

Worship God

The Theology and Practice of Worship (Part Four)

Heart Attitudes

Worship is essentially an issue of the heart not outward form

Heart Attitudes

Matthew 15:7-9

- 7) You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying,
- 8) THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEARTS ARE FAR FROM ME.
- 9) BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.

Heart Attitudes

Isaiah 1:10-15

...I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed cattle. And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats...

Bring your worthless offerings no longer, incense is an abomination to Me. New Moon and Sabbath, the calling of assemblies...

I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts, they have become a burden to Me.

Heart Attitudes

Amos 5:21-23

- 21) I hate, I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.
- 22) Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; and I will not look at the peace offerings of your fattings.
- 23) Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

Heart Attitudes

Aspects of the Heart

1. The Mind

- thinking that conforms to the truth of God's Word
- apprehending truth about God is essential in the worship of God

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Aspects of the Heart

2. The Will

- Submission and obedience to God
- It is hypocrisy to engage in external expressions of worship with no heart of obedience to God

1 Samuel 15:22 – “to obey is better than sacrifice”

Heart Attitudes

Aspects of the Heart

3. The Affections

- synonymous with the concept of “heart”
- right affections/feelings are essential for genuine worship – “*where feelings for God are dead, worship is dead*” (J. Piper)

Heart Attitudes

2 Corinthians 9:7

Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; *for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Heart Attitudes

Summary

Strong affections for God, rooted in and fueled by the truth of God, is the heart of biblical worship