

## Message Ten

# The Worship of God

RK *Hymns* 124, 12

Scripture Reading: Rev. 22:9b; 14:7; 4:8-11; 5:9-14; Gen. 4:3-5;  
Exo. 20:22-26; 32:1, 4-6; 24:10-11; John 4:23-24

- Rev 22:9b ... I am your fellow slave and a fellow slave of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God.
- Rev 14:7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give Him glory because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who has made heaven and earth and the sea and the springs of waters.
- Rev 4:8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings apiece, are full of eyes around and within; and they have no rest day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God the Almighty, who was and who is and who is coming.
- Rev 4:9 And when the four living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits upon the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever,
- Rev 4:10 The twenty-four elders will fall before Him who sits upon the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever; and they will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
- Rev 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.
- Rev 5:9 And they sing a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
- Rev 5:10 And have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.
- Rev 5:11 And I saw, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and of the living creatures and of the elders, and their number was ten thousands of ten thousands and thousands of thousands,
- Rev 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb who has been slain to receive the power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.
- Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea and all things in them, I heard saying, To Him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing and the honor and the glory and the might forever and ever.
- Rev 5:14 And the four living creatures said, Amen. And the elders fell down and worshipped.
- Gen 4:3 And in the course of time Cain brought an offering to Jehovah from the fruit of the ground.
- Gen 4:4 And Abel also brought an offering, from the firstlings of his flock, that is, from their fat portions. And Jehovah had regard for Abel and for his offering.
- Gen 4:5 But for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. And Cain became very angry, and his countenance fell.
- Exo 20:22 And Jehovah said to Moses, Thus shall you say to the children of Israel, You yourselves have seen that I have spoken to you from heaven.
- Exo 20:23 You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves.
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- Exo 20:25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool upon them, you have polluted them.
- Exo 20:26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it.
- Exo 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered against Aaron and said to him, Come, make a god for us who will go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.
- Exo 32:4 And he took the gold from their hand and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!
- Exo 32:5 And when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; then Aaron made a proclamation and said, Tomorrow shall be a feast to Jehovah.
- Exo 32:6 And they rose up early on the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.
- Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.

- Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.
- John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.
- John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

## **I. “Worship God”—Rev. 22:9b:**

- Rev 22:9b ... I am your fellow slave and a fellow slave of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God.
- A. The last commandment in the New Testament is to worship God:**
1. **God wants worship; God wants man to know that He is God and to declare that He is God— 4:10-11.**

Rev 4:10 The twenty-four elders will fall before Him who sits upon the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever; and they will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

Rev 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.
  2. **To worship God is to confess that He is God— John 20:28; 9:35-38:**

John 20:28 Thomas answered and said to Him, My Lord and my God!

John 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and He found him and said, Do you believe into the Son of God?

John 9:36 He answered and said, And who is He, Lord, that I may believe into Him?

John 9:37 Jesus said to him, You have both seen Him, and He is the One speaking with you.

John 9:38 And he said, Lord, I believe; and he worshipped Him.

    - a. **The highest knowledge of God is of His Godhead.**
    - b. **Worship is the recognition that He is God and that we are men.**
  3. **Worship comes from seeing; it takes revelation to worship.**
- B. The devil has been seeking worship—Matt. 4:8-10; Rev. 13:4, 8, 12, 15:**
- Matt 4:8 Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.
- Matt 4:9 And he said to Him, All these will I give You if You will fall down and worship me.
- Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, Go away, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."
- Rev 13:4 And they worshipped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like the beast? And who can make war with him?
- Rev 13:8 And all those dwelling on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name is not written in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.
- Rev 13:12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his sight, and he causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose death stroke was healed.
- Rev 13:15 And power was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast that the image of the beast might even speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.
1. **God wants worship, and Satan also wants worship—14:6-7.**

Rev 14:6 And I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, having an eternal gospel to announce to those dwelling on the earth, even to every nation and tribe and tongue and people,

Rev 14:7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give Him glory because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who has made heaven and earth and the sea and the springs of waters.
  2. **God needs our worship of Him, and what Satan fears is our worship of God.**
  3. **The devil’s temptation of Jesus in the wilderness opens our eyes to see what Satan wants—the worship from man— Matt. 4:8-10.**

Matt 4:8 Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

Matt 4:9 And he said to Him, All these will I give You if You will fall down and worship me.

Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, Go away, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."

