

Psalm 100: Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations.

Thanksgiving - an acknowledgment or celebration of divine goodness and mercy, a speaking forth of thanks and gratitude.

Praise - celebration of not only what God has done but who He is. Praise moves our focus to the Lord, His character, His attributes, His worthiness, His goodness, His excellence, His perfection, His works, His benefits. **Praise focuses on Him.** Praise is an act of devotion by which we confess admiration for His person.

1. Towdah – Sacrifice of Praise
2. Yadah – Let your hands be raised
3. Barak – With a quiet voice
4. Halal – Let your soul rejoice
5. Zamar – Play for Him a song
6. Tehillah – You can sing along
7. Shabach – Shout for joy

That's seven ways to praise the Lord!

We've entered His gates with Thanksgiving and His courts with Praise. Now, it's time to enter the Holy Place, the Holy of Holies, through Worship.

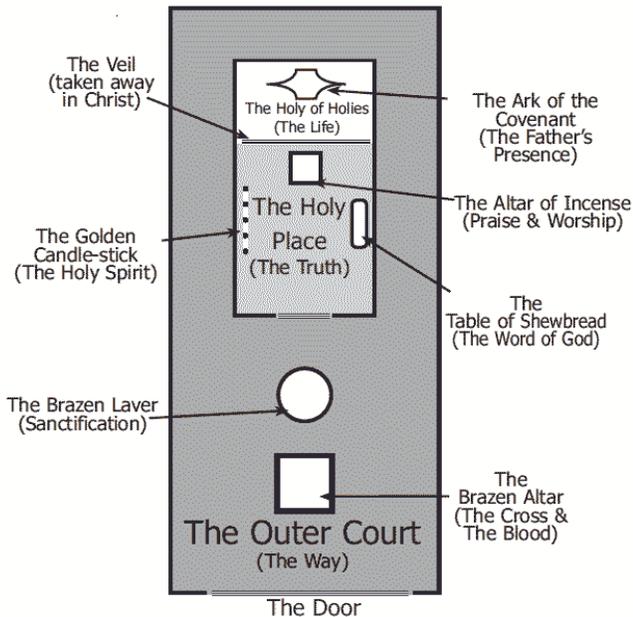
What is worship?

John 4:23-24 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Worship (NT:4352) - to kiss toward, to crouch to, literally to prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore)

Worship (OT:7812) – to prostrate (in homage to God), bow down, crouch, fall down (flat), humbly beseech, make obeisance, do reverence, stoop

Worship is to kneel in reverential awe and seek oneness with Him. Likely a quiet hushed time of reverential devotion; absorbed in Him, His presence.



1. Worship is one's heart expression of love, adoration, and praise to God with an attitude and acknowledgment of His supremacy and Lordship.
2. Worship is an act of redeemed man toward his Creator, whereby his will, intellect, and emotions gratefully respond in awe, honor, reverence, and devotion to the revelation of God's being and His redemptive work in Christ.
3. Worship is extravagant love and extreme obedience

Worship may defy definition. One Commentator said, "Real worship cannot be defined. It can only be experienced."

Relationship is absolutely necessary for worship because worship is intimate! It is two way. It is communion. It is fellowship. It is deep calling unto deep.

Gen 22:5 When called upon to sacrifice Isaac, Abraham said, "The lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." How was Abraham feeling at the time?

Job 1:18-20 Another also came (to Job) and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

2 Sam 12:20 David's infant son died. He went to the house of the Lord and worshiped.

Until we worship regardless of circumstances, are we really worshipping.

Luke 7:40-48 Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon (*a Pharisee*), I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"

Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more."

And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore, I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much."

She kissed His feet. This is proskuneo, to kiss, to do homage, to bow oneself in adoration...to kiss like the dog licking his master's hand!

Rev 7:9-12 (A Multitude from the Great Tribulation) After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying:

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen."