

CrossRoads Baptist Church
April 12, 2006
Isaiah 43:7
Worship: The Passion of God for God #1

“Made by God, Made For Worship”

Read Isaiah 43:7, Proverbs 16:4

When we buy clothes or products, there is always a tag attached that will indicate where this product was made. Made in China, Made in the US. Unknowing to us, every time a baby is born, a tag internally is attached that says “Made by God, Made for Worship.”

As natural for clouds to produce rain and the sun to produce warmth, so is it that every person will seek someone or something to worship. Luke 19:40 Jesus said, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”

God made us for worship.

Westminster Confession teaches “man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.”

A.W. Tozer was asked, “Why did Jesus come? Why was he crucified? Buried? Rose again?” His reply, “In order that He might make worshipers out of rebels; in order that He might restore us again to the place of worship we knew when we were first created.”

Man will worship something or something. The Egyptians worshiped Ra, the sun god and Osiris, the god of the Nile and fertility. Gods were worshiped according to innate needs of humanity. Gods were worshiped to ward off evil spirits, to appease angry gods, to bless them with children or good crops or victory over their enemies. There are human needs, that are God given, which can not be met within ourselves so every human will turn to something or someone to help meet those needs. That “God shaped vacuum” as it has been called is there so man will turn to God.

But that is the million-dollar question, who or what do you turn to? Who or what do you worship?

Who will you bow to, stoop, kneel or kiss your hand toward? That is what it means to worship. Give worth ship. Give glory – weight to.

The natural one is God Almighty. You will find your greatest fulfillment and every emotional, physical and spiritual need met in your life when you turn to the One True God.

You only need one God. Everyone who turns to someone other than Yahweh God will always find they will have to have multiple gods to meet their many needs. But the Bible tells us “The Lord our God, the Lord is one!” (Deuteronomy 6:4)

The battle is always over who you will worship.

I. The Battle of Worship Before Creation

All the angels in Heaven were made by God and made for worship.

Nehemiah 9:6 “You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and all things on it, The seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.”

Job 38:7 “When the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

Ezekiel 1 the creatures out of the fire are worshiping. Isaiah 6 all the creatures are worshiping around the throne. In Revelation, the scene is the same.

All of the angels worship God and have always worshiped Him. But there was one who tried to usurp the worship of God and his name was Lucifer. Isaiah 14 tells us his ambition in verses 13-14 “For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; ... I will be like the most High.”

And Lucifer was banished “down to Sheol” and a third of the angels went with him. They choose to worship another.

II. The Battle of Worship At Creation

Then God made man in His image and Adam and Eve “walked with God” in close intimacy. Ever need they had emotionally, physically, and spiritually was totally met with God. Then Satan appeared not questioning their provisions, but instead causing doubt that God didn’t want them to become like Him or greater than Him. So it was implanted in them that they could be better and do more if they served another.

They chose to do so and the first sign of their sin was a breakage in the fellowship with God.

Who will you worship?

III. The Battle of Worship At God's New Creation

When God's new creation, new Adam was born, the first test for Jesus was over the issue of worship.

Satan has no new tricks. He tried with God, then he went for God's creation and now He's using the same trick on God's new creation.

After Satan had tried to kill him through a decree of Herod, he now turns to get Jesus to worship Him. If Satan can't kill you, then he is just as pleased if you will just live and worship him.

Who is the authority in your life? Matthew 4 is the test of that? What does Satan do? He appeals to the basic needs of man.

First temptation: physical needs of bread

Second temptation: emotional needs of significance

Third temptation: spiritual needs of worship

But Jesus concluded each by saying that God would meet every need and he would "worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve."

IV. The Battle of Worship At the End of Creation

This is the same battle at the end of creation. Who will the world worship? Satan or God?

Augustine said, "Thou hast made us for thyself, O God, and our souls are restless until they find their rest in thee."

Where are you going to find your sense of infinity for your finiteness?

Understanding for your mysteries? Refuge for your insecurity? Companionship for your loneliness? Fellowship for your need to belong? Forgiveness for your guilt?

Peace for your anxiety? Purpose and fulfillment for your meaninglessness?

Healing for your brokenness? Comfort for your grief?

Where? Your answer is Jesus.