

Class #5 - Worship the Lord in the Splendor of Holiness

Heritage Presbyterian Church is a Reformed church. This means that we seek the honor and glory of God in all things, especially in public worship.

If it be inquired, then, by what things chiefly the Christian religion has a standing existence amongst us and maintains its truth, it will be found that the following two not only occupy the principal place, but comprehend under them all the other parts, and consequently the whole substance of Christianity, viz., a knowledge, first, of the mode in which God is duly worshipped; and, secondly of the source from which salvation is to be obtained.

- John Calvin, The Necessity of Reforming the Church

I. Worship is Theological

A. Definition

1. Short definition: serving God in His special presence
2. Christian worship is service offered to God as Father through a mediator, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, in response to the grace of God revealed in the gospel that consists of adoration, communion, and edification

B. Foundational Passages

1. Exodus 20:4-6
2. Leviticus 10:1-11
3. John 4:16-26
 - a. Spirit
 - b. Truth

C. Foundational Principles

1. Whom -
2. What -
3. Where -
4. When -
5. Why -
6. How -

II. Worship must be Biblical

A. Different Principles

1. Normative
2. Regulative

B. Basis for Regulative Approach

1. Biblical Basis
2. Practical Importance

III. Elements of Worship

A. Some Terms

1. Element
2. Form
3. Circumstance
4. Dialogical Principle

B. Forming a Worship Service

1. God to Us

- a. Call to Worship
- b. Reading of God's Word
 - 1) God's Law
 - 2) Assurance of Pardon
 - 3) Sermon Passages
- c. Preaching of God's Word
- d. Sacraments
 - 1) Baptism
 - 2) Lord's Supper
- e. Blessing
 - 1) Salutation
 - 2) Benediction

2. Us to God

- a. Prayer (Praise, Thanksgiving, Confession, Petition/Supplication)
- b. Singing
- c. Profession of Faith
 - 1) Vows
 - 2) Creeds and Confessions
- d. Offerings