

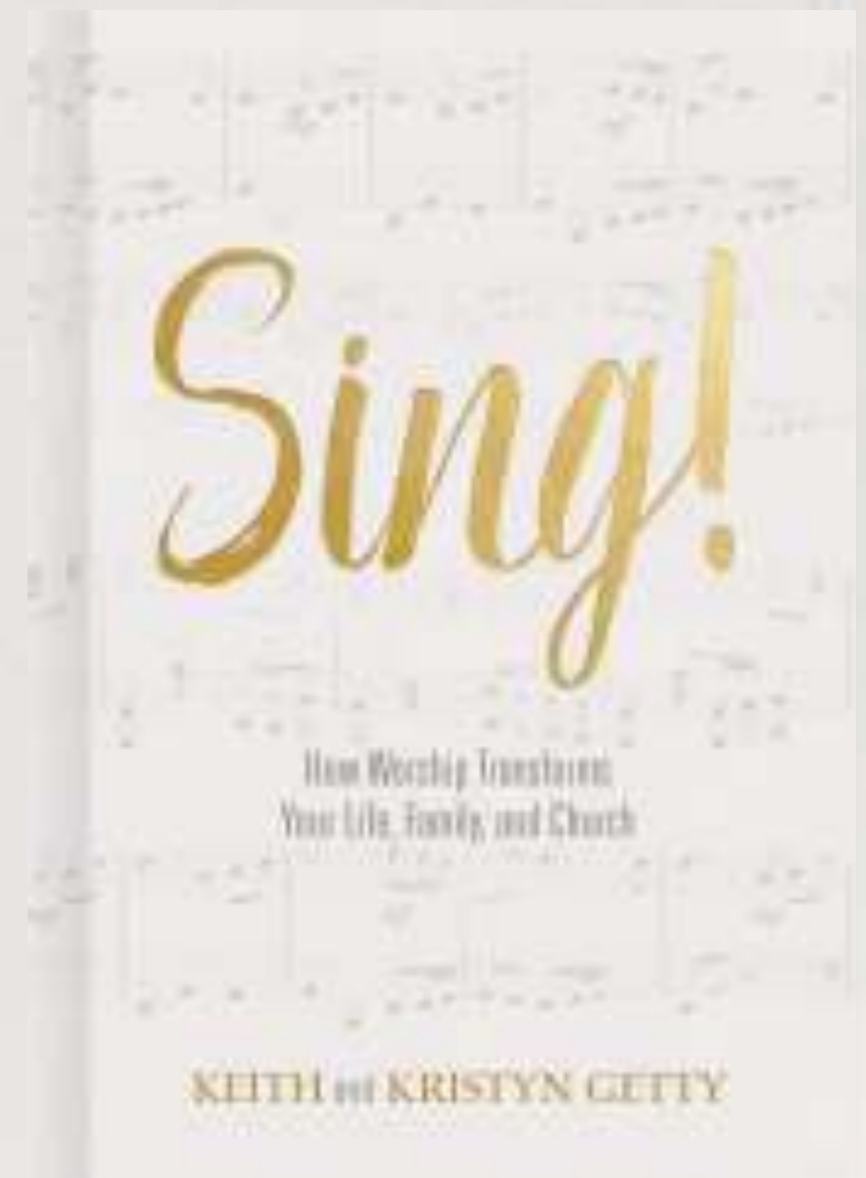
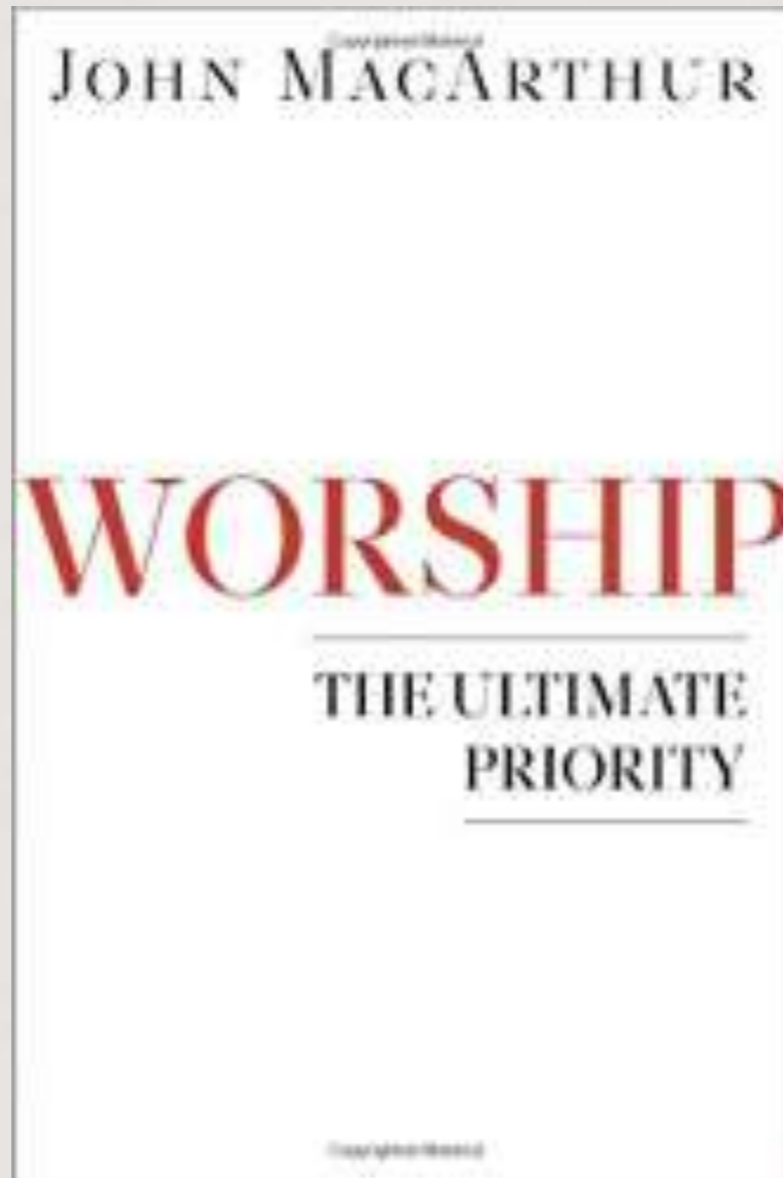
Worship

