**Crossroads International Church Retreat Ron Man November 3-5, 2017 Worship Resources Intl. (**[**www.worr.org**](http://www.worr.org)**)**

**LET US DRAW NEAR  
Perspectives on Biblical Worship**

**3. Worship in the Old Testament**

**A. IMPORTANT THEMES IN OLD TESTAMENT WORSHIP**

**1. Worship as Response**

response to *revelation*: Exodus 3:14

response to *redemption*: Exodus 3:12

response to *relationship*: Exodus 6:7

The phrase \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is used 440 times in the Old Testament!

**2. God’s *ẖesed*: “loyal love”**

Exodus 20:6; Numbers 14:18; Psalm 32:10; Deuteronomy 5:10; Ruth 1:8; 2 Samuel 9:3; 1 Kings 3:6; Ezra 9:9; 33:5; 103:8-17; 145:8; Jeremiah 9:24

God’s gracious initiative; sacrifices made by an *already* redeemed people

**3. Worship of the *heart* (“spiritual sacrifices”)**

*Exodus 25:1-2 The LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for me.”*

*Deuteronomy 10:12 “Now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,*

*1 Samuel 15:22 Samuel said, “Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold. to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.*

*1 Samuel 16:7 “For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”*

There are many other examples: Psalm 15:1-2; 40:6; 50:13-14; 51:16-17; 69:30-31; 103:1; 141:2; Isaiah 29:13; Hosea 6:6; Joel 2:13a; Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 9:13; 15:8-9; Mark 12:33; Hebrews 13:15; 1 Peter 2:5

**B. WORSHIP IN OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY**

1. **The Beginning Period (Genesis 1–11)**

a. Creation (Genesis 1–2)  
b. The Fall (Genesis 3)  
c. Cain and Abel (Genesis 4; Hebrews 11:4)  
d. The Godly Line (Genesis 4:26)  
e. The Flood (Genesis 6–10; 8:29)

f. The Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)  
  
**The Patriarchal Period (Genesis 12–50)**

a. Abraham

1. Abraham’s call (12:1-3; 12:8)
2. Abraham’s worship
3. based on God’s *revelation*: calling on the *name* of the Lord (12:8; 13:4; 21:33)
4. private and public acts of worship: sacrifice, prayer, tithes, oaths, building of altars (Shechem 12:7; Bethel 12:8; 13:3-4;

Hebron 13:18; Mt. Moriah (22:9)

1. Abraham’s greatest test of faith (Genesis 22)
2. The test (22:2)
3. Abraham’s obedience (22:3-10)
4. God’s provision (22:11-14)
5. Abraham’s faith and God’s blessing (22:15-18; Hebrews 11:17-19)  
   Mingled themes: worship, obedience, sacrifice, fear of God, substitution, total commitment, love

b. Isaac (26:23-25) and Jacob (28:13-15)

Genesis 28:12/John 1:51

1. **The Exodus (Exodus)**
2. God’s three purposes in the Exodus
3. To make His name great. (15:11)
4. To judge the false gods and worship of Egypt (8:18-19)

3) To redeem a worshiping people

*“Let My people go, that they might* ***worship*** *Me.” (7:16; 8:1,20; 9:1,13; 10:3, cf. also 3:12,18; 5:1,3; 8:8,27; 10:7,8-9,25-26)*

*“The people whom I formed for Myself will declare My praise.” (Isaiah 43:21)*

1. **The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus–Deuteronomy)**

a. What God promises

1) The ***presence*** of God among His people (Exodus 40:34)

2) A unique ***relationship*** with His people (Leviticus 26:12)

b. What God asks in return: their ***WORSHIP***

1. ***exclusive*** worship (Exodus 20:2-3; Deuteronomy 5:6-7)
2. ***Word-based*** worship (Exodus 24:3-4)
3. ***lifestyle*** worship (Exodus 19:6)
4. ***ritual*** worship
5. ***testimony worship*** (see 2 Chronicles 7:17-22)
6. *Faithfulness* in worship:
7. *Unfaithfulness* in worship:
8. ***typological*** worship
9. **The Pre-exilic Period (Joshua–2 Chronicles)**
   1. **The Conquest** (Joshua)
10. God’s command (Exodus 23:23-33)
11. ***Pure worship* was the goal.**
12. Incomplete obedience.

b. **Repeated Cycles** of true worship and idolatry, obedience and disobedience, blessing and judgments: always connected with the people’s *worship* (Judges–2 Chronicles)

1. The cycle

2) The kings are evaluated *according to their worship*. (for example: 2 Chronicles 33:1-2; 34:1-2)

c. **King David**: important in the history of worship for 3 reasons

1) David greatly *organized and expanded the public worship life of Israel*:

a) established Jerusalem

b) diversified functions among the priesthood

c) appointed fulltime Levitical musicians (1 Chronicles 6:31-48; 9:33- 34; 15:16-22; 16:407, 42; 25:1-7)

d) stressed the use of music in worship, introduced instrumental music into worship (1 Chronicles 16:4-6)

1. Although far from perfect, David was *a model of a true worshiper*.

Psalms 23; 52; 32; 63

1. David, a musician himself, *wrote many songs for worship* (73 of the Psalms).

**d. Solomon’s temple (1 Kings 8:10; 2 Chronicles 7:1; John 1:14)**

**e. The downward spiral of idolatry**: leads to division and exile(2 Chronicles 36:15-

16*)*

1. **The Exilic and Post-exilic Period**

a. **The destruction of Jerusalem and of the temple** (586 B.C.)

1) Judgment (Jeremiah 22:8-9; see also 2 Chronicles 7:21-22)

2) Promise: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 11:17-20; Romans 7:10-14; 8:1-4  
 **b. The development of the synagogue system in exile  
  
c. The rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple** (Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai)  
  
**d. The extensive development of traditions and legalism**

Matthew 5:20: 11:28-30; Mark 2:23-28; 7:1-8, 9-13

**e. 400 years of silence (Luke 1)**

**C. THE PSALMS: ISRAEL’S WORSHIP BOOK (AND OURS)**

1. A Special Gift to the People of God: “The Psalms speak *for* us”  
  
2. Content: different types and uses:

Salvation History Psalms (for example, Psalm 78)   
Laments (Community and Individual) (for example, Psalm 4)  
Songs of Thanksgiving (for example, Psalm 100)  
Hymns of Praise (for example, Psalm 150)  
Festival Songs and Liturgies (for example, Psalm 136)  
Songs of Trust and Meditation (for example, Psalm 23)   
Meditations of the Word of God (Psalms 19, 119)  
Psalm of Confession (Psalm 51)  
Psalm of Forgiveness (Psalm 32)

4. Tone

5. Psalm 150

*“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!” (150:4)*