

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE RIGHT WAY TO APPROACH GOD

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PERFECTION IN THE GARDEN

Adam and Eve were created perfect in every sense; they had no physical disabilities, sickness did not exist and there was nothing in their life which separated them from God. Their approach to God was simple, like a child to a parent, but life as they knew it changed when they rebelled. God still loved them but there was a consequence to their actions because He is holy and just.

Man comes to God in a sinful state inherited from Adam and Eve when they ate of the forbidden tree; this tree was not bad or evil compared to the rest of the trees in the garden but its purpose was different. **Genesis 2:8-9, 15-17**

THE WRONG APPROACH TO GOD

God made it clear that He wanted a blood sacrifice but Cain had different thoughts and didn't comprehend that it was not the "fruit of the ground" but "flesh and blood" that would be hung on a cross. **Genesis 4:3-5**

Cain had an incomplete understanding of God that was based upon what he wanted to do and not what God had shown his parents. **Genesis 3:21**

THE RIGHT APPROACH BUT WRONG END

King Solomon started out as a man of God. He was chosen to build the Temple, given great riches, wisdom and honor but he threw it all away when he took wives over that did not worship the God of Israel and eventually became a devil worshiper. You will find his account recorded in 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles.

APPROACHING GOD THE RIGHT WAY

The Passover feast was over and Jesus left the Temple in Jerusalem to travel back to Galilee. The shortest route was through Samaria but this was not a favorite way for the Jews who considered the Samaritans unclean half-breeds and wanted nothing to do with them. **John 4:1-4**

They stopped near a well at noon and the disciples went to get some food. Jesus was tired and thirsty and asked a Samaritan woman for water. **verses 5-8**

The woman was shocked that Jesus would talk to her, let alone ask for a drink. **verse 9**

Jesus did not respond to the unclean remark and further surprised her. **verse 10**

The woman was confused much like Nicodemus and thought Jesus was talking about something physical when He was actually referencing something spiritual. **verses 11-12**



Jesus continued to talk about a different kind of water that will make it so that you never thirst again. **verses 13-14**

Obviously Jesus had something she did not and she wanted it. **verse 15**

Jesus told the woman to get her husband but already knew how she would answer. **verses 16-18**

Jesus knew something that He should not have known as a stranger and the woman instantly perceived He was a prophet but was confused about the place to worship since the Samaritans had built a temple on Mount Gerizim similar to the one in Jerusalem only a little way from where they stood. **verses 19-20**

Jesus told her it didn't matter where she worshiped as long as it was directed to God. **verse 21**

The Samaritans believed in the books of Moses but had changed them to fit their viewpoints whereas Jesus referred back to the undiluted copies of the Law and how the Messiah would come from the Jews. **verse 22**

It is time to worship God in spirit and in truth. Jesus didn't say you could do one without the other but that they went hand-in-hand. **verses 23**

God is not physical being but a spirit, and those who want to press in to Him, must do so on His terms. **verse 24**

The woman made the decision to believe upon Jesus' confession. **verses 25-29**

APPROACHING GOD IN VAIN

Vanity is trying to worship with unresolved strife. **Matthew 5:22-24**

Vanity is offering prayers that are nothing but repetition. **Matthew 6:7**

Vanity is having a tongue that blesses and curses. **James 3:1-11**

Vanity is ignoring God every day of the week except for a short time on Sunday.

WORSHIPING GOD IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Worshiping God can only be done by a born again Christian who is walking in truth. That means you are obeying God's commandments and living a life that is set apart from the world. True worship is much more than a physical event, and when we worship God in spirit and in truth, we can boldly come into His presence any time we want.

Hebrews 4:14-16

14) Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

15) For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16) Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.