

# The worship of the church

- See the divinely appointed worship the church offers to God and its pattern in the New Testament.

- Several words are translated “worship” in our English Bibles.
  - The most frequent word translated “worship”, “proskuneo”, is defined by Vines as “to make obeisance, do reverence to.” It is defined by Thayer to mean “to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence.”
  - Other words sometimes translated “worship” are “sebo” or “sebomai”, meaning “to revere”, and “latreuo”, meaning “to serve”, “to render religious service”.
- All men bow before some object, person or cause greater than themselves
- The object of worship is someone/something of value or worth to which honor, allegiance, and devotion is given
- Should man decide who or what and how to worship?
  - Jeremiah 10:23
  - Proverbs 14:12
  - God, who created us, has the right to direct us:
    - Acts 17:29
    - Hebrews 12:9

# What constitutes acceptable worship to God?

- John 4:23-24
- Directed to God
  - Isaiah 45:5
  - Matthew 4:9-10
  - Therefore...
    - Not to men
      - Acts 10:25-26
      - Revelation 19:10; 22:9
    - Not to angels
      - Revelation 22:9-10
      - Colossians 2:18
    - Not to idols
      - Acts 17:16
      - 1 Kings 18:27
      - Isaiah 44:9-20
      - Colossians 3:5
    - Not to creatures or creation
      - Romans 1:25
    - Certainly not to Satan
      - Matthew 4:9

# What constitutes acceptable worship to God?

- John 4:23-24
- Offered in Spirit
  - The inward man
  - Genesis 1:26; James 2:26
  - Ephesians 3:16
  - 2 Corinthians 4:16
  - Hebrews 12:28; Psalm 89:7
  - Therefore...
    - Not outward show
      - Matthew 15:8
      - Matthew 6:1-8
    - Not hypocritically
      - Matthew 23:13-16