You've made
Every burning star
A signal fire of grace
If creation sings Your praises so will I

God of Your promise
You don't speak in vain
No syllable empty or void
For once You have spoken
All nature and science
Follow the sound of Your voice

And as You speak
A hundred billion creatures catch Your breath
Evolving in pursuit of what You said
If it all reveals Your nature so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You say
Every painted sky
A canvas of Your grace
If creation still obeys You so will I
So will I
So will I

If the stars were made to worship so will I
If the mountains bow in reverence so will I
If the oceans roar Your greatness so will I
For if everything exists to lift You high so will I
If the wind goes where You send it so will I
If the rocks cry out in silence so will I
If the sum of all our praises still falls shy
Then we'll sing again a hundred billion times

God of salvation
You chased down my heart
Through all of my failure and pride
On a hill You created
The light of the world
Abandoned in darkness to die

And as You speak
A hundred billion failures disappear
Where You lost Your life so I could find it here
If You left the grave behind You so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You've done
Every part designed in a work of art called love
If You gladly chose surrender so will I
I can see Your heart
Eight billion different ways
Every precious one
A child You died to save
If You gave Your life to love them so will I

Like You would again a hundred billion times
But what measure could amount to Your desire
You're the One who never leaves the one behind