The Ultimate Priority



August 28, 2019

Primary Sources



Others that I recommend...

- ✿ **Worship Matters** by Bob Kauflin
- ✿ **Reformation Worship** by Jonathan Gibson & Mark Earngrey
- ✿ **Gospel Worship** by Jeremiah Burroughs

The importance of **Worship**

It is the theme of Scripture,
eternity, and redemptive
history: the **Worship** of the
true, living, and glorious God.

Laying the Foundation

- ✦ **Exodus 20:2-5, Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Psalm 29:1-2, Psalm 95:1-2, Psalm 98, Psalm 100, Psalm 119:1-8, Psalm 148, Isaiah 35:8-10**
- ✦ **John 4:1-42, Romans 12:1-2, Revelation 4:9-11**

Truth: The most important thing about a person is what they believe about God. So whom one worships, when one worships and how one worships is important.

1689 LBCF

22.1 WORSHIP

The light of nature shows that there is a God who has lordship and sovereignty over all. He is just and good and does good to all. Therefore he is to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served with all the heart and soul and strength. But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God has been instituted by himself and delimited by his own revealed will. He may not be worshipped according to human imagination or methods, nor according to the suggestions of Satan, nor by way of any visible representation, nor by any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures.

1689 LBCF

22.2 WORSHIP

Worship is to be given to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to him alone,¹ not to angels, saints, or any other creatures.² Since the fall worship is not to be given without a mediator, nor by any mediation other than that of Christ alone.

Questions 1 & 2

The Westminster Short Catechism

Q : What is the chief end of man?

A : To Glorify God and Enjoy Him forever.

Q : What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?

A: The word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.

What has happened?

