



iBelieve In Worship

(1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

- Introduction:
1. For the past several weeks, we have been discussing fundamental beliefs of Christianity.
 2. Thus far, we have discussed God, the Bible, the church, holiness, discipline, and today we are going to discuss the topic of worship.
 3. Let's examine several challenges to worship.

I. The Challenge of Authority

- A. Many believe that whatever one offers to God from a sincere heart is acceptable to him.
- B. Many are saying that worship is "unregulated."
- C. However, if worship were unregulated, then how could one's worship be
 1. Vain (Matthew 15:8-9).
 2. Ignorant (Acts 17:23).
 3. Will Worship (Colossians 2:23).
- D. (Colossians 3:17).

II. The Challenge of Selfishness

- A. Worshipers may be more concerned about what they "get" than what they "give."
- B. "Getting something out of worship" is not the aim of worship, but a by-product of worship.
- C. Offering "Contemporary" & "Traditional" worship services do not speak of tolerance, but inflexibility and selfishness.

III. The Challenge of Entertainment

- A. Worship should be more than a circus or a show.
- B. There is a sacredness and solemnity to worship that cannot be sacrificed on the altar of entertainment.
- C. (Psalm 29:2).
- D. The church, gospel, worship, etc. cannot be packaged and peddled like products in a store because there is an offense that cannot be removed (Galatians 5:11).

IV. The Challenge of Autonomy

- A. (Romans 14:1-6).
- B. While I may have strong preferences on some matters, I cannot bind my preferences.

V. The Nature of True Worship

- A. (John 4:24).
 1. The Proper Object - God.
 2. The Proper Standard - Truth.
 3. The Proper Attitude - Spirit.

- Conclusion:
1. iBelieve in worship & when it becomes what God wants it to be, it will not be:
 - a. A Battleground, but Holy Ground.
 - b. A Source of Division, but a Source of Unity.
 - c. A Time of Self-Gratification, but Time to Please God.