

Hub Central: Worship

30th September 2020

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Revelation 4:11

1. Which statement do you feel most comfortable with?
2. What makes you nervous about the other statement?

Question: **Where do you worship?**

A: "I worship God at St Martin's"

B: "I worship God everywhere!"

1. In OT 'narrow' worship overflowed into all of life

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

2. Many aspects of OT 'narrow' worship are fulfilled in Christ

*But **you have come** to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. **You have come** to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. **You have come to God**, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. *Hebrews 12:22-24**

*Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ **Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. *John 4:20-23**

3. Worship now on earth as it is in heaven

Expansive and broad

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship." Romans 12:1

Specific and narrow.

*"While they were **worshipping** the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Act 13:2 NIV*

i. Expression of heavenly worship

ii. Fellowship with God

*But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in ... ²⁵ the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"
1 Corinthians 14:24-25*

"Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" 1 Corinthians 10:16

iii. Worshipful adoration

Lots of OT worship language still used for what Christians do when they gather.

- Our praises are sacrifices (Heb 13:15)
- Our prayers are like the incense from the altar in the temple (Rev 5:8)
- When we pray we lift up holy hands (1 Tim 2:8)
- The word that is read and taught is 'holy'
- The Word pierces our 'inmost parts' uses the language of sacrifice
- We greet one another with a 'holy' kiss
- We are a holy temple, a holy priesthood.

What is happening as we gather for worship?

Encountering God & Edification

...be filled with the Spirit. ¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph 5:18-20

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Col 3:16

For those who tend towards just an 'all of life is worship view'

How does this show us the significance, value and importance of meeting together for corporate worship?

For those who tend towards just a "I worship God on Sundays view"

How is this is warning against compartmentalizing life?