

"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle?" 1 Corinthians 14:8

KJV

**KING JAMES BIBLE
USED FOR ALL
REFERENCES TO
GOD'S WORD IN
THIS NEWSPAPER**

The Original BAPTIST OBSERVER



"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith

May 2019

An Intimate and Personal Savior

Colossians 1:14-18 reveals to us that Jesus Christ, Jehovah, created all things and for His pleasure they were created. "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." This creating also includes mankind. However, when Jesus made Adam's body and then created in him an eternal soul, (breath of life) Jesus showed He would deal with man on a more personal level.

When it comes to dealing with man, Jesus formed Adam out of the dust of the ground. Everything else, He spoke into existence, yet, when it came time for Adam to be created, He stopped and formed him. This is the first time we see Jesus dealing with man personally.

By forming man like this, Christ showed that His relationship with Adam was different. He took more time in the creation of man. Jesus didn't stop there though, once He formed man of the dust of the ground, He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

To make man a living soul, Jesus, the Almighty, breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. This is the first time Jesus dealt with mankind and it was as intimate as it could have been. As we will see, this continued throughout the Bible and will continue all throughout eternity.

Genesis 2:7, the very act of breathing into Adam the breath of life was as personal of an act as Jesus could have done. God is not a God that is afar off, Jeremiah 23:23. "Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?" God deals closely and personally with each and every individual.

After He breathed into Adam the breath of life, He had a close fellowship with Adam that was driven by His love for him. God personally prepared the place where man would dwell and where God would go to meet him in the cool of the day, Genesis 2:8. "And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed." God didn't just designate an area for man, He planted a garden. Planting requires thought, planning, and effort. Then God explained to Adam the rules of the Garden of Eden, He made sure Adam understood what he could and could not do.

Adam named the animals in Genesis 2:19-20, "And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him." This was done because God desired to see what Adam would do. He was interested in Adam and enjoyed the ability to spend time with Adam and to watch him.

The Lord saw that Adam didn't have a help meet and that he was alone. God's love for Adam motivated Him to remedy that with creating Eve. Eve was everything Adam needed in a spouse. Again, in making a partner for Adam, God chose to be intimate and personal. He showed this by taking the rib of Adam and making Eve.

When Adam and Eve sinned, God didn't stay in Heaven. No doubt God knew what they were guilty of before He went to the Garden. Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." Yet, He still came and personally looked for them to see the face to face. The earth is His footstool, yet God chose to look specifically for Adam and Eve. Isaiah 66:1-2 says, "Thus

saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

When Jesus found Adam and Eve, Adam turned and essentially blamed God for his sin. Adam did not blame Eve, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me..." Thus, implying that if God would have given him a better woman, then Adam would not have sinned. Genesis 3:12, "And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat."

Yet, Jesus personally made them clothes to cover their nakedness, demonstrating that He would also provide a covering for their sin. Romans 4:7 says, "Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered." Isaiah 61:10 says, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with jewels."

Everything Jesus did in the Garden, the choice He made to be personal with Adam, was because of the immense love that Jesus had for Adam. Yet, everything Jesus did in the Garden was done because of His immense love for each and every individual. When we consider the parallels between what God did in the Garden and what He still does today, it is astonishing. God prepared a Garden, John 14:6, "...I go to prepare a place for you..." God gave Adam a wife, Ephesians 5:31-32. Jesus covered their sins, I John 2:1-2. Mankind's existence started with a personal intimate God and there has never been a time when God did not desire that relationship still. God has done everything He possibly could do in order to give to every individual the love that He gave Adam.

Digital Editions Available (current and archived)

<http://flmbc.org/original-baptist-observer>

Please check your name and address on our mailing label and email us with any corrections at original.baptist.observer@gmail.com. Thank you.

First Landmark Missionary Baptist Church
421 South 40th Street
Springfield, Oregon 97478

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 178
SALEM, OR

Subscriptions are free.

However, there is a significant cost for printing and distribution. Any offerings will be greatly appreciated. Please pray for this ministry and consider partaking with us in this ministry by sending an offering to help publish the truth of God's Word.

Contact Springfield FLMBBC by mail, or phone 541-747-3549.

