

SERIES: Ecclesiastes
“Worthless Worship”
Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

Asking the Right Questions:

- The *wrong* question: What did **I** get out of worship today?
- The *right* question: Was **God** pleased with my worship today?
- The question is not IF we will worship, but rather HOW and WHO we will worship.

I. Preparation: What We Should Do BEFORE Worship (5:1)

- We must not be **casual** in our worship.
 - If you treat God lightly, you fail to honor him as **holy**.
 - If you approach God rightly, you will come to him **humbly**.
- We must be **slow** to speak and **quick** to listen.
 - We pay attention to the **word** of God as it is read and preached.
 - We submit to obey the **will** of God as it is revealed in Scripture.
 - A faithful worshiper goes to church to hear **God**.
 - A foolish worshiper goes to church to hear **himself**.
 - You need to hear from God more than God needs to hear from you.

II. Participation: How We Should Act DURING Worship (5:2-3)

- We dare not be **careless** with our words.
 - We must avoid using **empty** words. (2)
 - We must avoid using **many** words. (3)
 - A busy mind races with many dreams, and a fool’s mouth runs with many words.
 - Don’t let your **tongue** outrun your brain.
 - Don’t let your **heart** rush you into words.
- We must be **careful** with our words.
 - Remember who you are speaking to.
 - You are speaking to the holy God in **heaven**.
 - Remember who you are.
 - You are a sinful human on **earth**.
 - Therefore, let your words be **few**.

III. Practice: How We Should Live AFTER Worship (5:4-7)

- We must be **committed** in our walk.
 - All true worship involves making commitments to God in response to His word.
 - A vow was a special promise made by a worshiper in response to answered prayers.
 - Some tried to avoid paying the vow after God had answered their prayer.
 - Their mouths led them into **sin**. God does not take careless vows lightly.
 - Careless vows bring God’s **anger** on our words.
 - Careless vows bring God’s **judgment** on our works.
- When you come to worship God:
 - **Think** before you **speak**.
 - **Say** what you **mean**.
 - **Do** what you **say**.
- Casual worship, careless words, and empty promises produce worship that is **foolish**.
- True worship begins with **fearing** God.

Asking the Right Questions:

- The *wrong* question: What did ____ get out of worship today?
- The *right* question: Was _____ pleased with my worship today?
- The question is not IF we will worship, but rather HOW and WHO we will worship.

I. Preparation: What We Should Do BEFORE Worship (5:1)

- We must not be _____ in our worship.
 - If you treat God lightly, you fail to honor him as _____.
 - If you approach God rightly, you will come to him _____.
- We must be _____ to speak and _____ to listen.
 - We pay attention to the _____ of God as it is read and preached.
 - We submit to obey the _____ of God as it is revealed in Scripture.
 - A faithful worshiper goes to church to hear _____.
 - A foolish worshiper goes to church to hear _____.
 - You need to hear from God more than God needs to hear from you.

II. Participation: How We Should Act DURING Worship (5:2-3)

- We dare not be _____ with our words.
 - We must avoid using _____ words. (2)
 - We must avoid using _____ words. (3)
 - A busy mind races with many dreams, and a fool’s mouth runs with many words.
 - Don’t let your _____ outrun your brain.
 - Don’t let your _____ rush you into words.
- We must be _____ with our words.
 - Remember who you are speaking to.
 - You are speaking to the holy God in _____.
 - Remember who you are.
 - You are a sinful human on _____.
 - Therefore, let your words be _____.

III. Practice: How We Should Live AFTER Worship (5:4-7)

- We must be _____ in our walk.
 - All true worship involves making commitments to God in response to His word.
 - A vow was a special promise made by a worshiper in response to answered prayers.
 - Some tried to avoid paying the vow after God had answered their prayer.
 - Their mouths led them into _____. God does not take careless vows lightly.
 - Careless vows bring God’s _____ on our words.
 - Careless vows bring God’s _____ on our works.
- When you come to worship God:
 - _____ before you _____.
 - _____ what you _____.
 - _____ what you _____.
- Casual worship, careless words, and empty promises produce worship that is _____.
- True worship begins with _____ God.