

Church of Christ

... Heart to Heart ...

Jesus told the Pharisees, straight out, their worship was in vain, of no use, and no account before God (Matt. 15:8-9)! Jesus quoted Scripture to show worship is toward the Lord and Him only (Luke 4:8). Paul taught the Corinthians that their worship was making them worse off spiritually (I Cor. 11:17,30)! What would the Lord say of your worship to Him? Worship is a response from man to God. Acceptable worship is plain and clear.

The Jew's worshiped! They claimed God as their God and loved their worship of Him (Isa. 1:10-15). Along comes Amos, a prophet of God with God's teaching in his mouth. Amos thundered against God's people, insisting that by their worship and attitude in worship, it was multiplying their sins. Doesn't that sound strange to us? You mean one can be sinning while worshiping? We need to grasp hold of what God sees when we meet as His body to worship.

Listen to the verbs God uses against His people in regard to their worship: *"I hate...I reject...nor do I delight...I will not accept...I will not even look...take away...I will not even listen"* (Amos 5:21-23) God placed a stamp across His people: ***"Worship rejected!"***

It's difficult for us to believe that God rejects worship from His people, but we find it often, as you read Scripture. Attitudes of the heart, attitudes toward the Lord, the desires of coming together and the thoughts taking place in our hearts all will determine if we are God rejected or God accepted! It's difficult for us to accept that our worship is actually making us worse off spiritually. Ill feelings against your brother or sister cause your worship to be unacceptable. To come to worship and not engage your heart creates a sin problem between you and the Lord. Not only can our daily lives create our rejection, but our worship can be sinful and cause our sins to pile up to heaven! Unacceptable worship will bring God's condemnation upon you.

If you could look into God's Book and see all the Sunday's you worshiped, would you see stamped: ***"Worship rejected!"*** It's a good time to take inventory of our hearts and lives and see why we worship the Lord our God. There are daily consequences for wrong attitudes and desires and those consequences will last to eternity unless we take Christ to heart, offering to God what He deems as acceptable worship! Think about it!!!

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