

## **Worship in a War-torn World! Part 5: Worship Equals Change!**

### **Changed, to bring change! (Music video)**

**Walking thru a short series on worship!** Because worship: *bowing to God's way and will*, is the only way to walk thru this war-torn world... It's a straight and narrow way that leads to life and the bedrock of salvation for the people we love!

### **So far...**

**Looked at worship as singing!** Seems we "struck a chord," have tuned up our hearts and turned up the action! **Then we learned that EVERYTHING WE WANT AND NEED FOR FULFILLED LIFE WILL BE FOUND IN WORSHIP...** Bowing down to do life God's way! **Looked at outward models for ideas!** Servant/prophet/soldier. Awakened to spiritual warfare! "Anything to keep them from worship!" **Then from the inside!** Looks a lot like "obedience" even when, initially, we say NO/won't/can't! Looks a lot like bowing down before God... Servant who won't move... Prophet who won't speak... Soldier who won't quit... **Looks a lot like laying down things that are acceptable for the perfect! Looks a lot like a culture change: out with the old and in with the new!**

**Ephesians 3.21-24** *If you were taught with the truth which is in Jesus, You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; and to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

**Colossians 3.3-10** *Your life is hidden with Christ... so put to death fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry... things you walked in when you were unsaved... Put off anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language and no more lying since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him...*

**Galatians 4.3-9** *When you were children you were in bondage to the beggarly elements of the world... but then Christ came to redeem you, to make you God's sons and daughters! When you didn't know God you served the false god but now, after you have known Him, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements of the of the world to be put back in bondage?*

### **Jesus changes everything!**

**Body of truth... Disciples! John and Andrew... (1<sup>st</sup> two)** With John the Baptist the day Jesus "shows up!" "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world..." **J1.29** "And looking on Him as He left, John said, 'behold the Lamb of God!' **v35,36** Hearing him they followed Jesus!" **v37** That "*decisive act of worship*" changed their destiny forever! These "watchers" go and get their brothers: "We have found Him!" **v41**

**Andrew and John immediately "go find" James and Simon (Peter)...** Following the natural instinct to carry the "good news" to brothers/partners! Begins with nearest and dearest! Want you to know Him! *Andrew isn't heard from much after... but heaven records him as "sponsor!"* One day contented fisherman... they weren't at the Jordan with John... The next day they left their nets to become fishers of men! **WORSHIP!**

**Philip and Nathaniel...** Philip called by Jesus, "Follow Me!" w/o recorded response, he's there! "We have found Him! Come see!" **v45** Shared nothing more than personal testimony! And Nathaniel came... skeptical! It didn't take much, a character study, and he was hooked! You never know how Jesus is going to make His way in! FULLY CAPABLE! Just open the door!

**Saul of Tarsus...** Scholar, businessman, respected community leader... Zealous religionist, compulsive traditionalist, and heated activist against Christians... Struck down on Damascus Road on his way to imprison and kill more... "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? Who am I? I am Jesus, the One you're up against. And Saul, this is not going to go well for you..." **Acts 9.1-5** "LORD, what do you want me to do next?" **v6 Should be copied by every new convert!** "Go into the city, and I will tell you what's next." **v6** "And when he got up he was blind and they led him by the hand to the city and he fasted three days and prayed." **v8-11** "And he received a vision of a man coming to lay hands on him to restore his vision." **v12**

"Next" was a new life... Not relying on scholarship! **Phil 3.4-10** Never coming back to FT trade! **Acts18.3** No longer working for the approval of men. **Gal 1.10 1Thess2.4** Trading former religion for one of the most intimate relationships! **Gal1.12 Eph 3.3 Acts 23.11 2Tim4.17** A mission to build up the faith he once tore down! **A9.15,21 13.9** No longer caring for comfort, safety, retirement! **Acts 21.13 2C12.15 1C9.19ff**

A worn out **Samaritan woman** becomes a street preacher! **J4** A **despised tax collector** becomes the beloved apologist to the Jews! **Mt9 The Gadarene** goes from a shrieking maniac to city wide evangelist! **Mk5 Mary Magdalene**, set free of spirits, a supporter of the crusade! **Lk8** Signs and wonders converting thousands of everyday people and turning them into ministers! **Mult**

**Jesus changes everything!** Jesus! "At just the right moment God sent His son into the world, born of a woman..." **Gal 4.4** "Change" from Spirit to flesh... "And how did you not know I would be about My Father's business!" **Lk 2.49** The "change" for every child who grew up in the church... "Not My will but yours be done!" **Mt26** "His head and hairs were white as wool, white as the snow, eyes like fire, feet like fine brass..." **Rev1FF** Jesus changed everything... and those that worship are changed!

**So, Does He?** Regardless of how, when, where you came to Christ, did you change? How? **Did you fight? Are you fighting?** More upset about the *flow* of changes... Than you are the *slow* of changes? More pampering than perfecting? **What did you do when "ignorance of sin" was revealed?** No way! Or, No more! Offer lines of rationale/excuses? "Pluck it out or cut it off!" **Mk9.47**

**How much change are you willing to embrace?** Things you are willing to change? All the way to transformation? "Let us go on to "perfection..." (maturing) **Heb 6.1** "Conformed to the image of His dear Son?" "Renewed?" **Rom 8.29 12.2** "Partaker of the Divine Nature having escaped the corruption that is in the world thru lust?" **2Pet 1.4** Or walk away grieved? **Mk 10.22**

**Jesus changes everything... how changed are you? Our change is in proportion to our worship... in spirit and in truth! Worship in a War-torn World!**