- Published by:
- Albany Missionary Baptist Church, Albany, OR
www.albanymissionarybaptist.org
 - Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Creswell, OR
www.creswellmbchurch.com
 - Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Reedsport, OR
 - First Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, Springfield, OR
www.flmbc.org
 - First Missionary Baptist Church of Union Gap, Sutherlin, OR
www.uniongapflmbc.com
 - Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, Toledo, OR
www.ourchurch.com/member/?/toledobaptist
 - Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, Vancouver, WA
www.vlmbc.org
 - Medford Missionary Baptist Church, Medford, OR
www.medfordmissionarybaptist.com
 - Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Salem, OR
www.salemmbc.us
 - First Landmark Missionary Baptist Church, La Grande, OR
www.flmbclagrande.com



~ A Man In Hell ~



Jesus Christ spoke more about Hell than all of the prophets and apostles combined. He gave us four types of people who go to Hell.

Let's look at the first type in Matthew 7:20-23. "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." This type of people profess to know Him publicly, but have never really humbled themselves before Him, with their heart turned from sin, and accepted Christ as Lord and Master of their lives. They work for their own glory and not Christ's.

The second type is found in Luke 13:24-27. "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity." There are those who have lived a righteous life. Those who try to earn salvation by their works of doing good deeds and helping others by raising their families to know right from wrong. They teach them to live a good, moral life but not to do the will of the Father which is to come to Jesus as a little child and be saved.

The next group is found in Matthew 25:41-46. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." The time frame for this passage is during the tribulation period. These people have heard the Gospel preached time after time and have rejected Christ. They have refused to do the will of the Father by trusting Jesus to be saved. They have refused the new nature in salvation. The new nature would have given them the ability to love and show the love of Jesus to the other saved during the tribulation period. They would be under threat of death and only those that are born again would lend a helping hand to others who

are saved or even to the Jews as well. They have rejected Jesus so He will reject them at the judgment of nations at the end of the tribulation.

Luke 16:19-31 shows us the fourth type of people who go to Hell. This is the only place in the Bible that describes just what a specific man feels in Hell. "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

This rich man was a very successful businessman, living an easy life. He had any thing he wanted. He tried to mind his own business and he succeeded at it. He left God, and His people, and everyone else alone.

The rich man did not go to Hell because of any big sin or crime. He was never charged with stealing, robbery, or adultery. He lived strictly for this physical world alone, his business, his home, and his enjoyment of this life.

The rich man shut out God and man. He did not give serious thought, time, or money to God or man. He simply didn't have time to consider anything but the moment to moment of his daily satisfaction.

The rich man left behind all his money. He did not take any of his fine clothes with him. All of his good food, life of ease, and comforts of his life were left behind. We see this when he asks for just one drop of water to comfort him from torments. He left all of his associations with any people of God from this life. Notice that Lazarus doesn't speak to the rich man with he cries out

to Abraham for help. The rich man left behind all hope of ever going to Heaven.

The rich man did take his knowledge of men of God like Lazarus and Abraham. He recognized and knew them both. He took with him his power to suffer for he was in torments. He still had his memory of better things and better days. He still maintained his unchanged, sinful nature. He kept his ability to pray without an answer because he only prayed for his own selfish benefit. He took with him a concern that came far too late for the salvation of his five brothers.

The rich man suffered in Hell. He was able to see Paradise and the comforts there but he was never able to enter. He tried praying, but the answer was no. His past was before him, but he couldn't change it. He saw the mistakes of living his life for himself, but there was no way to call it back or to live it over differently. He wished to God for pardon, peace, and for relief from suffering but the impassable gulf made it impossible. He realized his life on earth was going to bring his five brothers to death and Hell, but there was no way he could stop it now.

There are some Greek words used for Hell in the Bible.

Gehenna: valley of Hinnom; Gehenna, a valley of Jerusalem used for the place of everlasting punishment. The Hinnom valley was where the "garbage" heap was and they burned it continually. In the Old Testament, this was a place where the people of Jerusalem sacrificed their children to the god of Moloch. When this word is used, it is always in reference to the eternal, everlasting, unquenchable Hell, the Lake of Fire.

