

### **Modern thoughts or definitions of “worship”?**

“worship is considered to be the singing and praise part of a church service”

“worship is an attitude of spirit”

*“When we obey God, we're not doing it for God...we're doing it for ourself. Because God takes pleasure when we're happy. Do good 'cause God wants you to be happy. When you come to church, when you worship Him, you're not doing it for God, really. You're doing it for yourself because that's what makes God happy.”* - Victoria Osteen

### **Broad vs Narrow worship**

- 1) Broad worship encompasses all of life

Rom 12:1 - *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service* (ESV – “*your spiritual worship*”)

1 Cor 10:31 - *Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

- 2) Narrow - what ought to be done in public/private worship, not what may glorify God generally (i.e. dance, music, jobs, etc)

### **False beliefs about worship:**

- 1) Sincerity is most important - God is mostly concerned about our “heart”, attitude, or feelings in worship. “As long as you are sincere...”
- 2) Evangelism is most important - worship should be user-friendly; “seeker-sensitive”
- 3) Worship is anthropocentric, or man-centered – man and his desires should shape the worship service

### **Biblical view of worship**

- 1) Worship in Spirit AND Truth is most important (John 4:23-24)
  - a) “in Spirit” – God is a Spirit; relating to God, His nature, and His demands
  - b) “in truth” – content and form; based upon that which God has authorized/commanded. Scripture must be our guide.
- 2) Worship is covenantal – expresses the Creator/creature distinction  
Man is made in God’s image; God relates to man through covenants, including in worship
- 3) Worship is explicitly theocentric – God, His ways, and His Word must shape our worship.