

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#13] *True Worship* – Deuteronomy 4:12–24; Isaiah 42:1–8

Sermon Outline – October 8, 2017

Children's Sermon: How Do You Practice Living for Jesus?

2 Corinthians 5:15

...and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Who died and was raised from the dead for us?

Is it right that we should live for Jesus?

How do we do this?

What has God given to you kids so that you can practice this?

What exactly are you doing here?

Notes:

The Historical Review

The Lord's Powerful Grace in the Wilderness (1:6–4:40)

Moses: Keep the Covenant! (4:1–40)

Find out what God said, then trust it & do it!

God's Name/Holiness/Glory Matters!

Yahweh is to be Represented by Obedience not Idols (12–24)

- God revealed himself with words not images/forms (12-14)
- Therefore: Yahweh is not to be **worshipped** through our eyes, but through listening & obeying his words. (15-20)
- Look what happened to me (says Moses). (21-22)
- Therefore: Do not forget...Don't make images! (23-24)

²⁴ **For** the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Isaiah 42:8

⁸ **I am the Lord**; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Israel should be careful to treat Yahweh as holy by living a life of worship vs. pursuing a worship experience.

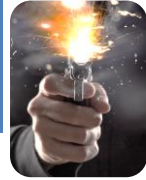


Jesus Makes God's Glory Visible! (2 Cor. 4:4)

Prone to Rob God of His Glory (Rom. 1:18–23)

...*Fired at our Life & Heart*

Until Jesus returns, we see God's glory with our ears not our eyes!



True Worship

True Worship: The Proper Way to See God

Isaiah 42:1–8 (Cf. Is. 61; Luke 4:18–21)

¹ *Behold my servant*, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom *my soul delights*; I have put my Spirit upon him; *he will bring forth justice* to the nations. ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; *he will faithfully bring forth justice*. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged *till he has established justice* in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. ⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ “I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ **I am the Lord**; that is my name; *my glory I give to no other*, nor my praise to carved idols.

Hebrews 10:5–7

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, **I have come to do your will**, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’ ”

John 6:38

³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

The Danger of Idol Worship

It is Offensive to God

Deuteronomy 4:28

²⁸ And there you will serve *gods of wood and stone*, the work of human hands, that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.

But...

Why are we so prone to confuse our Creator with his creation in our worship?

Why is God so offended by this?

Why do **pictures** and **created things** feel so compelling to us?

Isaiah 42:8

⁸ **I am the Lord**; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

- Why is it so easy to see the glory of the sun, but so slow to attribute that glory to the Creator
- The breakers: Why does ornate wealth inspire such awe and yet, God's glory (who made the precious metals etc. and endowed the craftsmen with skill) is not as immediately obvious to us?
- How is it that people can be so inspired by great cathedrals and yet give so little attention to God's actual words and commands?
- We intentionally have a God's-Word-centered worship service... and yet...
 - Have you ever considered why that is so important?
 - Have you ever puzzled about why it is so important to avoid using images to focus our attention?
 - Are you bored?

Idolatry is Destructive to Us

Psalm 115:4–8 (Cf. Psalm 135:15–18)

⁴ Their *idols* are silver and gold, the work of human hands. ⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. ⁶ They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but

do not smell. ⁷ They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. ⁸ ***Those who make them become like them***; so do all who trust in them.

- What captures our hearts? What effect does this have on us?
 - Wealth/Comfort now...
 - People...
 - Entertainment...

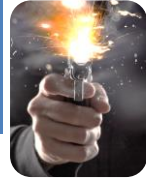
A Call to True Worship

John 4:23–24

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the **true worshipers** will worship the Father ***in spirit and truth***, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

...Fired at our Life & Heart

Is Jesus king in your heart? You can tell a lot by the tone of your submission to Him.



Are You Earnest to Learn His Commands?

Is Your Submission with Joy?

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes. (Cf. 1 Peter 2:11–12)
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.