

How Devout Is Our Worship?

By Dale D. Robins

How do you feel about our worship assembly? Is it just a period of rituals that we go through each Sunday morning so we can say “we went to church?” Do we get a spiritual uplift by being here or is it just another assembly we attend because we hold membership here? Hmm...

Our coming together is a privilege forbidden in many parts of the world. In many countries Christians must worship in secret as Christians did in the first century because of opposition from civil authorities. Would you be here today if you knew someone might be watching the building and recording license tags of those who attended? Would you feel a compulsion to make arrangements – even risky arrangements – to be with the people of God as Heb. 10:25 tells us to do?

Today, there is more going on here than just people seeing each other, visiting, and going through acts of worship. JESUS IS HERE! He said, *“Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”* (Matt. 18:20). He is watching and listening to our hearts to see if they are directed toward adoration and worship of Him who died for us OR if we are playing on our cellphones or with the babies. He desires to find those *“that worship him in spirit and in truth”* (Jn. 4:24). Jesus is more important than today’s Super Bowl Game! He must come before all other things (Matt. 6:33).

It is an honor to be allowed to worship God and be allowed in His presence, so I need to get a grip on my mental activities. (I need to pay attention!) I need to listen to announcements to see what good works I can do this week (Heb. 10:24). I need to listen and pray with those that lead our thoughts for this goes before God’s throne (Heb. 4:16). I need to follow verses mentioned in classes or sermons to learn and apply their content. In many places Bible are unavailable and learning Bible content is much harder than we have it (II Tim. 2:15). My thoughts should be on the Lord’s death when we partake of the Lord’s Supper (I Cor. 11:23-26) or am I among the spiritually *“weak and sickly”* (vs.30) because my thoughts are not focused on *“discerning the Lord’s body”* (vs. 29). Do I benefit from the singing (Eph. 5:19)?

We are to worship and do it right, and the Lord knows if we succeed or not. We will get no more from the worship experience that what we put into it. God designed it to be spiritually fulfilling and uplifting if done correctly, but if I find no honor in being here, it is of little profit.