- ✦ **Why has worship in the United States become primarily about us?**
- ✦ **Why are most songs very little about the LORD?**
- ✦ **Why in most new songs is it necessary that the word “worship” be used? Is it because know one knows what is really being done?**
- ✦ **Why is so much money spent surrounding the stage? Are we trying to entertain? Are we trying to draw others? Are we seeking the approval of man versus the approval of the LORD?**
- ✦ **Why is so much effort put forth for emotional driven songs versus putting forth effort to have theologically rich songs?**
- ✦ **Why is worship usually discussed only within the context of Sunday morning?**

What has happened?

- ✦ The deplorable state of worship in the evangelical churches **reveals the absence of true reverence and devotion in the private lives of countless members.** (Our private lives speak volumes)
- ✦ Corporate worship, after all, **should be the natural overflow of worshipping lives** united together in fellowship. (Amen somebody!)

What we all need

We ALL need a better understanding of Worship.

- ✿ ***We ALL*** need to understand that worship is not a narrowly defined activity relegated to the Sunday morning church service-or restricted to any single time and place for that matter.
- ✿ ***Worship*** is the central issue in all of creation, and yet many treat it as only what's sung or played in church on Sunday morning. (God see's ***ALL*** of our life)

What we all need

We ALL need a better understanding of Worship.

Many people do not feel they have worshipped at all until they have been swept into a trancelike state of nebulous passion, usually by a series of choruses. Music can be an instrument for the expression of worship, but there are other spiritual disciplines or graces that come closer to the essence of worship-activities like prayer, giving, thanksgiving, and listening to the word of God as it is proclaimed and expounded.

What we all need

We ALL need a better understanding of Worship.

- ✿ The feeling associated with such an emotional high is sometimes deemed even more important than what we are singing about. (The same could be true of what is being preached).
- ✿ Is a soul-stirring crescendo the very essence of worship?

What we all need

We ALL need a better understanding of Worship.

- ✦ ***Therefore... We need to know the WORD of GOD.***
- ✦ ***Worship of the One true living God changes everything.***
 - ✦ Our marriages
 - ✦ Our parenting
 - ✦ Our relationships
 - ✦ Our priorities (How our time and money is spent)
 - ✦ All of life

Worship Defined

- ✦ **Our Supreme duty** for time and eternity is to honor, adore, delight in, glorify and enjoy God above all his creation, as **He is worthy to be worshipped.**
- ✦ **Worship** is any essential expression of service rendered unto God by a soul who loves and extols Him for who He is. **Real worship** therefore should be the full-time, nonstop activity of every believer, and the aim of the exercise ought to be to **please God**, not merely entertain the worshipper.

Worship Defined

- ✦ **Worship** is the right, fitting, and delightful response or moral beings-angelic and human-to God the Creator, Redeemer, and Consummator, for who He is as one eternal God in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-and for what he will do in the coming consummation, to whom be all praise and glory, now and forever, world without end.

Thinking about Worship

- ✦ **My heart:** What do I love?
- ✦ **My mind:** What do I believe?
- ✦ **My hands:** What do I practice?
- ✦ **My life:** What do I model?

The Goals of this Study

- ✿ That we as the Lord's children **understand Biblical worship.**
- ✿ That we as the Lord's children **worship the Father, Son and Spirit rightly, according to God's Holy Word.**
- ✿ That we as the Lord's children **live to worship Him.**
- ✿ That our lives as well as the Lord's day **would be different and more pleasing to HIM.**

What am I praying for?

- ✿ I am praying that our priorities change.
- ✿ I am praying that the highest priority of our lives would be the worship of the triune God.
- ✿ I am praying that this Church gathered on Sunday would be a greater priority for all of us.

What am I praying for?

- ✿ I am praying that the members of this Church and your fellowship with them would become a greater priority.
- ✿ I am praying that our lives and the LORD's Day would be thought about biblically and that both would be about the LORD and not our preferences.
- ✿ I am praying that the Lord conforms us more into the image of His Son Jesus Christ during this study.

Next Week

What the World Needs Now



- Worship Defined.
- Worship in three dimensions.
- Whole-Life Worship.
- The order of Priorities.
- How are we doing?