C. In the book of Revelation we see a special line—the line of worship—4:8-11; 5:9-14; 13:4, 8, 12, 15; 14:7; 22:9b:

- Rev 4:8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings apiece, are full of eyes around and within; and they have no rest day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God the Almighty, who was and who is and who is coming.
- Rev 4:9 And when the four living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits upon the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever,
- Rev 4:10 The twenty-four elders will fall before Him who sits upon the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever; and they will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
- Rev 4:11 You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for You have created all things, and because of Your will they were, and were created.
- Rev 5:9 And they sing a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain and have purchased for God by Your blood men out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,
- Rev 5:10 And have made them a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth.
- Rev 5:11 And I saw, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and of the living creatures and of the elders, and their number was ten thousands of ten thousands and thousands of thousands,
- Rev 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb who has been slain to receive the power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.
- Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea and all things in them, I heard saying, To Him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be the blessing and the honor and the glory and the might forever and ever.
- Rev 5:14 And the four living creatures said, Amen. And the elders fell down and worshipped.
- Rev 13:4 And they worshipped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like the beast? And who can make war with him?
- Rev 13:8 And all those dwelling on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name is not written in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.
- Rev 13:12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his sight, and he causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose death stroke was healed.
- Rev 13:15 And power was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast that the image of the beast might even speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.
- Rev 14:7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give Him glory because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who has made heaven and earth and the sea and the springs of waters.
- Rev 22:9b ... I am your fellow slave and a fellow slave of your brothers the prophets and of those who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God.

1. In Revelation 4 we see that because of creation God receives worship; the picture in Revelation 4 shows us that from eternity to eternity God has His throne and continual worship; God has had this worship from before the foundation of the world.
2. In Revelation 5 we see that because of redemption God receives worship.

D. In the New Testament, serving God is actually the same as worshipping God—Rom. 1:9:

Rom 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,

1. In the Lord's answer to Satan in Matthew 4:10, we see that to worship God is to serve God.

Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, Go away, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."

2. We cannot serve God without worshipping Him; neither can we worship Him without serving Him.

- E. Today worship is realized in the **Body of Christ**—Eph. 3:20-21; Heb. 2:12:
- Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,
- Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
- Heb 2:12 Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."
1. Apart from the **Body**, it is difficult to have the proper worship.
  2. Worship in the New Testament is a corporate matter.

## **II. Whereas Abel worshipped God according to divine revelation, Cain worshipped according to his own opinion and concept—Gen. 4:3-5:**

- Gen 4:3 And in the course of time Cain brought an offering to Jehovah from the fruit of the ground.
- Gen 4:4 And Abel also brought an offering, from the firstlings of his flock, that is, from their fat portions. And Jehovah had regard for Abel and for his offering.
- Gen 4:5 But for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. And Cain became very angry, and his countenance fell.
- A. Cain did not follow the way of salvation through the anticipated redemption but presumptuously offered the fruit of his own labor to God—v. 3:
- Gen 4:3 And in the course of time Cain brought an offering to Jehovah from the fruit of the ground.
1. Cain's way of worshipping God was to invent a religion according to his human concept and opinion— Jude 11.
 

Jude 11 Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain and have rushed out in the error of Balaam for reward and have perished in the rebellion of Korah.
  2. Throughout the centuries and generations there have been countless followers of Cain, people in every place and time who have invented their own religion.
- B. According to Hebrews 11:4, Abel's offering, a sacrifice, was offered to God by faith, which comes by hearing the word of the gospel—Rom. 10:17, 14:
- Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying to his gifts; and through faith, though he has died, he still speaks.
- Rom 10:17 So faith comes out of hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.
- Rom 10:14 How then shall they call upon Him into whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe into Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without one who proclaims Him?
1. Abel was the first priest of God, representing all the believers in Christ—1 Pet. 2:5, 9.
 

1 Pet 2:5 You yourselves also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
  2. In type, Abel offered Christ to God—Num. 18:17:
 

Num 18:17 But the firstborn of a cow or the firstborn of a sheep or the firstborn of a goat you shall not redeem; they are holy. You shall sprinkle their blood upon the altar and burn their fat as an offering by fire for a satisfying fragrance to Jehovah.

    - a. This offering included the sprinkling of the blood upon the altar for redemption and the burning of the fat as a satisfying fragrance to God.
    - b. Abel's offering, corresponding exactly with what was later revealed in the Mosaic law (Exo. 20:22-26), proves that his way of worshipping God was according to God's divine revelation, not according to his own concept.
 

Exo 20:22 And Jehovah said to Moses, Thus shall you say to the children of Israel, You yourselves have seen that I have spoken to you from heaven.

- Exo 20:23 You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves.
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- Exo 20:25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool upon them, you have polluted them.
- Exo 20:26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it.

