

## **Pleasing Our God in Worship**

All verses cited from the King James Version bible

**Introduction:** Much of the “religious” world is convinced that the worship of God should be a euphoric experience for all involved. However this is used to justify doing whatever feels good to us, assuming that God will accept it. Though we have been told in the scriptures to love God (in which case we should enjoy serving him: **Matthew 22:37-38**), we have also been charged to keep his commandments (**I John 5:3**). God has created us to please him (**Revelation 4:11**), but he has also given us specific instructions on how to do so (**II Timothy 3:15-17**).

### **I. Knowing Our God**

In order to worship the Lord properly, we need to know who he is or we will not know how he wants us to do this (**Acts 17:23**).

#### **A. God is our creator**

- The Father (**Malachi 2:10**)
- Jesus Christ (**Colossians 1:16-17**)
- The Holy Spirit (**Genesis 1:2**)

#### **B. God is the author of our salvation**

- The Father sent Jesus (**John 3:16**)
- Jesus is our savior (**II Timothy 1:10**)
- The Holy Spirit guides us (**Ephesians 6:17**)

### **II. Worshiping our God**

We have been given numerous examples of Christians’ worship in the scriptures, and it is important to follow their examples according to the gospel (**John 4:23-24**).

#### **A. Singing to God**

- We sing to teach and praise (**Colossians 3:16**)
- Our melody comes from the heart (**Ephesians 5:19**)

#### **B. Prayer in worship**

- It must be an humble presentation (**Luke 18:10-14**)
- Pray according to God’s will (**I John 5:14**)
- Avoid vain repetitions (**Matthew 6:7**)

#### **C. The Lord’s Supper**

- Practiced on the first day of every week (**Acts 20:7**)
- Done in remembrance of Christ (**I Corinthians 11:24-26**)
- It’s not to be eaten as a common meal (**I Corinthians 11:22, 29, 34**)

#### **D. Gathering funds to further the work**

- Commanded to be done on the first day of the week (**I Corinthians 16:2**)
- Must be given with a willing heart (**Mark 12:42-44**)
- The collection is not a business (**John 2:13-18**)

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### **III. Who Are We Pleasing?**

All of the deeds that we do here on earth are judged by men or God, and have positive and negative consequences for us. Our aim should then be to make sure we know who we are pleasing (**Galatians 1:10**).

#### **A. Pleasing men**

- We have little reward for doing so (**Matthew 6:1-2**)
- We will be persecuted for not doing so (**Galatians 4:29**)
- We should be joyous in our persecutions (**Matthew 5:10-12**)

#### **B. Pleasing God**

- We will receive a great reward (**Colossians 3:23-24**)
- There is a great punishment for not pleasing the Lord (**Romans 6:23/Revelation 20:15**)

**Conclusion:** If we please the Lord in worship according to his teachings then we should derive a certain pleasure from it also. Let us not be guilty of vain worship just for the sake of our own convenience (**Matthew 15:7-9**)!