The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for John 4:24 (https://www.theberean.org)



## **Daily Verse and Comment**

## **John 4:24**

(24) God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

Worship, which is our response to <u>God</u>, is what we give in our devoted service. The worship of God involves the totality of life, therefore it cannot be confined to a particular location. Earlier, <u>Jesus</u> says, "Neither in Samaria, nor in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem." He means that God is not confined to any one place, nor is the worship of Him confined to any one place. Likewise, it cannot be confined to just an hour or two on a particular day because in a biblical sense the worship of God is our response to Him in *all of life*. So He cannot even be isolated to an hour or two on the <u>Sabbath</u>.

We have to respond to Him in our home: in the way we speak, act towards one another, rear our children, conduct our homemaking practices. Worship has to do with the way we work, with the way we drive our cars, with the way we dress, with the way we use our eyes, ears, nose, mouth—everything! It involves the totality of life, because religion is *a way of life*. Christianity is a way of life that impacts on every area of our being.

The second commandment deals with how we worship God. The focus of our worship is to be on imitating Him. We are to use no material aids in doing this because no man can capture God in a work of art, a statue, a picture, or a symbol. God wants us to concentrate on what He *is* and not on what He looks like.

It is not easy for human nature to surrender its dominance over one's life. Human nature's first step backwards—to giving up its dominance over our lives—is usually a grudging willingness to share time and energy with God. Yet, when Jesus is asked, "What is the first and great commandment," He replies that we are to <u>love</u> Him with all of our heart, soul, and mind. Notice,

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it is not just with part of our lives but *everything*. The second commandment has to do with how to worship Him, and anything less than what Jesus states in <u>Matthew 22:37</u> will affect the quality of our worship.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

## To learn more, see:

**The Fourth Commandment (Part 1)** 



## **Related Topics:**

**Living as God Lives** 

Response to God

Sabbath

**The Fourth Commandment** 

**The Second Commandment** 

**Worship** 

Worship as Way of Life

Worship as Way we live

Worship in Spirit and Truth

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