

# God is Spirit

John 4:23-24

*Hour has come:*

**Genuine** *Worshippers*

*Will* **worship** *the Father*

*In* **Spirit** *and* **Truth**

*Such does the Father* **seek**

**God is Spirit**

**Must** *Worship in* **Spirit & Truth**

# Spirit & Truth

- SPIRIT = In His Image, after His likeness
- Our eternal spirit (heart, soul, mind) our will intellect, memory, emotion, goals and plans.
- TRUTH: Your Word is Truth
- Everything God revealed in His word that we respond to with faith and trust, listening to Abel who is still speaking (Heb. 11:4)
- (Don't lean on own understanding).

# Counterfeit Genuine Worship

- A contradiction of terms! Can it exist?
- *“In vain do they worship me”*
- *“God did not respect Cain or his offering”*
- *“Woe to them ... went in the way of Cain”*
- Worship that generates pleasing emotions ... if it makes me feel good it must make God feel good.
- We know there is a problem when what God commands generates this response:
- *‘My, how tiresome it is!’ And you disdainfully sniff at it. Mal. 1:13*

# Counterfeit Worship

- When what God commands bring scoffing, disdain and cries of boring.
- Interesting contradiction today:
- Traditional Worship = Disdain
- Contemporary Worship = Exciting
- Yet if we worship in truth from Scripture:
- It has been same worship for nearly 2000 years. There can't be any changes or it is not truth, neither genuine nor sought.

# Singing

- *Be filled with the Spirit, **speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody** in your heart to the Lord, Eph 5:18-19*
- *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, **teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts** to the Lord. Col 3:16*
- How do we respond in faith like Abel's to this?
- We sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs one to another AND make melody/grace in our heart.
- **If this feels boring – The problem is in our spirit**

# The Power of Music

- *Records*
- *Reel to Reel*
- *8 Track*
- *Cassette*
- *CD's*
- *Amazon Digital*
- *Itunes*
- *15 Billion Annual*
- *Sound Systems*
- *Bose(3.3 Billion)*
- *Beats(1.5 Billion)*
- *Concerts*
- *American Idol*
- *The Voice*
- *Radio in every car*

# Why?

Why do people spend billions on music?

- It soothes the soul
- Incites emotion
- Sets the mood
- Defines generation
- Creates memories
- Gives pleasure
- A favorite Song
- Like an old friend
- When we hear it:
- Years pass away
- Memories are stirred
- Emotions kindled

# How Does this Affect Worship?

- We only listen to music we enjoy.
- We look down on old and new generations music
- We change stations to choose favorites.
- We have our likes and dislikes.
- When we begin our song service, all of this must be set aside.
- We don't leave the car singing our favorite songs to enter the building and do the same thing.
- But this is exactly what counterfeit worship does
- There is a competition: God's Truth vs man's will



# The Difference!

- *God is spirit and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth:*
- *Be filled with the Spirit,*
- *speak to one another*
- *in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing***
- ***and making melody** in your heart*
- *to the Lord, Eph 5:18-19*

# The Difference!

- *Let the word of Christ dwell in you*
- *richly in all wisdom,*
- *teaching and admonishing one another*
- *in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs,*
- ***singing***
- ***with grace in your hearts***
- *to the Lord. Col. 3:16*
- All that we do in the world left behind

# The Content is Different

- *Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs,*
- Psalms –OT songs put to music
- Hymns – Praise honor & respect for God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit
- Spiritual Songs – all Songs that have Scripture as their basis.
- Only what we can sing to the Lord

# Psalms

- Ps 1 - 573 I shall not be Moved
- Ps 23 71-74 The Lord's My Shepherd
- Ps 19: 35 An Evening Prayer
- Ps 100 66 All People That on Earth Do Dwell
- Ps 148 77 Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah
- Ps 148 69 Praise the Lord

# Hymns

- 59 Holy Holy Holy
- 1A How Great Thou Art
- 196 Glory to His Name
- 668 Our God He is Alive
- 216 A Mighty Fortress
- 250 The Great Redeemer
- 452 Wonderful Grace of Jesus

# Hymns

- 19 All Hail the Power
- 5 Worthy Art Thou
- 17 Revive us Again
- 664 On Zion's Glorious Summit
- 67 Praise God
- 11 Praise Him! Praise Him!

# Spiritual Songs

- 53 Purer in Heart
- 239 Peace Perfect Peace
- 120 The Solid Rock
- 656 Blest Be the Tie that Binds
- 437 Where Could I Go?
- 111 Yield Not to Temptation

# Spiritual Songs

- 528 Seeking the Lost
- 452 Wonderful Grace of Jesus
- 425 Beyond the Sunset
- 403 No Tears in Heaven
- 462 Lead Me Gently Home
- 112 Angry Words O Let Them Never



# Other Differences

- Only Songs That we can:
  - Speak one to the other
  - Teach and admonish one another
  - Make melody in your heart to the Lord
  - Sing with grace in your heart to the Lord
  - Be filled with the Spirit
  - Let the word of Christ dwell in you
  - Richly in all wisdom

# Takes Effort in our Spirit

- God wants us to do all the work.
- It is not artificially created by bands, sound systems, musical beat from contemporary sources.
- It must be generated by truth resonating in our spiritual heart and creating genuine worship and adoration.
- If it is counterfeit, it won't last to the end of the day.