

“The Assembly”

I. If you were to study the word “worship” you would come to see that this word means to “show reverence,” or to “welcome respectfully.” It also means “to kiss” or “to kiss towards”.

II. For us today we must realize that our worship of God must be of the utmost importance. This should be the case for three reasons.

1. God deserves our Worship because of who He is.

1Chr. 16:23-31

Psalm 2:1-12

2. God demands worship because of who He is.

Lev. 10:1-3

3. Because we love our God and want to worship Him

Psalm 122:1

III. Not only should our worship to God be of the utmost importance but it should also be in accordance to His will, **John 4:24** -- **“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”**

IV. The worship assembly is an important part of the life of those who follow God. It is so important that we are commanded to not forsake it, **Hebrews 10:23-25.**

V. If we are to worship God in spirit and truth then we must assemble together each Lord’s day and we must have the proper spirit.

Intro: As with all that we do in regards to worship we must first address the question, Is it authorized?

I. Is it Biblical to command assembling to worship?

1. As mentioned before we are commanded not to forsake the assembling together.

Hebrews 10:25

2. We also see that the first century church followed this practice of assembling.

Acts 20:7

1 Corinthians 16:2

3. As further evidence, the Apostle John mentions a specific day, Rev. 1:10

4. We would conclude then that assembling on the first day of the week, the Lord’s day, was a practice of the early church, and that it was commanded by God.

Appl: Today we can be assured that we are doing as God desires by assembling on the first day of the week for worship because it is authorized within the Scriptures.

If we are to worship God in spirit and truth then we must assemble together each Lord's day and we must have the proper spirit.

Trans: We have looked at the truth side of worship, that is we do come together for worship not forsaking it. But we must look at the other aspect of attending worship and that is it must be in spirit. This is our second point.

II. Our attitude in assembling for worship

1. There must be a spirit of eagerness.
 - a. Not just a habit but an overwhelming urge.
 - b. Heb. 10:25 but encouraging {one another} ; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.
 - c. Acts 2:46
 - d. Acts 5:42

2. There must be a spirit of reverence.
 - Ps. 2:11
 - Ps. 5:7
 - Hebr. 12:28

3. There must be a spirit of desiring to do God's will. By assembling we obey God in other areas. This is the proper spirit of worship.
 - a. We partake of the Lord's supper.
 - b. We give as we have prospered.
 - c. We offer him the fruit of our lips in song.
 - d. We listen to and meditate on His word.
 - e. We pray together as a body

4. There must be a spirit of desire.
 - a. A desire to be made stronger
Hebrews 5:12-14

 - b. A desire to put the kingdom first
Matt 6:33

 - c. A desire to abound in the Lord's work.
1 Cor 15:58

d. A desire to help others to grow in Christ.

Heb 10:24

Appl: As important as it is to come together to worship it is just as important that we do so with the right spirit.

If we are attending because we feel we have to and not because we want to we are missing something.

If we are to worship God in spirit and truth then we must assemble together each Lord's day and we must have the proper spirit.

Con: It can be very easy to become lax in our assembling for worship.

I am not saying that there are not legitimate reasons for missing.

1. Serious illness
2. Injury
3. Mishap

But these are often the exceptions not the norm.

We must be careful not to allow our assembling to become just habit. If it is we will find other habits more important.

1. I could go fishing, hunting, shopping.
2. I could stay home and watch T.V.
3. I can do things that will consume my time so much so It will be as if I don't have time for worship.

As well we must avoid the excuses that keep us from assembling.

1. I go almost all the time. Isn't that enough?
2. It won't matter if I miss a few times.
3. I can worship God by myself. I don't need to be around others. I can go into the woods etc..That is true but that still does not negate assembling.
4. Our friends and family sometimes become excuses for not assembling.
 - a. My friend just came into town
 - b. My husband or wife didn't want to come so I didn't

Our assembling together is that which is commanded of God and we should desire to fulfill His command.

If we are seeking to worship God in spirit and truth we must make every effort to assemble together on the Lord's day and do so with the proper spirit.