

“Gathered at the Throne of God”

John 4:19-24

Where does true worship take place?

1. The ‘Where’ Question Raised

v. 20

**(1) A sharp theological difference
between Samaritan and Jew!**

*“Our fathers worshiped on this mountain,
and you Jews say that in Jerusalem
is the place where one ought to worship.”*

(2) A convenient *diversion* for a sinner who wishes to hide from Christ!

2. The ‘Where’ Question Answered

vv. 21-24

(1) A Dramatic Change Afoot!

*“Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming
when you will neither on this mountain,
nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.*

-1- This change renders moot the debate about location!

-2- This change brings into focus the primary question: What is true worship?

- Not in this mountain – since it has *never been the proper place*
(and is a place of false worship!)

- Not in Jerusalem – since it will *no longer be the unique and central place*

(2) “Yours has been a false worship!” 22

*“You worship what you do not know;
we know what we worship,
for salvation is of the Jews.”*

-“You have always been wrong about the ‘where’ question,
because you have never understood true worship!”

**(3) Not first: “Where does true worship take place?”
rather: “What is true worship?”**

What is true worship?

-1- Worship “in Spirit”

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

- True worship is true communion with God.

- an inward spiritual reality
- a heart that has been quickened to life and made right before God

- True worship is communion with God by faith in Christ alone!

-2- Worship “in Truth”

- Coming to God only by His prescribed way!

- Worshiping as God commands in His Word

(4) The Complete Answer to the ‘Where’ Question

Q: Where does true worship take place?

Q: Where is that place that God’s throne touches the earth?

– The Answer: In every place that the true church gathers!

Further Application: