

Reference: VARIOUS

Church: GRACE

Date: 1/2/99

10 Commandments as a basis for true worship

Purpose: To demonstrate that proper and acceptable worship will be conducted only when the 10 commandments are applied and kept

1. Introduction

Last time, saw what worship means

Reverence, respect, honor, adoration, obeisance, fear

Who should be worshipped & who should do it

Where we should worship (everywhere, private, family, public)

How – not as we please

Worship not always enjoyable – but always good & profitable

Now look at a central piece of guidance God has given us

Where shall we start if we want to know how to worship?

10 Commandments - but why?

They are based on the character of God

They are God's commands to us

How can we truly worship God if we are not keeping these?

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”

Look through the commandments and see what help they are

Applies in all worship because our whole lives should be worship

But many are of direct help in our Public worship

Look at the positive and negative aspects of each

2. You shall have no other gods but me

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively:

There must be no false gods worshipped

There must be no others who are centers of attraction

Positively

He must be present! He must be central

If He is not the only object, it is not worship

The true God of the Bible must be the One worshipped

3. You shall not make or worship idols

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively:

No idols in our lives – jobs, cars, homes, families, money

No personality cults in churches – pastors

No images, pictures

Positively:

Give ourselves up to the worship of the true God

Bow down and worship Him

4. You shall not take God's name in vain

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively:

No flippant references to Him

His name is His whole character

God as my “buddy” – “give Him a round of applause”

Treating Him Like some cosmic TV personality

Bringing God down to our level

How dare we treat Him with so little reverence?

Positively:

He is jealous for His name – so should we be

We are called by The Name too!

Should use His Name with reverence and awe

Scripture copyists cleaned pen every time they wrote the Name

We should have the same attitude

5. Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively:

We don't do anything to defile the day

All our speech seasoned with grace

Use the time for spiritual things

We can talk about jobs and homes and dresses and hair other times

We don't do anything that requires others to work

We don't begrudge our Savior one day of each week

We don't feel guilty about all the work we could be doing

Positively

We use it to rest from our normal activities and pursue Him

We use it for His kingdom

Encourage one another in the faith

Works of mercy, works of necessity

Call the Sabbath a delight

6. Honor your parents

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

As with all the 2nd table, how can we love God if we don't?

If worship is to fear and reverence Him

How can we worship Him if we do not do as He says?

Cannot come to worship God if we harbor malice

Or disobedience to our parents in our hearts

Positively

Show our love to our heavenly Father by our relationship with earthly parents.

7. You shall not murder

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

No hatred in the church

Cannot come to God while problems exist

Will He receive us?

Christ applied this commandment in just this way and applied it in the context of worship:

Matthew 5:21-24 You have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not commit murder' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.' 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. 23 Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

Positively

We are to promote love and harmony in the church

This means all the church

Cannot pick and choose

Cannot show favoritism – God does not.

8. You shall not commit adultery

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

How can we seriously seek to worship God when we have lustful hearts?

Positively

He must be first in our affections

Then holy love must mark our relationships in the church and outside.

9. You shall not steal

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

We must not rob man or God

God loves those who give cheerfully

We can rob God in many ways

By withholding gifts (Malachi)

Malachi 3:8-10 Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you! 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.

By withholding praise and worship – which He deserves

And our withholding our lives

Positively

Our worship should be a lavish giving to God

We should hold nothing back from Him!

10. You shall not lie

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

There must be nothing false about us

Corinthians' communion service was a lie

It said they were united but they were not

Ananias and Sapphira lied in their giving

Positively

We must speak the truth in love
Our worship must be in Truth

11. You shall not covet

How does this work into our worship?

Negatively

The love of the things of this world is enmity to God

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 Timothy 6:9-10 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Can covet another's gifts or talents

Positively

Our desires should be towards the Lord

To praise and bless Him

To be content with what He has given

1 Timothy 6:6-8 But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. 7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. 8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

12. Conclusions

We have seen how closely the 10 commandments relate to worship

They all have positive and negative aspects

If we really respect, fear and love God, we will show it by keeping these

We will keep them at home, work and in the church

And it will not be a burden to us to do so!

Next time, will see another great principle of worship

Ties closely to this one:-

True worship of God will reflect His character