WORSHIP HIM! THE LAST IMPERATIVE

"and worship Him who made Heaven and Earth, the Sea, and the Springs of Water" (Revelation 14:7)

From Wishlist to Worship - From Please, God to Pleasing God

God. When did God first appear in your life? As a little boy I thought that the angels were happy because I was healthy again! But I did not know God. Confirmation classes did not bring HIM closer. Religious education was more for the brain than for the heart. Not until age 16 did I deal with the topic of God - yes, God as a topic. But then I got to know God as a person. As a loving God. As God who loves me, who knows me, who cares for me. The relationship grew steadily. Embracing monotheism has proven revolutionary! Another aha moment came with conscious worship of God - What a deep, high, rich spiritual experience. Fulfillment! The fullness of heaven, filling my heart! The richness of His presence! His closeness. Turning away from ego to the ETERNAL. Not constant wishes (please, God!) - but constant worship (pleasing God!).



"Then men began to call on the name of the LORD" (Gen 4:26).

Creation. Beauty. Aesthetics. Divine appearance. Divine Being. Light and glory. Pure nature. Pure water. Pure air. Pure life. And pure love! Man. Mission. Propagation. Expansion. Kingship. Rest. Silence. Divine Presence. Worship. And then: the darkness of sin. Cataclysmic moment. The whole universe in shock. Paradise. Lost. Loss. Nature withering. Death. And "then man began to call on the name of the LORD" (Gen 4:26 | Buber: "to call out to"!).

Do you call out to God? Intentionally? Consciously? When? Where? How? Why? Daily?

WORSHIP: CORE OF THE CONTROVERSY

Babylon then: "Bow down and worship!" (Daniel 3:5,6,10,11,12,14,15,18,28).

Babylon today: "All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev 13:8).

WORSHIP: THE HIGHEST RELATION

THE LAST TEMPTATION

Satan: ""All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me!" (Mt 4:9) Jesus: "Away from me, Satan! For it is written:

»You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve!" (Mt 4:10 | Deut 6:13; 10:20)

WORSHIP: THE MISSION MANDATE

John 4:23-24 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Conversion \rightarrow Cooperation \rightarrow Compliance \rightarrow Conduct

God is looking for you! "Not by seeking a holy mountain or a sacred temple are men brought into communion with heaven. Religion is not to be confined to external forms and ceremonies. The religion that comes from God is the only religion that will lead to God. In order to serve Him aright, we must be born of the divine Spirit. This will purify the heart and renew the mind, giving us a new capacity for knowing and loving God. It will give us a willing obedience to all His requirements. This is true worship. It is the fruit of the working of the Holy Spirit. By the Spirit every sincere prayer is indited, and such prayer is acceptable to God. Wherever a soul reaches out after God, there the Spirit's working is manifest, and God will reveal Himself to that soul. For such worshipers He is seeking. He waits to receive them, and to make them His sons and daughters" (DA 189).

Result: Conversion of an entire village!

WORSHIP: THE FINAL MANDATE

"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Rev 14:7).

Revelation 14 formulates the last 3 mandates of heaven to mankind. Loud, from high up in the sky - to the deepest recesses of human hearts. Exactly at the time when mankind wants to save creation without Creator - the message could not be more relevant. The final call of the final calls to planet earth is - WORSHIP GOD!

> "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named" (Ephesians 3:14-15).

Worship God!

Whom do we worship? WHO is "Him"?!

Gen 24:3 "the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of the earth"

Deut 4:39 "Therefore know this day, and consider *it* in your heart,

the LORD Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other."

Neh 9:6 "You alone *are* the LORD; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You."

Psalm 146:5-6 "Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God, 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps truth forever."

Jonah 1:9 "I am a Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Isaiah 42:5 "Thus says God the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it."

Acts 4:24 "So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them."

Acts 14:15 "We preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them."

Acts 17:24 "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands."

Mt 16:16 Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

Mt 26:63 High Priest: "I put You under oath **by the living God**: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" **John 6:69** "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

Jesus: "I praise you, Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth!" (Luke 10:21)

1Cor 8:6 "yet for us *there is* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*."

Eph 3:9 "and to make all see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ."

"The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of beneficence. He had an associate—a co-worker who could appreciate His purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created beings" . . . The Father wrought by His Son in the creation of all heavenly beings. "By Him were all things created, ... whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him." Colossians 1:16 (PP 34).

WORSHIP: ULTIMATE INVITATION - AND WARNING!

To worship God - and none other - is of absolute priority: "Worship God!" (Rev 19:10) ... "Worship God!" (Rev 22:8). Urgent. Eternally decisive. Start today! Worship God! Without electronics. Unrushed. Alone before the Almighty.

- Highest Confession: "Hear, O Israel, Jehovah our God Jehovah is one!" (Deut 6:4 The Shema)
- Highest Commandment: "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength" (Deut 6:5) → Jesus: "This is the first (and great) commandment" (Mark 12:30; Matt 22:38).
- Highest Duty: "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up" (Deut 6:7).
- Regular Reminder: "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates" (Deut 6:8-9). → Ex 12:7, 22, 23 (Passover!)

🔜 The 3rd Angel's Message: Caution 🚨 Counterfeit End-time Shema! 🏅

3rd Angel with loud voice: "If anyone **worships** the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark **on his forehead or on his hand**, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb" (Rev 14:9-10).

After a hospice visit the son of a patient wanted to know what was going on in the world. I referred to the signs of the times (it will get worse before it gets worse!). His next question: What should we do then? Without hesitation I pointed to Revelation 14:7: Fear God! Give Him glory! **Worship the Creator of the world!** I wrote the text on a piece of paper and simply invited him to follow these instructions. I will look for him in eternity!

"Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been manifested!" (Revelation 15:4)

"But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: ... And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and *toward* men" (Acts 24:14.16)

The Mark of the Best ↔ The Mark of the Beast!

