

However, a consideration of the terms used to describe the action of worship “shows that it is not confined to praise; broadly it may be regarded as the direct acknowledgement to God, of His nature, attributes, ways and claims, whether by the outgoing of the heart in praise and thanksgiving or by deeds done in such acknowledgment” (Vine’s).

Many today consider worship to be an act that brings them pleasure or makes them feel good. However, Jesus identified the true nature of worship, when he said, “the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth.” If only in truth, then the worship is mere formalism, if only in spirit, or from the standpoint of the man, it is vain. That is basically what the prophecy of Isaiah entailed, when he said, “This people honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men” (Matthew 15:8-9). Thus truth, coupled with a heart that directly acknowledges God, (his nature, attributes, ways and claims) turns vain worship into acceptable worship.

Since the scriptures attest to the fact that there is vain worship, and successful worship, would it not behoove us to know what makes worship acceptable to God? Ross Triplett, Sr.

Solomon Says

When the whirlwind passeth, the wicked is no more; But the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

Proverbs 10:25

Basic Foundations

I. What is it all about?

- A. Lk. 19:10 – “lost” to destroy fully
- B. Mankind is lost:
 - 1. Jn. 3:16-21 – Lost because they love the darkness
 - 2. 2 Thess. 2:10 – Do not have a love for the truth
- C. Condition of Choice:
 - 1. Rom. 5:12 – “all sin”
 - 2. Rom. 6:16 – “servants ye are whom ye obey
 - 3. 1 Jn. 3:10 – “children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil”

II. Need of a Solid Foundation:

- A. Matt. 7:24-27 – Solid rock or unstable sand
- B. Upon what foundation do you wish to build?
 - 1. Rom. 1:22 – A foundation of fools
 - 2. Rom. 10:3 – A foundation of ignorance
 - 3. Eph. 2:19-22 – Foundation of Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone

III. Need for a clear understanding:

- A. Two terms that are widely used, and widely misunderstood:
 - 1. Rom. 3:28 – “We reckon therefore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.”
 - 2. Eph. 2:1-9 – “for by grace have ye been saved”
- B. Without a clear understanding of these two terms, i.e., “faith” and “grace,” several passages have been loosely and regrettably applied.
- C. These two terms will be the topic of the next study.