

# Worship

1 Chronicles 15:25-16:36

# 1 Chronicles 15:25-29

“So David and the elders of Israel and the commanders of units of a thousand went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord from the house of Obed-Edom, with rejoicing. Because God had helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord, seven bulls and seven rams were sacrificed. Now David was clothed in a robe of fine linen, as were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and as were the musicians, and Kenaniah, who was in charge of the singing of the choirs. David also wore a linen ephod. So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouts, with the sounding of rams’ horns and trumpets, and of cymbals, and the playing of lyres and harps.”

# The ark of the covenant

- Mt. Sinai- 10 Commandments
- The ark reminds them that they owe their very existence to God
- The covenant of God means the grace of God
- David wants to bring the ark back to their center

# Israel's heart is restored

- Dependence upon God—as they inquire of Him
- Obedience to God—as they follow the ways He provided for them to approach Him
- Exuberance for God—Worship
- Deuteronomy 7:7-8 “The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.”

# What is worship?

- Worship is the act of ascribing ultimate value to something in a way that engages your whole being
- Worship is worth-ship: acknowledging the worth, the worthiness, of the one who is worshipped
- Worship touches the very center of human beings—human beings on their knees in worship are at their most noblest and most human
- Worship is, as David said “Oh magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.”
- Worship is surrender

# Ascribing ultimate value

- Worship engages your mind, your will, and your emotions
- If it doesn't change your life patterns and the way you live—it is not truly worship (Tim Keller)
- Worship is taking an inventory of the excellencies of God; reflecting upon them—until there is an explosion in your life

# Worth-ship

“The English word ‘worship’ comes from the word ‘worthy’ and here is one of its classic expressions: worship means acknowledging the worth, the worthiness, of the one who is worshipped. It means gladly recognizing and celebrating the fact that God is who he is and does what he does.”

(N.T. Wright)

# Daily worship

- Worship is meant to be daily worship
- Without worship, you shrink. A non worshipping soul is a shrunken soul. We grow into the fullness of our humanity when we learn to worship God through Christ. (John Stott)
- So, everyday I will give thanks. Everyday, I will praise your name.



# Magnifying god

“Worship is the act of magnifying God. Enlarging our vision of him. As we draw nearer, he seems larger. Isn't that what we need? A big view of God? Don't we have big problems, big worries, big questions? Of course we do. Hence, we need a big view of God. Worship offers that. How can we sing 'Holy, Holy, Holy' and not have our vision expanded?”

(Max Lucado)

# Why do we worship?

- Because we are already worshipping something
- The very essence of worship is to recognize that your heart had already ascribed ultimate value to something
- Worship is reassigning the ultimate value of your life from where it is to God.
- “Worship adjusts us. It lowers the chin of the haughty and straightens the back of the burdened. It bows the knees, singing to him our praise. It opens our hearts, offering to him our uniqueness. Worship properly positions the worshipper. And oh, how we need it! We walk through life so bent out of shape.” (Max Lucado)

# How do we worship?

- In community, in truth, and in Spirit
- Corporate worship is the real transforming experience
- We worship while being submitted to the Scripture as the self-revelation about God
- The Holy Spirit makes us aware of the presence of God
- The best style of worship is the one that authentically represents your love for God based on the personality that God gave you.

# CONCLUSION

- David recognized that God had to be at the center of their lives because they owe their very existence to Him.
- What is worship? Worship is the process of recognizing who God is, drawing near to Him, shifting our ultimate value from things of this life to Him, and then surrendering ourselves to Him because then we find true rest.
- Why do we worship? We worship God because we all worship something and He is the only one who won't let us down.
- How do we worship? We worship in community, truth, and the Spirit through whatever means that we truly experience Him.

# APPLICATION

- What are your priorities?
- What do you ascribe ultimate value to?
- Do you live in fear or in rest?