

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#31] *Worshipping the True God Truly* – Deuteronomy 12

Sermon Outline – March 18, 2018

Children's Sermon: What is Acceptable Worship? Why is

- **David Sinned and God Sent a Plague** (1 Chronicles 21:1–14)
- **David Saw an the Angel of the LORD...** (1 Chronicles 21:16–17)
- **God Instructed David to Build an Altar** (1 Chronicles 21:18)

1 Chronicles 21:26–27 (Cf. **1 Chronicles 22:1 - Temple**)

²⁶ And David built there an altar to the Lord and presented burnt offerings and peace offerings and called on the Lord, and ***the Lord answered him with fire from heaven*** upon the altar of burnt offering. ²⁷ Then the Lord commanded the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath.

Acceptable worship means following God's instructions so that we can be saved from God's approaching judgment against us!

Exposition of the Second Commandment (Dt. 12)

Notes:

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Acceptable Worship is for God's people to meet God where he says, bringing what he says to bring.



Idolatry Book Ends

Destroy the Idolatry which is Everywhere!

² You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the *high mountains* and *on the hills* and *under every green tree*. ³

...You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and ***destroy their name*** out of that place. ⁴ **You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way.**

Do not be Enticed by Idolatry

²⁹ “When the Lord your God cuts off before you **the nations...**, ³⁰ take care that you *be not ensnared to follow them*, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you **do not inquire** about their gods, saying, ‘*How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.*’ ³¹

You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the Lord hates they have done for their gods, for ***they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.***

Acceptable Worship

Yahweh Choses the **Place** to Put His **Name**

⁵ **But** *you shall seek the place that the Lord your God will choose* out of all your tribes *to put his name* and make his habitation there. *There you shall go...*

(6X: v. 11, 14, 18, 21, 26)

²⁷ and offer *your burnt offerings*, the *flesh and the blood*, on *the altar of the Lord* your God. ...

Leviticus 9:24

²⁴ And *fire came out from before the Lord* and consumed the *burnt offering* and the pieces of fat *on the altar*, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

- Joshua 18:1– Shiloh
- 2 Chron. 7:1 – Solomon’s Temple...Fire

Yahweh Directs **What & Who to Bring** Him (Offerings)

⁶ and there you shall bring your *burnt offerings and your sacrifices*, your *tithes* and the *contribution* that you present, your *vow offerings*, your *freewill offerings*, and the *firstborn* of your herd and of your flock.

⁷ And *there you shall eat before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice*, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the Lord your God has blessed you.

(4X: v. 11-12, 17-19 – servants & Levites; 26-27 – Blood)

Watch Out for Idolatry Within Israel

⁸ “*You shall not do* according to all that we are doing here today, *everyone doing whatever is right in his own eyes...*

¹³ Take care that you *do not offer your burnt offerings at any place that you see*, ¹⁴ but at *the place that the Lord will choose* in one of your tribes, *there* you shall offer your burnt offerings, and *there* you shall do all that I am commanding you.

²³ **Only** be sure that you do not eat the blood, for *the blood is the life*, and you shall not eat the life with the flesh. ²⁴ You shall not eat it; you shall pour it out on the earth like water. ²⁵ You shall not eat it, that all may go well with you and with your children after you, when you do what is right in the sight of the Lord. ²⁶ **But** *the holy things that are due from you*, and *your vow offerings*, you shall take, and you shall go to *the place that the Lord will choose*, ²⁷ and offer *your burnt*

offerings, the flesh and the blood, on the altar of the Lord your God. The blood of your sacrifices shall be poured out on the altar of the Lord your God, but the flesh you may eat.

Attempting to Take Life vs. Trusting God to Grant Life

Acceptable Worship in the New Covenant

...Fired at our Life & Heart

Acceptable worship is to follow Jesus' instructions so that we can be saved from God's approaching judgment!



Do We Have an Idolatry Problem?

Romans 1:25a

...they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and *worshiped and served the creature* rather than the Creator...

Are We Asking the Wrong Questions About Worship?

- How did you like the service?
- Did I get anything out of it?

Are we evaluating our local Church the same way we evaluate a favorite restaurant?!

"It is scary to think of the number of times we think we are serving God when we're actually serving ourselves, or the number of times we think we are worshiping God when we're actually giving worship and service to some aspect of the creation."¹

Where is God to be Approached?

Acts 2:1–3 (Cf. John 14:6)

¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And *divided tongues as of fire* appeared to them and *rested on each one of them*.

He is Found in a Genuine Local Church!

¹ Tripp, Paul David. *New Morning Mercies: A Daily Gospel Devotional* (Kindle Locations 7191-7192). Crossway. Kindle Edition.

Matthew 28:18–20 (Cf. Matt. 16:15–19; 18:18–20)

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and *make disciples* of all nations, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you*. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Jesus Directs *What & Who we are to Bring Him* (Offerings)

Hebrews 13:10

We have *an altar* from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat.

Hebrews 10:24–25

²⁴ And let us consider how to *stir up one another to love and good works*, ²⁵ *not neglecting to meet together*, as is the habit of some, but *encouraging one another*, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

These are the Commanded Offerings:

- We Offer Jesus Life & Death (Burnt Offering)
- We Bring Ourselves (we covenant with a local church)

You Cannot serve both God & Possessions!

Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. *You cannot serve God and money.*

“Hopelessness is the doorway to hope. You have to give up on yourself before you will be excited about the hope that is yours in Christ Jesus.”²

² Tripp, Paul David. *New Morning Mercies: A Daily Gospel Devotional* (Kindle Locations 6239-6240). Crossway. Kindle Edition.