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Worship – Pt 1 We bestow glory to whom we worship.

This is our first study on the topic of worship. In this study we will establish the meaning for worship from Israel who when they worship God they (1) bowed down before him, (ii) sang praises with gladness, (iii) confessed, and (iv) served Him.

Meaning from the Greek words that are translated “worship”, “worshippers” are also translated – dignities, glorious, glory, honour, praise, show piety, serve, do the service, and devotion (something adored).

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded

When Israel worshipped the Lord they –

i) bowed down before Him

“And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the Lord” (Gen 24:26). See also Gen.24: 48, 24: 52, Ex.4:31, 12: 27, 34: 8, 1 Chr.29:20, & Ps.95: 6.

And lifting up hands – Neh.8: 6.

ii) sang praises with gladness

“And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded...Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the Lord with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped (2 Chr.29: 28 – 30). See also Ps.66: 4.

iii) confessed

“And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the Lord their God [one] fourth part of the day; and [another] fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the Lord their God” (Neh.9: 3).

iv) served

“And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him” (1Kgs 16:31). See also Deut 29:26 1Kgs.9: 9.

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life

Imagine if you had born a child and they called another couple “mum and dad”. Well in the Quran it says that Allah created the heavens and the earth. But the bible says God’s Son created the heavens and the earth, but the god Allah has no Son!

Question to think about.

What happens when a person bows down to a image of Mary, or

Our answer from the scriptures.

When we worship we give the Lord praise and glory due unto His name (1 Chr.16: 29). And just as a parent who bears a child that child gives their parents honour as their parents, and those parents will not give that honour to another, so God our Father, and His Son will not give his glory to another (see Is.42: 8).

When we come before God Almighty and bow down before Him (though His Son the Lord Jesus Christ) and sing praise to His name with gladness, confess our sin before Him, and serve Him we acknowledge who He is – the Creator God – we worship Him in the beauty of holiness (Ps.9:2), lifting holy hands unto the one True God!