

**Revelation 4:9, “Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,**

**Revelation 4:10, “the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:**

**Revelation 4:11, ““You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created’.”**

# 1. Hebrew and Greek words for worship

עֲבַד *ābad*

“work, be worked, serve, reduce to servitude, worship, be made to serve;

Deuteronomy 6:13, “You shall fear the LORD your God and serve [NASB: ‘worship’] Him, and shall take oaths in His name.”

שָׁחָה *shāchāh*: fall prostrate, be  
despondent

**προσκυνέω *proskyneō* “to kiss, adore, throw  
a kiss in respect of someone; to worship,  
prostrate oneself before a superior.”**

The ancient oriental (especially Persian) mode of salutation between persons of equal ranks was to kiss each other on the lips; when the difference of rank was slight, they kissed each other on the cheek; when one was much inferior, he fell upon his knees and touched his forehead to the ground or prostrated himself, throwing kisses at the same time toward the superior. It is this latter mode of salutation that Gr. writers express by *proskunéō*. In the NT, generally, to do reverence or homage to someone, usually by kneeling or prostrating oneself before him. In the Sept. it means to bow down, to prostrate oneself in reverence, homage (Gen. 19:1; 48:12).



**Matthew 2:2, “Saying, ‘Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him’.”**

**λατρεία *latreía*; serving or worshipping  
God.**

**Romans 12:1, “I beseech you therefore,  
brethren, by the mercies of God, that you  
present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy,  
acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable  
service.*”**

**Worship is the submission and subordination of the creature to the Creator to honor and glorify the Creator.**

**To submit or subordinate my opinions, preferences, thoughts, philosophy of life, finances, politics, emotions, relationships, attitudes, actions, time, priorities to the authority of God's Word. Thus worship is a complex idea which involves a number of aspects, from private prayer to public expressions of thanks and the singing of hymns which reinforce and reflect on God, His Person and Works; also includes bringing sacrifices and gifts to personal Christian service. Worship can be both individual and corporate. We may sometimes be emotionally stimulated by worship, but that is not the criterion of worship, only a by-product.**

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**Worship is what we do in church.**

**Worship is experiencing God.**

**Worship is feeling God's presence.**

**Worship is singing to God.**

**Worship is praising God.**

**Worship is making an offering to God.**

**Worship is a form of prayer.**

**Worship is love.**

**Worship is engaging with God.**

**Worship is serving God.**

**Worship is devotion to God.**

**Worship is ascribing worth to God.**



**Genesis 22:5, “And Abraham said to his young men, ‘Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you’.”**

**Genesis 24:26, “Then the man bowed down his head and worshiped the LORD.”**

**Genesis 24:48, “And I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD God of my master Abraham, who had led me in the way of truth to take the daughter of my master’s brother for his son.”**

**John 4:24, “God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”**