Heart for Worship

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INTRODUCTION

- In numerous passages in the Old Testament we learned that the priest of God in Israel were commanded and told by God to purify themselves before they began worshiping the Lord.
- Not only does God want our bodies to be present in the worship assembly, but God also wants our hearts.
- If we come here to this place and we find the worship here to be dull and dry and not very exciting and inspiring, then that's likely because we have not put in the work beforehand.

1 Come Here With High Expectations

Psalm 99:5; Psalm 122:1; Hebrews 13:15

- Did you expect to come here and see God this morning?
- We can't see God physically in this place, but we can see God spiritually.
- Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool. Holy is he.
- When you praise God with your lips and with your voice, you're offering up a sacrifice.
- What we're doing right now, it matters. It is something that has a direct impact on God and our relationship with God.
- Avoid viewing worship as something that we just have to do, but instead it's something we want to do.

2 Have the Right Frame of Mind

Psalm 100:1–4

- Maybe I need to do some things that will transition my thinking and help me get into the proper frame of mind.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving. And his courts with praise. Give thanks to him. Bless his name.
- As these men of Israel make their way to Jerusalem to worship God, what they're doing is they're getting their minds right.
- First, we need to spend some time in prayer. Before we even come here, we need to pray to God.
- The second thing we can do is spend some time letting God talk to us. We can also mentally prepare by reading the word of God.
- Get out a piece of paper, and just write down all the blessings God gave you the past week.

3 Come Here Ready to Participate

John 4:24; Malachi 1:13–14

- God is a spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth.
- That means every child of God has to participate. We are the those.
- You also say, My, how tiresome it is. And you disdainfully sniff at it, says the Lord of hosts.
- They're not getting much out of their worship to God because they're not putting a lot of effort into it.

- We have to understand that nobody in the room can worship for us.
- There must never be any spectators in the worship assembly. We're all supposed to be participating.

4 We Also May Need to Reconcile

Matthew 5:21–24

- If you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go.
- First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.
- What we need to do is take the initiative to make it right.
- While worshiping God is important, and while it is necessary, reconciling with a brother or sister is more important.
- Reconciling has to be done. Before my worship is pleasing to God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **He is worthy of not just our bodies in the pew, but also our hearts. Have you given God your heart? Have you given him your mind?**

MY NOTES