

Sermon Title: Grippled by the Worship of God

Sermon Text: John 4:16-26

Sermon Purpose: To help the hearer to understand the truth about worship.

Sermon Proposition: There are 4 New Testament concepts of being gripped by the worship of God.

I. Getting a grip on the right **perspective** of worship. V.16-19

- A. The right perspective of worship avoids the **dry** zone. V.10-15 (**Eph. 4:18; 2 Tim. 3:7**)
Jeremiah 2:13 "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, *And* hewn themselves cisterns-- broken cisterns that can hold no water.
Zechariah 13:1 "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.
- B. The right perspective of worship avoids the **dead** zone. V.16-19 (**Rev. 22:14; 28:13; John 9:30-38**)
James 1:21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
Ezra 10:11 "Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives."
Jeremiah 23:24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

"If a person drinks of the water Christ gives, he is infused with purpose, meaning, significance, and with energy and motivation. Once a person drinks of Christ, he does not mind serving, working, and laboring, to help the body and mankind in every way possible to achieve the purposes of God." The Preachers Outline & Sermon Bible, John pp.80

II. Getting a grip on the right **place** of worship. V.20-22

- A. The question of the right **place** of worship. V.20-21
- B. The question of the right **people** of worship. V.22
1. The individual temples – a person who has trusted in Christ for the forgiveness of sins. (**Heb. 10:4-6; 11-12; 19-20; 22a**)
1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?
"If you limit worship to where you are, the minute you leave that place of worship you will leave your attitude of worship behind like a crumpled up church bulletin." Tony Evans "Our God is Awesome" pp. 342
 2. The corporate temples – assembly of people who have trusted in Christ for the forgiveness of sins. (**Heb. 10:24-25; Acts 2:40-47; Eph. 4:11-16**)
Matthew 27:51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

III. Getting a grip on the right **procedures** of worship. V.23-24

- A. The 1st procedure is worshipping the Father through the **Son**. V.23a (**John 5:17-18; 22-23; 14:6; Acts 4:12**)
- B. The 2nd procedure is worshipping the Father in **Spirit**. V.23b
John 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.
Romans 8:9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. **10** And if Christ *is* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.
Ezekiel 36:27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.
Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?
1 Timothy 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- C. The 3rd procedure is worshipping the Father in **truth**. V.23c
(John 17:17; Matt. 7:24-28; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
"True worship is when my innermost being receives the truth about God, and explodes with joy at the very thought of such a great God. Therefore, 'you cannot worship properly with just your body. If all that God has of you on Sunday morning is your body, you are not worshipping God.'"
- D. The 4th procedure of worship is **availability**. V. 23c **(Eph. 1:4-6; 1 Peter 2:9)**
Proverbs 16:4 The LORD has made all for Himself, Yes, even the wicked for the day of doom.
Isaiah 43:7 Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him." . . . **10** "You *are* My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, That you may know and believe Me, And understand that I *am* He. Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.
- E. The 5th procedure of worship is **absoluteness**. V.24
 Private temple worship, "me," always leads to corporate temple worship "we." If you are worshipping in private, you can't wait to worship in public corporately. If you don't care about private worship, you'll debate whether you need the body (church assembly), (which represents the corporate worship). Tony Evans "Our God is Awesome" pp.345

IV. Grippled by the right purpose of worship. V.25-26 (Acts 4:12)

Romans 15:6 that you may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

1 Timothy 2:5 For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, **6** who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

Conclusion:

1. The worship of God should lead to awe of God. **(John 4:27)**
2. The worship of God should lead to testimony about God. **(4:28-30)**
3. The worship of God should lead to service for God. **(4:31-34)**
4. The worship of God should lead to fruitfulness of God. **(4:35-38)**