

## Pattern Theology- Worship

### Introduction:

1. God gave a pretty specific pattern for those under the Law. Does God give a pattern for Christians?
2. God has always told people how He wants to be worshiped; He does not accept any kind of worship.
3. Acts 2:42, *"They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer."* The apostle's teaching is really the teaching of God (2 Tim 3:16; Jude 3).

### Discussion:

#### **I. When is an Example Binding?**

- A. A Binding example is not just an "account of what happened"
  1. Acts 18:3. Just because they were tent makers, does not mean we have to be tent makers
  2. An account of an action just gives information about what someone did, it's not binding.
- B. Example is binding when it is tied to a binding command
  1. Paul said to imitate him as he imitated Christ (1 Cor. 11:1; 1 Thess. 2:15)
  2. Incidental parts of the example vary and need not to be followed
    - a. For example: Baptism (Acts 2:38) the place was incidental because not all accounts were in Jerusalem.
    - b. Meeting places (Acts 20:7-12; Romans 16:3-5; Acts 16:11-15)
  3. Essentials remain the same
    - a. Command: (1 Corinthians 11:18, 23-ff; Hebrews 10:25)
    - b. Example: When did they meet? (Compare 1 Cor. 11:18, 16:1-2, and Acts 20:7)

*Transition: One can follow the examples and commands but it must fit the identity of Christian's worship*

#### **II. Distinctive Identity of Christian Worship**

- A. Acceptable Worship
  1. To the Godhead (Matthew 4:10) Meaning Deity which is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
  2. In Spirit and Truth (John 4:23-24)
    - a. Spirit- expresses the character of worship, from the heart
    - b. Truth- is the standard by which worship is revealed by God (John 17:17)
- B. Unacceptable Worship
  1. Hypocritical (Matthew 15:7-9)
  2. One who worships to show off or has the wrong motives (Matthew 6:1-5)

*Transition: Combining command, example, and correct identity is the only way to worship in spirit and truth*

#### **III. What is the Pattern? It has been from the beginning (Acts 2:42-45)**

- A. Lord's Supper (*breaking of bread*)
  1. Instituted by Jesus- 1 Corinthians 11:23-28
  2. Done on the first day of the week for communion (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:16; 11:18; 16:2)
- B. Singing (*Fellowship*)
  1. Teach and Admonish (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)
  2. Hymns Sung (Matthew 26:30)
- C. Praying (*Prayer*)
  1. Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
  2. Pray everywhere (1 Timothy 2:8)
- D. Teaching (*Apostles teaching, had all things in common*)
  1. The Word publicly (1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 4:1-4)
  2. The Truth brings us our common salvation (Jude 3)
- E. Giving (*selling possessions and sharing with all*)
  1. As Prospered each week (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 9:6-8)
  2. Give one self to the Lord first and giving will be abundant (2 Cor. 8:1-5)

### Conclusion:

1. If one desires to find the pattern God gave, they will. True seekers, God has promised will find the truth
2. We need to make sure we have the entire pattern of worship, not just the example we follow but with heart
3. God deserves our worship and He is the center of our worship. Only God can tell us how to worship Him!