

Biblical Principles of Worship – Part 3 of 5  
“The Worship of God Is A Mark of Saving Faith”

This five-part series on the Biblical Principles of Worship began with “God Desires Worship” and last month we discussed “God Alone Is To Be Worshiped.” This month we will discuss “The Worship of God Is A Mark of Saving Faith.”

Paul addresses this very concept in Philippians 3:3 where he reveals three marks of faith in relation to true worship of God:

*<sup>3</sup> For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh-  
(from New International Version)*

Let’s look at these three marks of faith beginning at the end of the verse and work to the beginning of it. Christians work to adhere to the true Gospel by putting “no confidence in the flesh.” Putting one’s confidence in the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit is a mark of faith. Simply put, everyone is a “boaster,” either in Christ or themselves.

Paul addresses the second mark of saving faith when he speaks of those who “glory in Christ Jesus.” Those who find “joy” in Christ Jesus outwardly exhibit that joy and are not afraid to let the world in on that joy.

Preconceptions of worship that many people have formed have prohibited some to regard worship as a mark of saving faith. Paul’s reference to “circumcision” here is not referring to the outward mark of the physical body but to the inward mark on the heart of a regenerated believer. He includes the worship of God in these three marks of faith and places worship in the first position in his address.

Paul teaches us that worship is a mark of saving faith for the regenerated heart of the believing Christian. As we engage ourselves in true, authentic worship we find joy in Christ Jesus and place our complete confidence in Him. Failing to engage in true worship of God diminishes our joy and opens the door to self reliance ignoring the fact that our eternal salvation depends on our genuine relationship with Jesus Christ.

Stay tuned to God and this newsletter for Part 4 – “Worship Is A Corporate Activity.”

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