

WORSHIP THE LORD – 2
AUGUST 9, 2017

GENESIS 22:5 (ESV)

The law of first mention is a principle that means to find where a word is first mentioned and study its use in order to get its most complete and accurate meaning.

- Worship (Hebrew) to bow down, to prostrate oneself.
- Worship (Greek) to kiss the hand as a token of reverence, as a dog licking his masters' hand. It's an image of love, trust and devotion.

CHARACTERISTICS OF TRUE WORSHIP

1. Revelation. **GENESIS 22:1-2**
 - A. The purpose of worship is to honor, glorify and please God, not self.
 - B. Abraham was given specifics as to how to worship and he had to humble himself and do it God's way. **JAMES 4:6-10**
 - C. **JOHN 4:23-24** – “Must” means it's an obligation or requirement. We “must” be born again; we “must” believe that God is. **HEBREWS 11:6** – There is no other way that is acceptable to Him.
2. Submission. **GENESIS 22:3**
 - A. Abraham obeyed God's command to worship as he was told.
 - B. A true heart for God is marked by obedience. **JOHN 14:21-23**
 - C. **MATTHEW 4:8-10** – Satan wanted Jesus to worship him. Jesus humbled Himself, resisted the devil and God exalted Him.
 - D. Obedience is an act of worship. Church attendance, tithing, praying, witnessing, studying, praising...
3. Preparation. **GENESIS 22:3**
 - A. Prepare: The process or action by which we get ready for a test, duty or an occasion.
 - B. Abraham was well prepared physically, mentally and spiritually. He had all that he needed, including his attitude.
4. Separation. **GENESIS 22:5**
 - A. Abraham separated himself from worldly concerns. He had others take care of his donkey while he went to worship.
 - B. True worship shuts worldly things out to completely focus on God. **MARK 1:35**
 - C. **PSALMS 5:1-3** – Thanking Him for His faithfulness at night and loving kindness in the morning.
 - D. Public worship can be contaminated by worldly concerns. Talking, doing the nails, figuring out the checkbook, and many other distractions.
5. True worship is sacrificial. **GENESIS 22:5-10**
 - A. This act of worship was going to cost Abraham dearly. He was willing to sacrifice his promised child to demonstrate his love for God. This was a type of God offering up Jesus.
 - B. We sacrifice our time, finances, careers, families, personal aspirations, goals and dreams in order to surrender to God.
6. True worship is safe. **GENESIS 22:11-18**
 - A. Abraham went into it knowing the outcome would be safe. **HEBREWS 11:17-19** It's safe to worship with all we have.
 - B. My experience in leaving all as an act of worship.
7. If there's true worship, there can be false worship.
 - A. Vain worship. **MATTHEW 15:7-9** – Worship based on tradition.
 - B. Ignorant worship. **ACTS 17:23-31** – Worship based on a lack of knowledge.
 - C. Will worship. **COLOSSIANS 2:20-23** – Worship that goes above and beyond what God requires. Worship that is self-imposed and self-pleasing.

CONCLUSION: It's our duty to discover how God wants us to worship Him and to humble ourselves to worship His way, not ours.