

Worship, What Does It Mean To You?

First of all we can worship anything we want too! Yes, that's right , we can worship anything! Notice, I did not say that God would approve of our worship. Let us turn our Bibles back to Genesis 2:15--And Jehovah God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Do we understand that Jehovah God has the right as Creator to restrict His creation ? Can we understand this restriction in no wise jeopardizes or impairs man's service to God? Gen.2:21-25--And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof: 22 and the rib, which Jehovah God had taken from the man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And the man said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. Is there anything said about man and woman being unhappy? No!

God has not revealed to us what the time interval was between the creation of woman and the temptation by Satan (Gen.3). Now, what God has revealed thus far is, that God and man can walk in harmony. Now, who in Gen.3 changes? Almighty God or Man? Man of course. Now, if we could carry this thought of change into our current society, knowing that Christ has "...All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth."(Mat.28:18). Christ, having all authority has sent out His apostles to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to all mankind and Paul an apostle of Christ (Gal.1:1--Paul, an apostle (not from men, neither through man, but through Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead)), declared in Gal.1:6 I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; 7 which is not another [gospel] only there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema. 9 As we have said before, so say I now again, if any man preacheth unto you any gospel other than that which ye received, let him be anathema. Question? How quickly, did Eve and Adam remove

themselves from their benefactor? Remember, who moved? Now, In Paul's day who moved from the gospel of Christ? Christ or man? Man has from the beginning of time tried to justified his move away from God, BUT, God does not and will not accept man's departures from His authority.

The word "Anathema" as defined by W.E. Vines "(b) of the object on which the curse is laid, "accursed"... In Gal 1:8,9, the Apostle declares in the strongest manner that the Gospel he preached was the one and only way of salvation, and that to preach another was to nullify the Death of Christ".

Today, if a group of individuals are following the same gospel that Christ's Apostles preached would they be pleasing to God? YES! Can you and I worship God and Christ in the same manner as the first century Christians did? YES! You might ask how? In Paul's second letter to Timothy he states (3:16-17) "Every scripture inspired of God [is] also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness. 17 That the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work. Back to the Garden of Eden, did Adam and Eve have every thing necessary for their good works in the Garden before they were tempted? Of course! When the father of lies channeled their minds to think of themselves instead of God what happen? They sinned! Today, what happens when man turns his mind to please himself instead of God? He sins! You see there is no difference, it doesn't matter how many years pass between Creation and the current day, if man substitutes God's Way for his own way he sins.

How does God want us to worship Him today? The same way the Apostles declared by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. God and Christ demand Gospel Preaching: But how do I know that's what Christ wants? Look at Mat.28:19-20--Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: 20 teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. In Acts chapter 2, Peter and the eleven apostles preach the gospel of Christ to devout Jews on this occasion. The Lord's Supper: 1Cor.11:23:26 For I received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which he was betrayed took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, This is my body, which is for you: this do in remembrance of me. In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood: this do, as often as ye drink [it], in remembrance of me. Prayer: Jesus tells

His Apostles how to pray (Mat.6:9-13), in 1Thes.5:16-18 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to you-ward. Singing: In Eph.5:19 the first century Christians are told how to praise God, "speaking one to another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;". Contribution: In 1Cor.16:1-2 tell us we need to" Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I gave order to the churches of Galatia, so also do ye. Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come". Can we follow the gospel today? YES! We can and do! Our goal is to serve God and Christ as they have commanded man, reverently and soberly.