

John 14:1-21

We are called to Triune worship in & through Christ alone.

Sec 2 "Religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, & Holy Ghost;..."

1. One reason to study John 14 is because there may be some of you who [like me] may have gotten the wrong emphasis from **vv13-14** "**Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.**"

a. In this passage, along with Jesus teaching us to pray using the "Our Father" (**Mat 6:9f**), we could be mistake to believe that we are only allowed to pray to & worship the Father.

b. Worship of the Father is the emphasis of the NT, yet there are passages of Scripture where we can witness how Jesus Christ the Son of God was worshipped.

- 1) Jesus as a young child was worshipped by the wise men from the east (**Mat 2:11**).
- 2) **Heb 1:6** "**when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, 'And let all the angels of God worship Him.'**"
- 3) → Turn to **Jn 9:1f** to witness how a man healed of his blindness worshipped Jesus.
- 4) → Turn to **Mat 28:1-10** to see how Jesus was worshipped after His resurrection. In this & every other case Jesus never turns away worship.
- 5) The exalted Jesus Christ, the Lamb, is worshiped in heaven (**Rev 5:11-14**).

2. There is no direct passage I know of that tells us to directly to worship the Holy Spirit or "Spirit of God" as He is called in the OT. There is no example I am aware of either. It may be the Westminster Assembly said "Religious worship is to be given to God... [the] Holy Ghost" by a logical deduction. Here are some reasons to worship the Holy Spirit:

a. Every Christian should agree that God is to be worshipped.

- 1) The Holy Spirit is God. That is why to lie to Him is to lie to God as Peter told Ananias in **Acts 5:3-4**.
- 2) Because the Holy Spirit is God, to not worship Him is to refuse one person of of the Trinity worship.

b. At the close of **2 Cor 13**, we observe a trinitarian benediction: "**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, & the love of God, & the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.**"

- 1) This is an excellent proof text for the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.
- 2) It also gives us a benediction wherein Paul blesses a congregation in the grace offered to us in each person of the Trinity. A Sunday benediction is an act of worship.

c. Turn again in **Jn 14:16-21** to observe the connection between Jesus & the Holy Spirit. — It is difficult to separate worship of Christ from the "Spirit of Christ."

sec 2 “Religious worship is to be given . . . to Him [the Triune God] alone; not to angels, saints, or any other creature...”

1. The worship of angels is forbidden in **Col 2:18** **“Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement & the worship of the angels.”**
— The KJV uses the word **“beguile”** instead of **“defrauding”** here. Both words indicate being deceived or cheated.
2. **Rev 19:10** we read how John got carried away on one occasion & fell down at the feet of an exalted saint in glory. **“Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours & your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God.’”**
3. **Rom 1** described those who worship idols in the likeness of men or creatures in this way: **“they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, & worshiped & served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen” (v25).**

sec 2 “Religious worship is to be given . . . since the fall, not without a Mediator; nor in the mediation of any other but of Christ alone.”

1. When Adam & Eve were in paradise before the fall, they had perfect fellowship with our Triune God; they could worship Him without a Mediator because sin had not separated mankind from God.
2. Since the fall, only One’s work as Mediator will do— that of Christ alone. **Jn 14:6** **“I am the way, & the truth, & the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”**
 - a. He is the only doorway that we can pass through to find pasture.
 - b. **1 Tim 2:5** **“For there is one God, & one mediator also between God & men, *the man Christ Jesus*”**