

# **Answering Basic Questions (Part 9): What Is Worship?**

Sermon by Andy Sochor

Text: 1 Peter 3:15

In our text, Peter explained that each Christian needs to be ready to give an answer for what we believe. Giving a defense for the HOPE within us requires an ability to articulate the basics of our faith. In this series, we are going to discuss some basic questions that may arise. This is to help reinforce our own faith and help prepare us to teach others as opportunities arise.

## **What Is Worship?**

- Many people equate being religious with worship – good reason for this
- Worship is not all that we do in service to God, but it must be a necessary and fundamental part

## **The Act of Coming before God**

- We must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24) – the definition of this word (worship) involves bowing/kneeling before someone as a sign of reverence; it involves the action (act performed) and purpose (intent of the heart)
- When we worship, we are humbly approaching God and bowing our hearts before Him

## **God Is Worthy of Worship**

- This recognition is a necessary component of worshiping “in spirit” – we praise Him as our creator (Revelation 4:11); He also sustains us (Colossians 1:16-17), blesses us (James 1:17), and offers salvation (Ephesians 2:8)
- For these reasons and more, He is worthy of our worship

## **The New Testament Identifies Certain “Acts” of Worship**

- The early church sang (Ephesians 5:19), prayed (Acts 4:23-31), and listened to God’s word (Acts 20:7) – on the first day of the week, they also observed the Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7) and gave of their means (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)
- If we want to worship God “in truth,” we will worship in the way we know is pleasing to Him

## **Worship Is to Be a Priority**

- We must recognize assembling for worship as a reason to rejoice (Psalm 122:1) – we should not view it as a burden; instead, look forward to the opportunity to gather and worship
- Even with the daily responsibilities and activities we have, we need to make time for worship

## **Conclusion**

- So what is worship? – it is the act of coming before God, humbling ourselves, and offering the praise He deserves
- Let us worship in spirit and truth – not allow the things of this life to take precedence over this