### **III. Exodus 20:22-26 reveals the statutes of the law concerning the worship of God:**

- Exo 20:22 And Jehovah said to Moses, Thus shall you say to the children of Israel, You yourselves have seen that I have spoken to you from heaven.
- Exo 20:23 You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves.
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- Exo 20:25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool upon them, you have polluted them.
- Exo 20:26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it.
- A. **In the worship of God no place should be given to riches, signified in Exodus 20:23 by silver and gold (cf. Acts 3:6; 1 Tim. 6:17); we cannot serve God and mammon (Matt. 6:24).**
- Exo 20:23 You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves.
- Acts 3:6 But Peter said, Silver and gold I do not possess, but what I have, this I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene rise up and walk.
- 1 Tim 6:17 Charge those who are rich in the present age not to be high-minded, nor to set their hope on the uncertainty of riches but on God, who affords us all things richly for our enjoyment;
- Matt 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.
- B. **The proper worship of God must include the burnt offering— Christ offered to God for His enjoyment and satisfaction— and the peace offering—Christ offered to God for our enjoyment and satisfaction mutually with God—Exo. 20:24.**
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- C. **According to Exodus 20:24-26, the altar God requires for man’s worship is primitive and uncultured in the eyes of man and offers no place for man’s wisdom and power—1 Cor. 1:17-25:**
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- Exo 20:25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool upon them, you have polluted them.
- Exo 20:26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it.
- 1 Cor 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to announce the gospel, not in wisdom of speech that the cross of Christ may not be made void.
- 1 Cor 1:18 For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- 1 Cor 1:19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the understanding of those who

- understand I will set aside."
- 1 Cor 1:20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?
- 1 Cor 1:21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know God, God was well pleased through the foolishness of the preaching to save those who believe.
- 1 Cor 1:22 For indeed Jews require signs and Greeks seek wisdom,
- 1 Cor 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness,
- 1 Cor 1:24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- 1 Cor 1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
1. The altar was erected with materials created by God, indicating that the cross has been prepared entirely by the work of God, with no place given to man's work—Exo. 20:24.
 

Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
  2. To erect an altar in this way means to receive what God has prepared, with no human work added.
- D. In the proper worship of God there should be no name other than the name of the Lord—v. 24; Deut. 12:5, 11; 14:23; 16:6, 11; 26:2.
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- Deut 12:5 But to the place which Jehovah your God will choose out of all your tribes to put His name, to His habitation, shall you seek, and there shall you go.
- Deut 12:11 Then to the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell, there you shall bring all that I am commanding you, your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and all your choice vows which you vow to Jehovah.
- Deut 14:23 And you shall eat before Jehovah your God, in the place where He will choose to cause His name to dwell, the tithe of your grain, of your new wine, and of your fresh oil and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear Jehovah your God always.
- Deut 16:6 Rather, in the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell, you shall sacrifice the passover in the evening, as the sun sets, at the time that you came out of Egypt.
- Deut 16:11 And you and your son and daughter, and your male servant and female servant, and the Levite who is within your gates and the sojourner and the orphan and the widow who are in your midst shall rejoice before Jehovah your God in the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell.
- Deut 26:2 You shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground which you shall bring from your land, which Jehovah your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell.
- E. The proper worship of God invites God's visitation and blessing—Exo. 20:24.
- Exo 20:24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.
- F. To add man's work to the worship of God is to bring in pollution—v. 25:
- Exo 20:25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones; for if you lift up your tool upon them, you have polluted them.
1. Because fallen man himself is sin, pollution, in the eyes of God (Psa. 51:5; 2 Cor. 5:21), no work of man is acceptable to Him (cf. Gen. 4:3-5; Gal. 2:16).
 

Psa 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, / And in sin did my mother conceive me.

2 Cor 5:21 Him who did not know sin He made sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- Gen 4:3 And in the course of time Cain brought an offering to Jehovah from the fruit of the ground.
- Gen 4:4 And Abel also brought an offering, from the firstlings of his flock, that is, from their fat portions. And Jehovah had regard for Abel and for his offering.
- Gen 4:5 But for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. And Cain became very angry, and his countenance fell.
- Gal 2:16 And knowing that a man is not justified out of works of law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, we also have believed into Christ Jesus that we might be justified out of faith in Christ and not out of the works of law, because out of the works of law no flesh will be justified.

2. Every fallen man who worships God must be terminated, with all his work and ways.

**G. Steps refer to man’s way, which promotes achievement by natural ability and creates different levels of attainment among God’s people—Exo. 20:26:**

Exo 20:26 Neither shall you go up by steps to My altar, so that your nakedness may not be uncovered on it.

1. God’s salvation clothes man with Christ as his righteousness (Gen. 3:21; Luke 15:22; 1 Cor. 1:30; Phil. 3:9), but man’s way uncovers the nakedness of his fallen nature.

Gen 3:21 And Jehovah God made coats of skins for Adam and for his wife and clothed them.

Luke 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, Bring out quickly the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,

2. In principle, the exercise of man’s wisdom in building an altar with steps puts Christ aside and causes man’s fallen nature to be exposed.

