

UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP 'IN TRUTH'?

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Jesus makes it plain here saying truth can only be found in God's word. So if we want to for example speak truth, think truth, act on the truth, know the truth and for the purpose of this study **worship in truth** God's word is the only source for doing it.

John 8; 31-32, If ye continue in my word, then ye are my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

So truth is in His words and His words are in the truth!

So worship in truth is worship which is in line or keeping with God's word!

This may sound like a strange statement to make but the best musical 'worship in truth' therefore involves taking what God already says about himself in his word or what he reveals through his word he is like and singing it back to him!

Singing it back from the deeps or depths of our hearts with revelation of it.

Not because He has forgotten it but because He delights in hearing the acknowledgement of it from our hearts.

Any other act of worship which is not necessarily musical must derive its motivation from also acting on his word or responding to the truth of what is already written or revealed by Him.

For example a sacrificial act of joy filled giving which was inspired by the scripture in **2Corinthians 9:7** that speaks about God loving a cheerful giver, is Worship in truth.

All scripture references are from The King James Bible version.

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If truth can only be found in His word then it follows that the words of our songs and worship should only contain or reflect His Words to be assured of truth!

This all makes perfect sense when we understand that God cannot delight in hearing worship or love songs that declare things about Him that are not entirely true or accurate and are at best only our own limited concept of who He is or what He is like.

He cannot be fully fathomed or known his word tells us in **Job 26v14** and **unsearchable are all His ways! (Romans 11v33)**

So as well as serving as a reminder to us about Him, these two verses are also examples of exactly the point we are trying to make in this section of the study.

They constitute good lyrics/lines or wording for songs of musical worship in truth!

These verses reflect what the scripture, His Word, already tells us about God Himself so are great examples of something we could sing to Him, to 'worship in truth'

Would we delight in a song sung in our honour if it contained lyrics that were factually inaccurate about who we are or what we may have done? So why should God, we were made in His likeness after all!

For God to delight in a song, for God to delight in musical worship it must celebrate Him for who He truly is.

Not that he has forgotten of course, but like his promises to us, during musical worship we are simply bringing it afresh to his attention.

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True worship must zoom in on or highlight a person's true qualities, nature, attributes, character and personality so shouldn't allow room for misrepresentation or misinterpretation.

How much more should this apply when it comes to worship of our Maker!

We read in **John 4v23** that God is seeking out this kind of worship.

Isn't it only right for Him though He is Almighty to lovingly seek our acknowledgement in the grand scheme of eternity for who and what He is?

As he gives us the understanding on how to enter into true worship I pray we will lift it up to Him with love and thanks for who and what he **truly** is and always will be to us.

In true worship, coming to terms with our existence happens only in acknowledgement of His!

Amen.