

Priesthood and what it means to us today

How should we look at Worship?

1. We can know how to worship God because He is a God of revelation
 - Hebrews 1:1

How should we look at Worship?

2. True worship begins with God, so
 - God controls and directs worship, thus the elaborate rules given to Priests and Levites in the Old Testaments
 - While many of the rules/procedures were fulfilled in Jesus Christ, the application for us is that God has set boundaries for our worship. Its not free for all.

How should we look at Worship?

3. Worship is for God's pleasure
 - Appreciate from the Scripture what pleases Him
 - Conversely, it is not for our enjoyment

How should we look at Worship?

4. Jesus Christ is the fulfillment for many of the practices carried out by Jewish Priests and Levites.
 - We need to understand the changes and appreciate Christ
 - The book of Hebrews is a good place to help our understanding

How should we look at Worship?

5. We have tremendous access to God and freedom in worship through Jesus Christ
 - The O.T. gives us an appreciation on just how much we have gain through Christ
 - It should encourages us to approach God even more (Hebrews 12:18ff)

What are the typical responses?

1. We need our worship to be like what Israel do in the Old Testaments
 - Why don't we have priests?

Job definition for Priest

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

Hebrews 5:1

Who can that High Priest be?

- In the institution of worship for Israel, Aaron is given that task (Numbers 16-17)
 - Chosen
 - Appointed
 - Represents all of Israel
 - Offers gifts and sacrifices for sin

Who can that High Priest be?

- The book of Hebrews tells us that the arrangement is not adequate:
 - He himself has sin that need to be dealt with (5:2)
 - He has a beginning and hence an end (Heb 7)
 - He has a short life-span, so a succession of priests is necessary (7:23)
 - His offering is of limited value (Heb 8)

Who can that High Priest be?

- So the Aaronic priesthood is a type or a shadow of what is real/actual
- It is ended when the real High Priest arrives

The perfect High Priest

- He is Jesus Christ
 - Chosen/appointed by God
 - Perfect obedience
 - Gift/offering of indescribable value
 - One high priest forever (no need for succession)
 - Perfect mediator between God and men

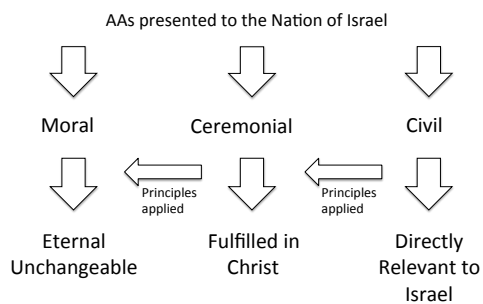
What are the typical responses?

2. We are liberated by Jesus Christ. We can do what we like!

The light of nature shows that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all; is just, good and doth good unto all; and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served, with all the heart and all the soul, and with all the might. But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God, is instituted by himself, and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshipped according to the imagination and devices of men, nor the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representations, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures.

(Jer. 10:7; Mark 12:33; Deut. 12:32; Exod. 20:4-6)

The Law of God



The reading of the Scriptures, preaching, and hearing the Word of God, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in our hearts to the Lord; as also the administration of baptism, and the Lord's supper, are all parts of religious worship of God, to be performed in obedience to him, with understanding, faith, reverence, and godly fear; moreover, solemn humiliation, with fasting, and thanksgivings, upon special occasions, ought to be used in an holy and religious manner.

(1 Tim. 4:13; 2.Tim. 4:2; Luke 8:18; Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19; Matt. 28:19, 20; 1 Cor. 11:26; Esther 4:16; Joel 2:12; Exod. 15:1-19, Ps. 107)

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