

1. Should we worship God in "Traditional" or "Contemporary"?

2. Define "Traditional" and "Contemporary".

3. What other kinds, forms, or styles of worship are there?

4. Are Christians united on how to worship God?

5. How is Christian worship to be different than other kinds of worship?

6. How can you tell what is Christian worship and what is not?

7. What is the subject of this passage?
John 4:19-26

8. Which kind, style, or form of worship did Jesus say is true? (**SEE Jn 4:23**).

9. What does it mean to "**worship in spirit and truth**"?

10. Why did Jesus command or require us to worship in this way? (**SEE Jn 4:23, 24**)

11. What is the opposite of true worship?

12. BONUS QUESTION: Give several examples from the Bible of worship or worshipers whom God either sought or rejected. Why did He seek or reject them or their worship?

Answer Key / Explanation

STOP! Before you read the answers, please fully answer the questions to the left. In this way you will learn best.

Q1-2: Neither. Truly, these specific words are not in the Bible or our concordance. They are the vocabulary of men, not God. And so they vary widely in man-made meaning. Since they are not commanded as a form of worship, we cannot teach them as if they were the word and commandment of God regarding worship. We cannot truly define or apply them. [Find out about more words like this in my tract: A Very Important Vocabulary Lesson for Christians]

Q3: Many. For example, besides traditional and contemporary, there is "blended worship" (I saw a church sign that offered this form of mixed worship), Mosaic, Davidic, liberal, conservative, orthodox, catholic mass, etc.

Q4: Certainly not! We are divided. We are confused. For evidence, simply look at the answers to Q1-3. We like to name or title our "style" or "kind" of worship differently, very differently. We do this because the content of our worship is different, sometimes very different. This is a form of sinful partiality (SEE Ja 2:9).

Q5-6: For the answers to these questions, read the answers to Q7-11.

Q7: The kind or style of worshipers whom the Father seeks, true worshipers (as opposed to false worshipers). This is the subject which the woman at the well brought up to Jesus. She knew that there was disagreement among worshipers on how men "**ought to worship**" God, like between her people (Gentiles) and Jesus' people (Jews).

Q8: Worship that is done "**in spirit and truth**" (Jn 4:23, 24), not in flesh and error.

Q9: First, consider what it means to "**worship in spirit**". In what type of spirit are we to worship God? Obviously, we are to be a people of the Holy Spirit, not an unholy spirit, because our God is the Holy Spirit. For example, "**God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit**" (Jn 4:24). So when Jesus said that we must worship God "**in spirit**" to be considered "**true worshipers**", He meant for us to worship God in the spirit of holiness, to be spiritual, not sensual or fleshly, to be holy like God, not unholy. The spirit of holiness is sinless, sanctified, set apart, pure, and undefiled, etc. God is also the God of truth (1 Jn 1:5). It is His nature. It is His word. Jesus said, "**Your [God's] word is truth**" (Jn 17:17). So to worship God "**in truth**" means according to the revealed word, commandment, and character of God, not men.

Q10: There are two reasons given for this in the passage which speaks about true worshipers. First, it is the only kind of worship or worshiper God seeks. For example, Jesus said, "**true worshipers worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people**

the Father **seeks** to be His worshipers" (Jn 4:23). Second, because God is a spiritual and truthful being. For example, Jesus said, "**God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth**" (Jn 4:24). Likewise, "**God is light, in Him is no darkness at all**" (1 Jn 1:5). God is all truth or light, not lies or darkness. The very heart, essence, meaning, and character of God is spirituality and truthfulness. It is who He is. Therefore, as Jesus said, "**those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth**", which is in keeping with God's character.

Q11: The opposite of true worship is worship that is "in flesh and error", not "**in spirit and truth**". This means not according to either the spirit and/or the truth of God. To worship "in flesh" means sensual (sensuality is a most serious sin / **see Mark 7:22**), not spiritual (not spirituality), unholy, worldly, earthly, natural, carnal, sinful, fleshly, profane, demonic, and defiled. To worship "in error" means deceptively, in the ways or forms of men; the traditions and commandments of men, which are false.

Q12: In the Old Testament, God rejected Cain's worship (his



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True worshipers will worship God in spirit and truth, not
in traditional or contemporary, etc.



offering/giving was not good enough), Esau (he despised his birthright, among other things), all of the adult Jews who were saved out of Egypt, except Caleb and Joshua (they were disobedient/lacked faith, rebellious, and stubborn), Balaam, the prophet (he enticed Israel to sin), King Saul (he was disobedient & rebellious), etc. Yet God *sought* Noah (he was a righteous man), Abraham (he was a faithful man), David (he was a man after God's own heart), Daniel (he humbled himself before God), etc. Indeed, God's eyes go to and fro throughout the earth seeking a heart that is fully/completely His (See [2 Chron 16:9](#)). In the New Testament, God *rejected* Judas Iscariot (he betrayed the Lord), the Jews (he hardened them and instead accepted the Gentiles), many talented worshipers on the Judgment Day (they did not build their house on the rock), Annanias and Saphira (their offering/giving was deceptive), etc. Yet God *sought* the apostles (they were chosen to be eyewitnesses of the Messiah), Paul (he was Jesus' chosen instrument), Cornelius (he was a generous man who loved God's people the Jews), etc.

