



[Matthew 4:9-10](#)

(9) And said to Him, "All these things will I give You, if You will fall down and worship me." (10) Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him alone shall you serve.' "

A Faithful Version

These two verses clearly establish the most basic element of why we must [worship God](#): **because He commands it!** He must command us to worship Him because it is possible to worship others and things besides [God](#). [Satan](#) was clearly attempting to get Christ to worship him—being besides God—and to that [Jesus](#) replies, referring to the Father, "Him *only* you shall serve." Not only does He command us to worship Him, He also forbids us to worship any others. In addition, Jesus' statement shows the inextricable link between the worship and the service of God. It is as if they are synonymous. Worship involves highly regarding and then serving the One worshipped.

By definition, we worship what we choose to give the supreme devotion of our feelings, time, and energies to. God must command us to worship Him because we can choose to give our feelings, time, and energies to things other than God. Therefore, acceptable worship of God involves *consciously* choosing to worship and serve only Him even in the face of the temptation to give these things to others. Notice how [Psalm 45:10-11](#) shows that we must choose between alternatives that will present themselves from time to time. "Listen, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your own people also, and your father's house; so the King will greatly desire your beauty; because He is your Lord, worship Him."

The first four commandments directly address worship. Worship refers to the supreme honor and veneration given in thought and deed to the Creator. Those four commandments plus the tenth directly influence what we are to do or not do to fulfill the minimum requirements of this duty. If we do not do so, we are guilty of [idolatry](#). No other [sin](#) has such a direct and concentrated focus of attention. The basic requirement is that we are to worship Him alone, and to allow any person or thing to usurp that position of

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Matthew 4:9-10 (<http://www.theberean.org>)
lordship over us constitutes gross disobedience. The first and most basic reason why we worship God is that He commands it and forbids the worship of others.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:
[Why Worship God?](#)

Related Topics:

[Devotion](#)

[Disobedience](#)

[Idolatry](#)

[Obedience](#)

[Veneration](#)

[Worship](#)

[Worship in Spirit and Truth](#)

Commentary copyright © 1992-2016 [Church of the Great God](#)
A Faithful Version copyright © 2013 [A Faithful Version](#). All Rights Reserved.