3. Instead of exercising our wisdom in things pertaining to God, we should fully trust in Christ and thereby remain under Christ as our covering.

**IV. While Moses was receiving the divine revelation concerning the worship of God, Aaron made a golden calf, and the children of Israel worshipped it as if it were the true God— Exo. 32:1-6:**

Exo 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered against Aaron and said to him, Come, make a god for us who will go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.

Exo 32:2 And Aaron said to them, Tear off the gold rings, which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.

Exo 32:3 And all the people tore off the golden rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron.

Exo 32:4 And he took the gold from their hand and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!

Exo 32:5 And when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; then Aaron made a proclamation and said, Tomorrow shall be a feast to Jehovah.

Exo 32:6 And they rose up early on the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

**A. The golden calf was not a pagan idol, for it was made by Aaron, a genuine high priest appointed by God—vv. 2-4.**

Exo 32:2 And Aaron said to them, Tear off the gold rings, which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.

Exo 32:3 And all the people tore off the golden rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron.

Exo 32:4 And he took the gold from their hand and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of

Egypt!

- B. Aaron made the calf in the name of Jehovah and took the lead to worship the idol in the way of presenting offerings to God and worshipping God—vv. 4-6, 8.

Exo 32:4 And he took the gold from their hand and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!

Exo 32:5 And when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; then Aaron made a proclamation and said, Tomorrow shall be a feast to Jehovah.

Exo 32:6 And they rose up early on the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

Exo 32:8 They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten calf, and they have worshipped it and have sacrificed to it and said, This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!

- C. God's redeemed people worshipped an idol in the name of Jehovah their God and in the way ordained by God—cf. Psa. 106:19-20; Rom. 1:23.

Psa 106:19 They made a calf in Horeb, / And worshipped a molten image.

Psa 106:20 Thus they exchanged their glory / For the image of an ox that eats grass.

Rom 1:23 And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of an image of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and reptiles.

## V. To see God is to worship Him, as revealed in Exodus 24:1, 10-11:

Exo 24:1 Then He said to Moses, Come up to Jehovah, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship at a distance.

Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.

Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.

- A. "They beheld God and ate and drank"—v. 11:

Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.

1. While they were beholding God, they ate and drank.

2. As they were experiencing a most wonderful sight, they were refreshed by eating and drinking.

- B. God wants us to enjoy Him and to worship Him out of this enjoyment.

- C. The worship of God here consists of beholding God and of eating and drinking; this is true worship, the worship God desires.

## VI. The divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity is the supply to the believers in their worship of the Father in the dispensing of God— John 4:14, 23-24:

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

- A. The genuine worship of God the Father is in spirit and in truthfulness; the divine reality, experienced and enjoyed by us and constituted into us, becomes the truthfulness in which we worship God with the worship that He seeks—vv. 23-24.

John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

- B. The Lord's word in John 4 shows us the worship of the Father in the dispensing of God:

1. The worship that the Lord spoke of is the worship of the Father in the Son and in the

Spirit; this is a worship in God's dispensing, the worship by the divine dispensing—  
Eph. 2:18; 3:14-21.

Eph 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

Eph 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father,

Eph 3:15 Of whom every family in the heavens and on earth is named,

Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

Eph 3:17 That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Eph 3:18 May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are

Eph 3:19 And to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ, that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:20 But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,

Eph 3:21 To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.

2. If we would have true worship, we need God in His Divine Trinity to be dispensed into our being—2 Cor. 13:14.

2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

3. The worship of the Father in the dispensing of God is related to drinking the living water—John 4:10, 14:

John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.

- a. To contact God the Spirit with our spirit is to drink of the living water, and to drink of the living water is to render real worship to God—v. 24.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

- b. In order to worship the Father in the dispensing of God, we need to drink of the Spirit so that God may dispense Himself into our being—v. 14; 1 Cor. 10:3-4; 12:13.

John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water springing up into eternal life.

1 Cor 10:3 And all ate the same spiritual food,

1 Cor 10:4 And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.

1 Cor 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

4. We practice this kind of worship mainly in the Lord's table meeting, where, after we partake of the bread and the cup, the Lord brings us to the Father in the Spirit, and we worship the Father in the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity—Matt. 26:30; Heb. 2:11-12; Eph. 2:18.

Matt 26:30 And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Heb 2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers,

Heb 2:12 Saying, "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church I will sing hymns of praise to You."

- Eph 2:18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.
5. The more we experience the divine dispensing of the Divine Trinity, the more we will be the kind of worshippers whom the Father is seeking and we will have the kind of worship that the Father is seeking—worship in the dispensing of God— John 4:10, 23-24.
- John 4:10 Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is who says to you, Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.
- John 4:23 But an hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truthfulness, for the Father also seeks such to worship Him.
- John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.