Hades: unseen, that is the place of departed souls. This is a place of torments for those waiting for the judgment day. Before Jesus died, this was a place with two compartments. One was of comfort, Paradise, and the other a compartment of torments. After Jesus made the atonement, Paradise was moved into the third Heaven. Hades, Hell in the center of the earth is now where all those that have died and are lost await judgment. One day, Hades Hell will be thrown into the Lake of Fire, the Gehenna Hell.

Tartara: This is a word which means the bottomless pit. Hell in the center of the earth will never be filled up.

Perdition: This is the junk heap where all wrecked lives are gathered for eternal burning and destruction. This is the eternal Hell, the Lake of Fire, a place of eternal burning and destruction. This is the place that was prepared for the devil and his angels. It was not prepared for man. It is a penitentiary for everlasting punishment.

The question is:

How is your life?

Are you on the way to Hell?

Will your life lead others to Christ?

Will your life lead others away from Christ to Hell and everlasting damnation?

True Doctrine

Doctrine means teaching or that which is taught. Christ had a doctrine. Mark 1:22-27, "And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes. And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him." Luke 4:32, "And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power."

The apostles had a doctrine. Their doctrine was the doctrine of Christ that He had taught them in His Word. Acts 2:41-42, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Matthew 28:18-20 was the commission given to the church. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." The apostles were preaching the Word of God that Christ had taught them.

Why should we preach the Word? II Timothy 3:16-17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Doctrine is teaching. Reproof is rebuke, chastise, or reprimand. Correction is setting straight, accurate, exact or freeing from error. Instruction in righteousness is education in being just, honest, and holy. Perfect is complete without defect or blemish. Thoroughly is through and through, one end to the other.

No other doctrine should be taught. I Timothy 1:3-4, "As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightiest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."

There are false doctrines. I Timothy 4:1, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" II Timothy 4:3, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;"

We are warned against false doctrine. Hebrews 13:9, "Be not carried about with divers and

strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein."

Jesus warned against the doctrine of the chief religious seat of His day. Matthew 16:11-12, "How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."

Many preach for doctrine the commandments of men. Mark 7:6-7, "He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

We are warned against those who teach false doctrine. Romans 16:17-18, "Now I beseech you brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

We are not to fellowship with those who teach false doctrine. II John 10-11, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." Notice, this is written to the Lord's churches. This means that we are not only to not receive into our membership those that teach false doctrine, but we cannot fellowship with churches that practice false doctrine. If we do so, we are becoming a partaker of their evil deeds. Remember Amos 3:3, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" Therefore, if we fellowship with those that preach false doctrine, we are agreeing with them.

How should we look at those that labor in the Word and doctrine? I Timothy 5:17-19, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward. Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses."

We are guaranteed to know the true doctrine. John 7:17, "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." The Holy Spirit in the local church as Comforter will guide into all truths. John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

What doctrine should be preached? Titus 2:1, "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine." Jude 3, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Greatest Commandment

This commandment was given to the Lord's, local churches only. He commands them to love one another. Examine the characteristics of love. I Corinthians 13:1-8 says that love, or charity, is long-suffering and kind. Those that love have these characteristics.

In order to be able to display these characteristics, one must have the Spirit of God. (Galatians 5:22-26) I John 4:7-8 says, "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." If you do not know God, you cannot know love because God is love.

Our labor in the Lord's churches is love. I Thessalonians 1:3, "Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;" Hebrews 6:10 says, "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." As you can see through the Word, our work in the Lord's churches must be done through love.

Romans 12:9 is a warning to the Lord's churches that we are to love in honesty and truthfulness. It must be genuine. "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."

God expects us to love Him and to love our brethren. (I John 4:21)

We are to be rooted and grounded in love. (Ephesians 3:17)

We are to forbear one another in love. (Ephesians 4:1-3) This simply means that we are to put up with one another because of love. At times, we may be frustrated with our brethren, but because of love we should be able to love and carry on.

Ephesians 5:2 says, "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour." Our walk as church members is always to be in love. We must first love the Lord, then love our brethren, and then our neighbor as ourselves.

God has given His local churches the Holy Spirit as Comforter to knit the members together as one body. (Colossians 2:1-5) This is not based on our common likes, but solely by the Comforter as He joins us together into one body.

