

# ATTRIBUTES OF WORSHIP

## Definition of Worship:

“**Homage rendered to God**” (Easton’s Bible Dictionary)

- First verse in the Bible containing the word “**worship**”
  - “*And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and **worship**, and we will come back to you.”* (Genesis 22:5)

**H7812** שָׁחַח *shâchâh shaw-khaw'*

A primitive root; to *depress*, that is, **prostrate** (especially reflexively in **homage to royalty** to God):—**bow** (self) down, crouch, **fall down (flat)**, humbly beseech, do (make) obeisance, do reverence, make to **stoop**, worship.

- First verse in the New Testament containing the word “**worship**”
  - “*Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to **worship** Him.*” (Matthew 2:2)

**G4352** προσκυνέω *proskuneō pros-koo-neh'*

Meaning to *kiss*, like a dog *licking* his master’s hand); to *fawn* or *crouch to*, that is, (literally or figuratively) **prostrate** oneself in homage (*do reverence to, adore*):

Therefore, **worship** means to **prostrate** ourselves before the LORD in **reverance** and **adoration (love)**

## Love is the Key

- **Love** is the **key** to **worship**, which must come from the **heart** not just the mind and soul
  - “***Love** the LORD your God with all your **heart**, with all your **soul**.*” (Deuteronomy 6:5, 10:12, 11:13, 13:3)
  - *Jesus said to him, “You shall **love** the LORD your God with all your **heart**, with all your **soul**, and with all your **mind**.”* (Matthew 22:37)
  - “*And the LORD your God will **circumcise your heart** and the heart of your descendants, to **love the LORD your God** with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**, that you may live.*” (Deuteronomy 30:6)
  - “*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*” (Ezekiel 36:26)
- **Love** produces a **feeling** – but a **feeling** does not produce love.
  - “*A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back.*” (Proverbs 29:11)
  - “*And take heed, lest you lift your **eyes** to heaven, and when you **see** the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you **feel** driven to worship them and serve them.*” (Deuteronomy 4:19)

## Worship Verses:

There are 188 verses (NKJV) that contain the word “worship” – below are some of the verses from the Psalms:

- *But as for me, I will **come into Your house** in the multitude of Your **mercy**; In **fear** of You I will **worship** toward Your holy temple.* (Psalm 5:7)
- *All the ends of the **world** shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall **worship** before You.* (Psalm 22:27)
- *Give unto the LORD the **glory** due to His name; **Worship** the LORD in the **beauty of holiness**.* (Psalm 29:2)
- *Oh come, let us **worship** and **bow down**; Let us **kneel** before the LORD our Maker.* (Psalm 95:6)

- *Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy hill; For the LORD our God is holy.* (Psalm 99:9)
- *Let us go into His tabernacle; Let us worship at His footstool.* (Psalm 132:7)
- *I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.* (Psalm 138:2)
  - **Worship** gets us **into the temple**, whereas **praise** and **thanksgiving** are how we enter into the **gates** and **outer courts**
    - *“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.”* (Psalm 100:4)

## ATTITUDES OF WORSHIP

### Stand Before the Lord Your God

**Standing** in worship shows our **respect** and **reverence** toward God

- If you **can't stand** in the **natural**, then **“stand”** or **“prostrate yourself”** in the Spirit
  - *“Stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at evening”* (1Chronicles 23:30)
  - *“Stand up and bless the LORD your God forever and ever!”* (Nehemiah 9:5)
  - *“Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.”* (Psalm 33:8)
  - *“Then the LORD said to him, “Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.”* (Acts 7:33)
- There is no instance where the Scriptures say to **sit** and **worship** the Lord

### Clap Your Hands All You People

**Clapping our hands** is another way the Scriptures tell us to **worship the Lord**

- *“And he brought out the king's son, put the crown on him, and gave him the Testimony; they made him king and anointed him, and they clapped their hands and said, “Long live the king!””* (2Kings 11:12)
- *“Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph! For the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over all the earth.”* (Psalm 47:1)

### Shout To The Lord

As the above verse declares, we should also **shout** our praises to the Lord God Almighty

