

When I Fall In Love: Why worship God?

Reconnect – February 6, 2011

Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth!

Worship the LORD with gladness.

Come before him, singing with joy.

Acknowledge that the LORD is God!

He made us, and we are his.

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good.

His unfailing love continues forever,

and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

Psalm 100:1-5, NLT

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Text: Psalm 100:1-5

Key Thought: Only the God of the Bible is worth our worship.

Why worship God – why worship at all?

- The short answer is, we can't help but worship – it seems to be embedded in our DNA, built into us
- If worship means to take joy in something, to devote ourselves to something, to passionately pursue something, to allow something to shape our lives – well, we can all fill something in that blank pretty quickly
- We worship our romantic partners, our children, our families, our careers, our causes, our reputation, our finances, our feelings, our needs and desires, our friends or lack of them, even hobbies and sometimes even our grudges
- And if all that fails, or sometimes at the same time, we worship ourselves – good old #1
- But we see where that worship leads, because in each case, ultimately the joy is lost, the devotion is misguided, the pursuit is lost, and the shape of our lives is judged to be unworthy of the time we have given it – so we have a midlife crisis, and we start worshipping something else, and the cycle begins again

(Read text)

So what or who is worth our worship?

- We start looking for what is greater than ourselves – something or someone that can make sense of our lives, that can make our lives count for something, that can make a lasting difference in our world – something that by worshiping it can make us better, make us who we know we can be
- The history of religion is filled with people who started out looking for truth and wound up being worshipped, or who developed a system for approaching some kind of great god
- What about the God of the Bible? He claims to be the creator of the world, the embodiment of light and life and love and truth, AND to be interested in our fates, in our lives
- And to that end, instead of being satisfied with a system of people finding their way to Him, He found His way to US, and made a way to reconnect with us
- History records the life and death of Jesus Christ – but the impact of His life is written on the hundreds of millions who have been changed as a result of choosing to worship Him
- To take joy in Him, to devote ourselves to Him, to passionately pursue Him, to allow Him to shape our lives and to work with Him to change our world
- What if the many promises He makes in this book are more than words? And for people like you and me? Promises to share his light and his life and his love and his truth, in exchange for simply... worship?
- That's what this morning is about – that's what February here at Reconnect is about – to help you explore and deepen a life of worship and individual moments of worship to God

(Read text again)