

1  **UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP(3)**

The reasons we “come together.”

2

- Right now we are assembled as “royal priests” (1 Pet 2:9).
- We are offering to God the “fruit of our lips” (Heb 13:15,16).
- In doing this we fulfill a God-determined, God-designed dual purpose:  
We honor and praise Him.  
We strengthen, encourage, and edify one another.

3

- Isn't it humbling and amazing that God's love for us is such that, even in our worship of Him, He is concerned not for Him, but for us.
- What occurs during *latreia*?
  1. God is honored as we *serve* Him.  
With our time.  
With our focus.  
With our lips.
- 

4

2. Important relationships are reaffirmed and strengthened (1 Cor 11).  
With God  
With each other  
Picture a circle with God in the center and each of us on the periphery.
3. We are given the time and opportunity to reset our spiritual and moral compass (Heb 10:25).

5

4. We become a part of a significant spiritual continuum.  
The true worship of God goes on (Jno 4:23,24).  
Ex. 13:14 - "*What does this mean?*" A spiritual heritage is passed on.  
Some observations:
  - In this context, the notion of worship as entertainment borders on the profane.

6

- Having offered reverent *latreia* to God, cannot one be said to have *worshipped* even though not moved to *proskuneo*?
- Must I experience or offer *proskuneo* in order to honor God, or to be edified, encouraged, instructed, renewed or invigorated? If I haven't, have I therefore not worshiped?
- As we have seen, Scripture would seem to indicate that offering the “kiss toward” is a highly individual matter.

7

- Two personal anecdotes:  
Cline Paden and a thunderstorm.  
My experience at a devotional at IBS in Austin.

Proskuneo = punctuated equilibrium.

- Can the "kiss toward" be manufactured or artificially generated?
- We'll examine that and the "acts of worship" next.