- *“Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.”* (Psalm 98:4)
- *“Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.”* (Ezra 3:11)

### Lift Up Your Hands to the Lord

- *“And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.”* (Nehemiah 8:6)
- *“Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You, when I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.”* (Psalm 28:2)
- *“Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.”* (Psalm 134:2)
- *“Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”* (Psalm 141:20)
- *“I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands.”* (1Timothy 2:8)

## Sing His Praises

There are 173 verses in the Bible (NKJV) that contain the word “sing” and 119 verses that contain the word “song” – so obviously, singing is **important to God**

- “*And now my **head shall be lifted up** above my enemies all around me; therefore I will **offer sacrifices of joy** in His tabernacle; I will **sing**, yes, I will **sing praises** to the LORD.” (Psalm 27:6)*
- “**Sing praise** to the LORD, you saints of His, and **give thanks** at the remembrance of His holy name.” (Psalm 30:4)
- “*All the earth shall **worship** You and **sing praises** to You; they shall **sing praises** to Your name.*” (Psalm 66:4)
- “**Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song**, And His **praise** in the assembly of saints.” (Psalm 149:1)

## Play Music and Dance Before the Lord Your God

Music and dance are also shown by Scripture to be desired by the Lord – and not just an organ!

- “*Then **David danced** before the LORD with all his might.*” (2Samuel 6:14)
- “*Let them **praise** His name with the **dance**; let them **sing praises** to Him with the **timbrel** and **harp**.*” (Psalm 149:3)
- “**Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet**; Praise Him with the **lute** and **harp**! Praise Him with the **timbrel** and **dance**; Praise Him with **stringed instruments** and **flutes**! Praise Him with **loud cymbals**; Praise Him with **clashing cymbals**!” (Psalm 150:3-5)

## **MODEL WORSHIP**

The **best illustration** of how God wants us to **worship** is found in the **chorales** in the book of **Revelation**:

### Revelation 4:8-11

*The **four living creatures**, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And **they do not rest day or night**, saying:*

*“**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!**”*

<sup>9</sup>*Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, **the twenty-four elders fall down before Him** who sits on the throne and **worship Him** who lives forever and ever, and **cast their crowns before the throne**, saying:*

*“**You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.**”*

### Revelation 5:8-14

*Now when He had taken the scroll, the **four living creatures** and the **twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb**, each having a **harp**, and **golden bowls** full of incense, which are **the prayers of the saints**.<sup>9</sup> And they **sang a new song**, saying:*

*“**You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.**”*

<sup>11</sup>*Then I looked, and I heard the **voice of many angels** around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was **ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands**, saying with a loud voice:*

*“**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!**”*

<sup>13</sup>And **every creature** which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, **I heard saying:**

**“Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!”**

<sup>14</sup>Then the **four living creatures** said, **“Amen!”** And the **twenty-four elders** fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

#### Revelation 7:9-12

After these things I looked, and behold, a **great multitude** which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, **standing before the throne** and before the Lamb, **clothed with white robes**, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup>and **crying out with a loud voice**, saying,

**“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”**

All the **angels** stood around the throne and the **elders** and the **four living creatures**, and **fell on their faces before the throne** and worshiped God, saying:

**“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, tThanksgiving and honor and power and might, bBe to our God forever and ever. Amen.”**

#### Revelation 11:15-19

Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were **loud voices in heaven**, saying,

**“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!”**

<sup>6</sup>And the **twenty-four elders** who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, <sup>17</sup>saying:

**“We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned.**

**The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth.”**

<sup>19</sup>Then the **temple of God** was opened in heaven, and the **ark of His covenant** was seen in His temple

#### Revelation 15:2-4

And I saw something like a **sea of glass** mingled with fire, and **those who have the victory over the beast**, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, **standing on the sea of glass**, having **harps** of God. They **sing** the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the **song** of the Lamb, saying:

**“Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been manifested.”**

#### Revelation 16:5-7

And I heard the **angel of the waters** saying:

**“You are righteous, O Lord, the One who is and who was and who is to be, because You have judged these things.**

**For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.”**

<sup>7</sup>And I heard **another from the altar** saying,

**“Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.”**