

‘Worship God!’

(Rev 22:9b)

(Why, What, How?)

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1. Introduction: Four ‘Mind Openers’

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- 1.2 ‘What is the chief end of Man?’ (Q1, Westminster Shorter Catechism)

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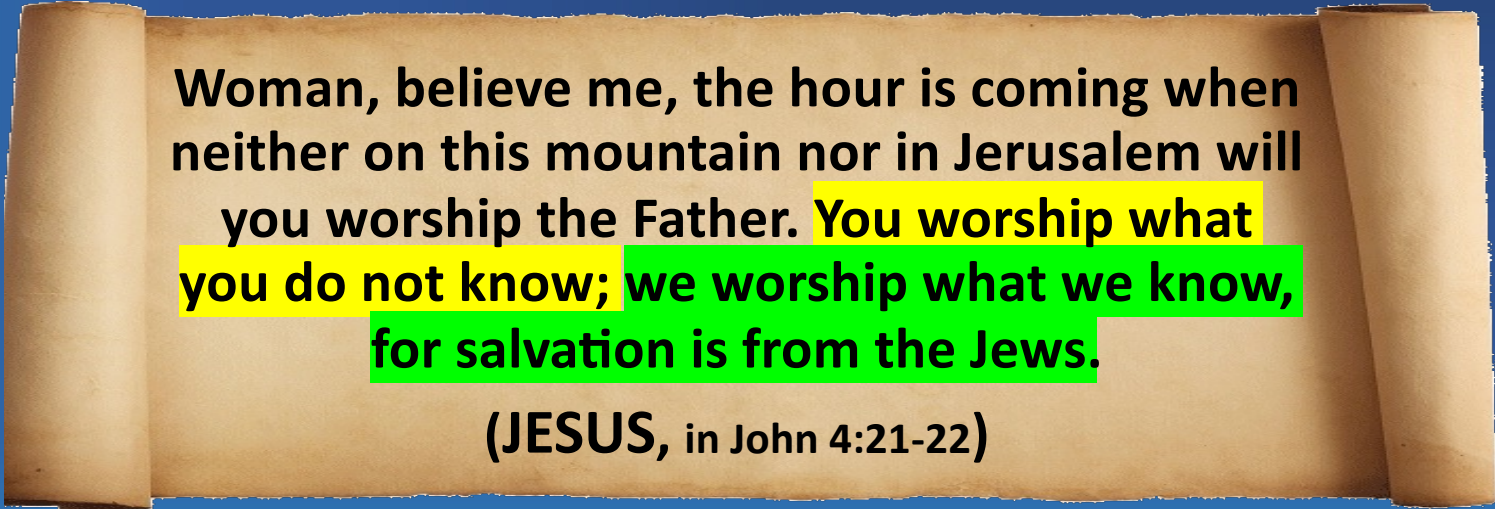
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- 1.2 ‘What is the chief end of Man?’ (Q1, Westminster Shorter Catechism)
- 1.3 What do you think of this expression of worship?
- 1.4 Hear these words of Jesus regarding vain worship and salvation:

A graphic of a rolled-up scroll with a light brown, textured surface. The scroll is unrolled in the center, revealing text. The text is in a black, serif font. The first part of the text, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know;', is highlighted in yellow. The second part, 'we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.', is highlighted in green.

**Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will
you worship the Father. You worship what
you do not know; we worship what we know,
for salvation is from the Jews.**

(JESUS, in John 4:21-22)

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2. Unpacking Matt 2:1-11 and Rev 13:1-10

- 2.1 Worship is innate in all humanity; there is no exception. (Matt 2:1-2)
- 2.2 Worship belongs to God, and God alone. (Matt 2:8)
- 2.3 True worship and giving (what’s giving?) are intertwined. (Matt 2:11b)
- 2.4 The dragon, Satan, who craves for worship - which belongs to God alone - will induce (force) humanity to worship him. (Rev 13:1-4)
- 2.5 Humanity, by and large, will succumb to the coercion of ‘the beast’ and will worship it, and the dragon. (Rev 13:5-8)

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2. Unpacking Matt 2:1-11 and Rev 13:1-10

- 2.6 Our eternal destiny depends on whom (what) we worship. (Rev 13:8)
- 2.7 The original language translated as ‘worship’ in the two sermons readings is *proskuneo* (G4352). What is *proskuneo*?

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3. Unpacking *Proskuneo* (G4352)

Strong’s Dictionary, G4352 – προσκυνέω (*proskuneō*)

From G4314 and probably a derivative of G2965 (meaning to *kiss, like a dog licking his master’s hand*); to *fawn or crouch to, that is, (literally or figuratively) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore): - worship.*

Total KJV occurrences: 60

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Thayer’s Definition, G4352 – προσκυνέω (*proskuneō*)

- 1) to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence
- 2) among the Orientals, especially the Persians, to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence
- 3) in the NT by kneeling or prostration to do homage (to one) or make obeisance, whether in order to express respect or to make supplication
 - 3a) used of homage shown to men and beings of superior rank
 - 3a1) to the Jewish high priests
 - 3a2) to God
 - 3a3) to Christ
 - 3a4) to heavenly beings
 - 3a5) to demons

(Part of Speech: verb)

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- 3.1 - is the most common of half a dozen NT words translated as ‘worship’; similar pattern for the equivalent OT word *shachah* (17312)
- 3.2 *Proskuneo* appears 60 times in the NT; 11 times in Gospel of John, and 24 times in the book of Revelation.
- 3.3 *Proskuneo*-worship is bowing down, prostrating, or kneeling before God as our act of worship, both in private and in public.



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- 3.5 *Proskuneo* shapes our humility and submission to God, His might and His majesty. *Proskuneo* is the much-needed antidote against pride.

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4. Conclusion: ‘*Proskuneo*-Worship God!’

- 4.1 This **imperative** was given to John the Beloved - an ‘old Christian’ not a newbie; we all can make mistakes! (Rev 22:8-9) Only ‘the words of this book’ can keep us from going astray.
- 4.2 ‘Worship God’ is the full and ultimate measure of who and what we really are; we are NOT defined by our positions, fame, education, social standing, wealth, abilities, whatever, but by our worship of God.
- 4.3 *Proskuneo*-worship pleases God, because such worship is reflection of our genuine reconciliation with our heavenly Father.

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4.2 'W' here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is **seeking** such people. Social

4.3 *Pro* to worship him. of our

(JESUS, John 4:23)