

Sermon Quotes
January 22 , 2006
We Worship A Great King

1st Main Point –

Outward forms of worship don't impress God, when the heart is set at a different place.

2nd Main Point –

We can drift from whole-hearted worship and not even be aware that we did.

1 Cor 11:17, 22 (ESV) “But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse...(22) What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.”

Rev 3:14-16 (ESV) “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation. (15) "'I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! (16) So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.'”

Main Point # 3 –

Whether in OT Times, NT Times, or Today, God always cares most about the **condition of our hearts** whenever we come to worship Him.

“Imagine coming home on your wedding anniversary and giving your wife a dozen long stemmed roses. She meets you at the door, and throws her arms around you, thanking you, saying how lovely they are. What if at that point your response was, ‘Don't mention it, Honey, it's just my duty.’ However important duty is, as are doing things that are right, in a moment like that, duty should not be the focus. If the purpose for giving the roses does not stem from genuine affection, the wife would not find much joy in the gift. And in our worship, neither would God.”

—John Piper

1 Thess 2:13 (ESV) “And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but **as what it really is, the word of God**, which is at work in you believers.”

“What is it that can make the gospel of God and His grace more deeply and consistently amazing to us? In our busy lives, how can we more often be gripped by gratitude and enflamed in passion for the Savior...and cast off lukewarmness and dullness in our spiritual experience? For me, grace is never more amazing than when I'm looking intensely at the cross, and I believe the same will be true for every child of God. There's nothing more overpowering and captivating to the soul than to climb Calvary's mountain with childlike attentiveness and wonder, with all the distractions and wrong assumptions cleared away.”

—CJ Mahaney