

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #129

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Dean Bible Ministries

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THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S
UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP

2 SAMUEL 6:9–12; 1 CHRONICLES 15:1–16

1A God blesses David and he expands and unites the kingdom. 2 Sam. 1–10

1B The beginning of David's kingdom, 2 Sam. 2:1–4:12

2B God gives David control over Jerusalem, 2 Sam. 5:1–25

3B God is enthroned in Jerusalem, 2 Sam. 6

1 Chron. 15

After failing to bring the Ark into Jerusalem the first time, David went to the Scriptures for correction. 15:1–3

David organizes the Levites for the movement of the Ark. 15:4–10

David prepares the Levites spiritually to move the Ark. 15:11–15

David organizes the musical worship of the Lord. 15:16–26

1 Chron. 15

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Introductory Principles of Corporate Worship

- 1. God defines worship, He defines how we worship, and the conditions of worship.**
- 2. Worship is not determined by how we feel, but by our conformity to God's righteousness and His revelation.**
- 3. Worship means to "bow down to God." Thus worship signifies submission to God's will.**

Introductory Principles of Corporate Worship

4. Worship has order and structure.

1 Cor. 14:33, “For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”

The Meaning of “Worship”

1. The English derives from the Old English *weorthscipe* ‘worthiness, acknowledgement of worth’ (see worth, -ship). COED
 - 1 The feeling (?) or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity.
 - 4 *archaic* honour given in recognition of merit.

The Meaning of “Worship”

1. How do we define “worship”?

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Elwell: *Webster’s Dictionary* for the precise meaning of worship (adore, idolize, esteem worthy, reverence, homage, etc.). Yet truly defining worship proves more difficult because it is both an attitude and an act.

The Meaning of “Worship”

1. How do we define “worship”?

Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible:
Expression of reverence and adoration
of God. This involved meditation, the
study of God’s Word

COED: reverence: deep respect
adore: worship or venerate (deep
respect)

The Meaning of “Worship”

1. How do we define “worship”?

New Bible Dictionary: WORSHIP.

‘Worship’ (Old English

‘weorthscipe’=‘worth-ship’) originally referred to the action of human beings in expressing homage to God because he is worthy of it. It covers such activities as adoration, thanksgiving, prayers of all kinds, the offering of sacrifice and the making of vows.

The Meaning of “Worship”

1. How do we define “worship”?

Pocket Dictionary of Theology:

worship. The act of adoring and praising God, that is, ascribing worth to God as the one who deserves homage and service. The church, which is to be a worshiping community (1 Pet. 2:5), expresses its worship corporately and publicly (liturgically) through prayer; through psalms, hymns and spiritual songs; through the reading and exposition of Scripture; through observance of the sacraments; and through individual and corporate living in holiness and service.

A tentative definition.

True Worship is:

The celebration of being in covenant [eternal] fellowship with the sovereign and holy triune God,

By means of

- **The reverent adoration and spontaneous praise of God's nature and works,**
- **The expressed commitment of trust and obedience to the covenant responsibilities, and**
- **The memorial reenactment of entering into covenant through ritual acts,**

All with the confident anticipation of the fulfillment of the covenant promises in glory.

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Two Dangerous Presuppositions

- 1. That we interpret what we read in terms of what we have seen in our own generation, i.e., a self-centered, disorganized, impromptu form of dance.**
- 2. That this is some sort of ecstatic dancing. Ecstatics were the modus operandi of pagan worship. David is not imitating pagans here.**

****Nothing we have read indicates that anything is left unplanned, unrehearsed, or impromptu, extemporaneous, or spontaneous.**

Introductory Comments on Worship and Music

- 1. It is not about old vs. new; traditional or contemporary, it is about fulfilling biblical principles for worship and music.**