This love enables us to abound in the work of the Lord. I Thessalonians 3:12, "And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:"

Romans 13:10 says, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." God's work must be accomplished only with the greatest commandment called love!

What shall the end of these things be?

Daniel 12:8, "And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?"

Daniel's day was truly a time of perplexity. Some of the darkest clouds of God's judgment upon the worldly thrones of idolatry was revealed to Daniel. Daniel was overwhelmed in the mysteries of God and from the deepest recesses of his soul he cried, "What shall be the end of these things?"

God showed Daniel the fall of Babylon, and its king, Nebuchadnezzar. (Daniel 2:31-38)

Daniel was made to know the rise of future kingdoms and their fall. (Daniel 2:39-49)

Daniel was shown the day of Christ. (Daniel 9:26)

Daniel was shown the second coming of Christ. (Daniel 7:13-14)

Daniel was shown the kingdom age. (Daniel 7:18, 22, 27)

Daniel was shown the time of Jacob's trouble. (Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:15-25)

Daniel was shown that God's people would be delivered from the great tribulation. (Romans 5:9; I Thessalonians 5:9; Daniel 12:1)

All the wonders of this present age was shown to Daniel, therefore it concerns us.

There is a time of the end. The end comes by divine appointment. (Daniel 9:24-17; 12:1-4, 8, 9, 13) The end of the world comes after the kingdom age or one thousand year reign. (I Corinthians 15:24; Matthew 13:38-39) The end, God has revealed to make us sober. (I Peter 4:7)

The nations of this world will inevitably meet God and perish. Man must reckon with this. (Isaiah 51:16) They shall be destroyed by fire. (II Peter 3:7-12) They shall be folded up as a garment. (Hebrews 1:11-12) They shall fall never rise again. (Isaiah 40:24)

The material wealth of this world will fail. It will fail because it cannot satisfy. (Ezekiel 7:19) It will eat the flesh of the wicked. (James 5:1-6) It will bring the rich no profit in Hell. (Luke 16:19-26)

What will the time of the end mean to you?

Your eternal destiny will be fixed and permanently set. (Hebrews 9:27; Daniel 12:2-4)

An eternal environment will be appointed.

An eternal individuating will be realized. (I Corinthians 3:11-15; Revelation 22:12)

An eternal separation of the righteous from the wicked. (Psalm 1:5)

An eternal reunion will be consummated. (Daniel 12:13)

An eternal extermination of time. (Daniel 12:7; Revelation 10:6)

Do you know what you worship?

One of the most needed things in the religious world today is true worship of God. When Jesus talked with the woman at the well, He made this statement, "Ye worship ye know not what." How many in the world are in the same condition today? May we make a brief study of the worship practices of at least three groups in today's religious world.

Consider those who could be called ignorant worshippers. John 4:22 says, "Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews." How tragic for one to be sincere in his worship, but to be wrong. In Acts 17:22-25 says, "Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;" Paul at Mars' hill found people that were ignorant worshippers.

Such worshippers have motion, but no meaning. Isaiah 45:20, "Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save."

Such worshippers have dedication, but no direction. I Kings 18:26-29, "And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of the Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was not voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded."

Such worshippers have feelings but no foundation. Jesus Christ is the only solid foundation for one's faith. Feelings apart from him are vain. I Corinthians 3:11, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Consider those who could be called insincere worshippers. II Timothy 3:5, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." This group contains those who use religion as a front for ulterior reasons.

Such worshippers use religion as a disguise for their evil activities.

Such worshippers use religion as a stepping stone for their material advancement.

Such worshippers use pretend worship to soothe their evil consciences.

Consider those who could be called instructed worshippers. John 4:24 says, "God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Man in his natural state has no desire to worship God. Psalm 14:1-3, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one." Only those who have been instructed of the Lord will ever worship him in the right manner and for the right purpose.

Such worshippers have had a real experience with God. John 3:3-8 says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell when it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." I John 5:9-12, "If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." Romans 8:16 says, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

Such worshippers have a desire to please our loving Savior. I John 4:19, "We love him, because he first loved us." John 14:22, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him and will manifest myself to him."

Such worshippers are not easily distracted or discouraged. Psalm 37:1-2, "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity."