

Is Our God Truly Worth Worshipping?

Worship Defined:

Eerdmans Bible Dictionary - To pay homage to or, literally, to ascribe worth to some person or thing.

Ascribe - *assign worth, credit worth*

Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology – *Worship is both an attitude and an act*

To put value to God by our attitude and actions

I. Questions

- A. Is he worth it?
- B. Is he worth the effort?
- C. We spend a great deal of our time serving God.
 - 1. We give him 1/10 of what we earn.
 - 2. Some of us even come out in the rain to try to worship.
 - 3. We go through changes putting up with people who say they are Christians.
 - 4. What are other ways?
 - 5.

II. What does Jesus say? Spoken of in Matthew 19:16-26; Mark 10:17-27

- A. **Luke 18:18–26 (NKJV) — 18 Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, **what shall I do to inherit eternal life?**”**
 - 1. What is the question about? Is eternal life a good thing?
 - 2. So this is all about receiving the blessing of eternal life.
- B. **19 So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.**

20 You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ ”

- C. **21 And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”**

- D. Mark now tells us because of his actions

Mark 10:21 (NKJV) — 21 Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him,

- 1. Why did Jesus love him? Because he had kept his commandments.
 - a. If we keep the commandments, we are in position to receive special blessings from God.

- E. But Jesus goes on to tell him something else

- F. **22 So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and **come, follow Me.**”**

- 1. This is the very key to eternal life. A man must follow Christ.
- 2. You must be willing to deny himself, take up his cross and follow Christ.

- G. **23 But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich.**

24 And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

- H. **26 And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?”**
1. They are also disturbed. One would think that the rich would be able to be saved. But, if they cannot, then who can.
- I. **Luke 18:27 (NKJV) — 27 But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”**
1. In other words, God decides who's going to be saved.
 2. Now, we are talking about impossibilities becoming possible!
 3. *Who make the impossibilities possible?*

IMPOSSIBILITIES CAN BECOME POSSIBLE

THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD!

4. We all know there is nothing impossible for God. But we are talking about men being able to do the impossible.
- J. We must now ask ourselves
1. when do impossibilities become possible and
 2. who do they become possible to?

WHEN DO IMPOSSIBILITIES BECOME POSSIBLE?

WHO DO IMPOSSIBILITIES BECOME POSSIBLE FOR?

- K. **When** do impossibilities become possible?
1. Let us look at the context.
 2. What are we talking about?
 - a. How can this rich man experience eternal life?
 3. What must this rich man do for him to accomplish the impossibility of obtaining eternal life?
 - a. When he is willing to put Christ before his material wealth and devote his life to following Christ. Then, he would inherit eternal life.
 - b. No man can inherit eternal life without the work of Christ.
 - c. Christ would do the impossible for him.
- L. Who do impossibilities become possible for?
- 1.
- M. **Luke 18:28–30 (NKJV) — 28 Then Peter said, “See, we have left all and followed You.”**
1. Peter understood that it was necessary to put all material possessions aside in order to follow Christ and he made the next statement
- N. **29 So He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife (*Note singular – not wives*) or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,**
1. Jesus said sacrifices must be made for the kingdom of God.
 - a. What kinds of sacrifices? What must we be willing to give up for the kingdom of God?

- b. The comfort of our house. In other words material possessions.
 - c. Relationships that interfere with our worship of Christ.
 - 2. What would be the result?
- O. **30 who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.”**
 - 1. The promise is we will be able to receive much more in this time what we have given up...
- P. Matthew added
Matthew 19:29–30 (NKJV) — 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. 30 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.
 - 1. He includes lands. This means real estate!
 - 2. He said we would receive multiple times, specifically a hundredfold and then after that inherit eternal life.
 - a. This means in our current lifetime God promises a greater return than those things we have given up.
 - 3. He is also saying to us do not be deceived that many appear to be first now will be last in the kingdom of God.
 - a. We must not focus so much on the things that are an illusion of wealth.
 - b. Remember the things we see are things that are passing away. It is the things that are not seen that are internal.
- Q. Mark also tells us
Mark 10:29–30 (NKJV) — 29 So Jesus answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, 30 who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time—houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life.
 - 1. There would be challenges to worshiping God. You will be persecuted for it.
Matthew 5:11–12 (NKJV) — 11 “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
 - 2.
- R. It is important to see that impossibilities are associated with those people who are willing to put God first in their life.
 - 1. Simply put, those who were willing to honor God with the works of their hand he will honor by the words of his hand

**THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO HONOR GOD WITH THE WORKS OF THEIR HANDS
WILL FIND GOD WILLING TO HONOR THEM WITH THE WORKS OF HIS HANDS**

- S.
- T. Jesus said in reference to another man who put material possessions before his worship of God. This one Jesus called a rich fool.
Luke 12:16–21 (NKJV) — 16 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17 And he thought within himself,

saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ 18 So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.” ’ 20 But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ 21 “So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

1. In other words, we can focus on material things and ignore the worship of God but God called such people fools.
2. It is wisdom therefore to become rich before God and not worry so much about being rich before man.
3. It should be clear that we came into the world with nothing and we most certainly will leave the world with nothing.

U. The Psalmist said

Psalm 14:1 (NKJV) — 1 The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”

1. "there is" is not in the original. So the Scripture says the fool has said in his heart no to the worship of God.
2. People are fools who do not worship God!

V.

W.

III. Is our God truly worth worshipping? Examples of sacrifice being the substance upon which impossible blessings are manifested

- A. Noah had to sacrifice and continue to build an ark for over 100 years when other people were enjoying life and he was being mocked and made fun of
 1. as a result, the impossible happen to him, he and his entire family were saved when the flood came
- B. Abraham had to sacrifice by leaving his country, his people and his father's house
 1. As a result, the impossible happen for him and he had a child in his old age and became the father of many nations
- C. Jacob had to sacrifice swindling ways and submit honorably before Laban because of the will of God
 1. as a result, the impossible happen for him, he fathered the 12 tribes of Israel
- D. Joseph had to sacrifice by enduring and continue to worship God
 1. as a result, the impossible happen for him and a former slave he the second highest in the kingdom of Egypt.
- E. Moses had to sacrifice the pleasures of being a prince of Egypt
 1. as a result, the impossible happen to him, he became one of the greatest prophets and is more recognized than any king of Egypt
- F. David had to sacrifice and be faithful to God and worship in the field while his brothers were being chosen to be King
 1. As a result, the impossible happen to him, God brought him out of the field tending the sheep and had him anointed to be king.
- G. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Nebendego all sacrifice the finest foods of the kingdom
 1. as a result, the impossible happen to them, they became stronger and wiser than anyone else in Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom

- IV. Ending
Hebrews 11:35–38 (NKJV) — 35 Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.
- A.
Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV) — 1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- V. Worshiping the Lord may require some type of sacrifice but the word of God is clearly made it certain, all that worship him will receive a kingdom and rewards which cannot be shaken.
- A. just as Jesus was rewarded, we are also heirs to an exceedingly great reward if we continue to worship him.
- VI. Therefore, let us not become weary and discouraged we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood. Let us keep on worshiping him
- A. even if it means we worship him by coming out in the rain
 B. even if it means we worship him by coming out at night
 C. even if it means we worship him sometimes when we are tired
 D. even if it means we worship him and continue to give when we are afraid
 E. even if it means we worship him when others don't seem to
- VII. Remember
Luke 18:28–30 (NKJV) — 28 Then Peter said, “See, we have left all and followed You.” 29 So He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, 30 who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.”
- A.
 B. The impossible can happen for you and you can receive multiple times what you give up if you follow Christ and worship him.

Don't allow material possessions to prevent you from experiencing the impossible in this life and cause you to lose eternal life because you don't worship Christ

- C. put Christ above all things.
 D. Like the old folks have said, serving the Lord will pay off after a while.