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Jesus encouraged us to worship God. For example, He even said to His enemy, the Devil, "**worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only**" (Mt 4:10). But Jesus also judged some people's worship as wrong, saying, "**in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men**" (Mt 15:9).

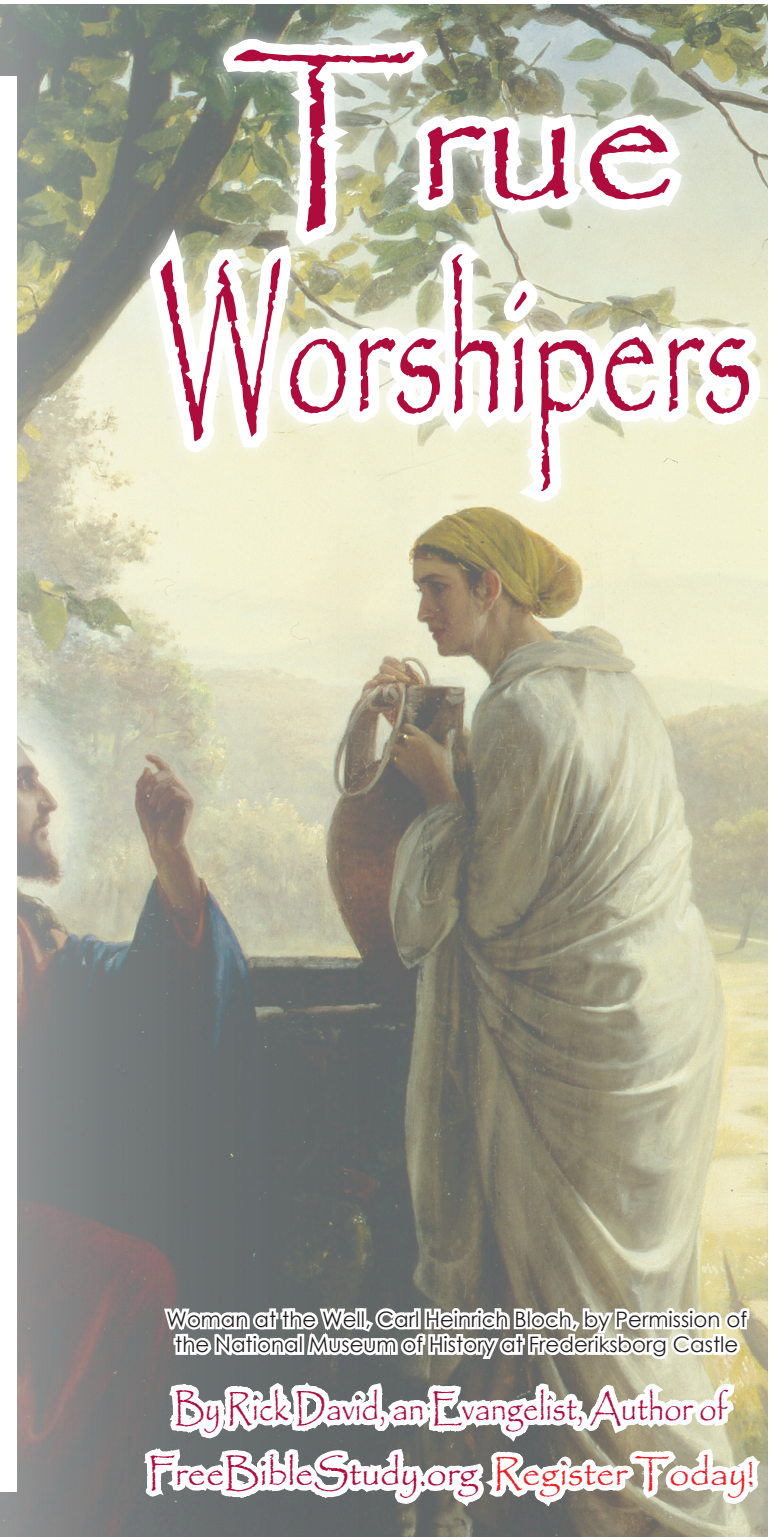
And so we can see that some people's worship is useless [vain] in the eyes of the Lord. But how can our worship be worth something in the sight of God? What is the right way to worship God? Is there a right way to worship God? Is it in "Traditional" or "Contemporary"? What other kinds of worship are there? Are they all worth something in the sight of God? Would He judge any of them as vain, worthless, or false? What kind of worship is valuable and true? Did Jesus teach or require a specific kind, form, or style of worship? When you complete this self-test quiz you will know the exact answer to these questions.

Now, do you know the true way in which to worship God? It has everything to do with you becoming the kind or style of worshiper that Jesus said God seeks, recognizes, and validates. I encourage you to practice true worship, not any other. *Rick David, an Evangelist & Author of FreeBibleStudy.org*

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