

Redwater Restorer

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness..." (Matthew 3:3)

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Worship Is Not For Our Entertainment

Published By:

Redwater
Church of Christ

Services:

Sunday
Bible Class 10:00 a.m.
AM Worship 10:45 a.m.
PM Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

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Encampment
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June 12th-17th
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June 26th-July 1st

There is an erroneous idea today that the **main reason** we attend worship is to "get something out of the service", rather than going there to give our worship to God. This is a selfish motive on our part. This is the reason people cannot be satisfied with the worship service when their emphasis is not on the proper object of worship, God. People want to "do their own thing" in the worship of the church. What the Bible has to say about worship for many people is of little consequence as long as they are happy and feel good. We must be concerned with what God says on how He is to be worshipped instead of what we might want to offer Him.

The United States has produced the most entertainment-oriented people the world has ever known. We have more forms of amusement than has ever been known to man, but we still want more. In our age everything is designed to appeal to our emotions and to entertain us. We seem to have forgotten our worship service is to bring glory and honor to God, and not to entertain ourselves. When we have choirs to sing to us and concerts to entertain us, we are not worshipping God; but we have become the spectators who are being entertained. Worship is not a spectator event. We dare not become spectators, because in worship it is God who is the spectator. People have the roles reversed. People expect divine will to conform to what seems right in their own eyes. Proverbs 12:15 says, "The way of the fool is **right in his own eyes.**" The emphasis is how can the worship service be made more entertaining to people to please themselves and not God.

Worship to God is holy and sacred. To pervert and corrupt it with entertainment and what we can "get out of the service" in trying

to please and gratify ourselves is nothing short of blasphemy! The sacredness of true worship must not be sacrificed on altars of entertainment-oriented quartets, choirs, and other entertainment groups. We are as Hebrews 13:15 says to "Offer the sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of **our lips**, giving thanks to His name." In worship we must be the participants, not the observers. We want to please and entertain ourselves. In Galatians 1:10 the question is asked, "Do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a servant of Christ." Worship is God-centered not man-centered. When our worship is to please God instead of ourselves, then and only then will our worship be much more meaningful and spiritually uplifting to us and acceptable to God. When people seek an "emotional high" from worship and don't get it, they are disappointed and start blaming the song service, the preacher, etc. when in fact the problem abides in their own heart.

Our worship to God requires commitment on our part. People had rather worship Christ as a babe in a manger than Christ as their crucified savior. Their worshipping Christ as a babe in a manger requires no commitment on their part. They feel they can put Him in a box and live the rest of the year as they please. But worshipping Christ as our crucified savior requires commitment, a complete change of our life, and a willingness to do all that He says. Jesus says in Matthew 10:37, "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is **not worthy of Me.**" God and Christ must be first in our lives, and this requires that we be committed to them.

Questions Concerning Worship and Entertainment

1) (Proverbs 12:15) One who does what is right in his own eyes

___ Is wise.

___ Is a fool.

___ Is free.

2) The way of the fool is right in his own eyes.

___ True ___ False

3) (Hebrews 13:15) The offering of the fruit of our lips in singing and prayer in our worship

___ Should be for our enjoyment.

___ Should show how well we can sing and pray.

___ Should be a sacrifice of praise to God.

4) Our worship to God should be entertaining to us.

___ True ___ False

5) (Galatians 1:10) In trying to please men in spiritual matters

___ We cannot be a servant of Christ.

___ We can be a servant of Christ.

___ It is always best to try to please men in all things.

6) In spiritual matters we should please God and not men.

___ True ___ False

7) (Matthew 10:37) If we love our father and mother more than Christ

___ This is good.

___ God will understand.

___ We are not worthy of Christ.

8) We should not try to follow what Christ tells us to do if it is against our father's and mother's beliefs

___ True ___ False

If you are interested in any of the following please check the appropriate box and mail to the address below. Please include return address and phone number if possible.

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