

# Proskuneo” Worship



August 24, 2014

Connection Guide

**Read John 4:5 - 21** Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. **22** You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. **23** But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." NKJV

proskuneo (pros-koo-neh'-o); (meaning to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand); to fawn or crouch to, i.e. (literally or figuratively) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore): KJV - worship.

to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence

Among the Orientals, esp. the Persians, to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence.

In the NT by kneeling or prostration to do homage (to one) or make obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication.

Look up these references as you begin: How is worship reflected, realized in each of them? In each of them, the Greek word Proskuneos is used. Matt 9:18 Matt 14:33 Mark 5:6 Acts 10:24 Rev 4:10

The Difference in Prayer, Praise, and Worship: Which one do you focus on the most?

**Prayer** is our occupation with our human needs and problems.

**Praise** is the occupation of our minds with his blessings.

**Worship** is our occupation with God himself, with the greatness of his being.

Honestly respond to this quote by A.W. Tozer: Christians don't tell lies they just go to church and sing them.

**SOME QUESTIONS/THOUGHTS TO CONSIDER:** Is my life a reflection of the glory of God? Or do people observe me, even at a distance, and see the same quagmire of complacency that they see in the world around them. Does my life reflect the Father and His priorities? Is my life consumed with the worries, the overbearings and overbarrenness of this life, so much that His glory is not revealed in my attitude of worship?

Matthew 4:8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" NKJV

Four Focuses of True Worship - as a lifestyle, as an experience:

**1. Submission and Obedience** - as we have already witnessed and as both the Hebrew and Greek words speak. Worship without obedience is hypocrisy.

Why do we find it so difficult to submit, yield?

O come let us worship and bow down; let us kneel (barak) before the Lord our maker. Psalms 95:6

**2. Humility** - As we see our need and dependence on God.

**3. Sacrifice** - 1 Chron 21:24 Then King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will surely buy it for the full price, for I will not take what is yours for the LORD, nor offer burnt offerings with that which costs me nothing." NKJV **Romans 12:1** And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. NLT

Is our worship still bringing our best sacrifice – are you giving the Lord the best of yourself, your time, your talent, your passion, your compassion, your attention, your all?

**4. The Priority of God in our lives:**

When I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought. - John Newton (Wrote "Amazing Grace")

**Where does the priority of keeping God the top priority rank on your priority list?**

**What is your evidence of this in your life?**

What could we be missing if we allow anything to keep us from praising and worshipping God? We cannot afford anything that would hinder us from our true worship of Jesus!