

**Psalms: Reflections on the Road of Faith
Worship: Connecting With God
Psalm 122 (page 433)**

Sunday, September 9, 2007 Pastor Frank Mascaro

Worship is v o l u n t a r y, not c o e r c e d (v 1-2)

- *Worship*: (verb form) to h o n o r or *reverence*; to regard with *great* or *extravagant* r e s p e c t, honor or d e v o t i o n; to perform or take part in worship or an a c t of worship.
- The *opportunity* to worship should bring me d e l i g h t.
(Ps 28:6-7; 100:1-2)

Worship *establishes* a f r a m e w o r k for my life (v 3-4a)

Worshipping God reminds me of...

- the *foundational* r e a l i t i e s of my life (Ps 95:1-7; Isa 44:24)
- the u n i t y that God *desires* (Ps 133:1; John 17:20-23; Prov 6:16-19)

Worship *cultivates* my need for r e l a t i o n s h i p with God (v 4b)

- Worship is an a c t of o b e d i e n c e (Jn 4:23-24; 14:23-24; Rom 12:1-2)
- As I worship, my *relationship* with God is n u r t u r e d.
(Job 42:1-6; Isa 6:1-5)

Worship keeps me c e n t e r e d on the w i l l of God (v 5)

- “thrones for judgment” are the place where a d e c i s i v e word is announced. (Ps 2; 33:8-9; Isa 46:9-11; Rev 19:15)
- Worship keeps my attention *centered* on G o d and His W o r d.
(Neh 8:6; Ps 19:7-14; Isa 26:3)

Worship *amplifies* my need to d e p e n d on God (v 6-9)

- Worship paves the way for p r a y e r (v 6-7)
 - Prayer for the w e l f a r e of places that are centers for God's w o r k. (Rom 1:8-10)
 - Prayer for the p e o p l e who worship and s e r v e the Lord
(Eph 6:18-19; 2 Thess 3:1-2)
- Worship directs us to be c o n c e r n e d with *God's* c o n c e r n s (v 8-9)
 - We share His concern for p e o p l e. (1 Tim 2:1-4; 2 Pet 3:8-9)
 - We share God's concern for His k i n g d o m.
(Luke 9:62; Acts 14:8-22; 19:8)

To Think About...

What is my attitude toward the opportunity to worship
c o r p o r a t e l y?

Does my worship focus on the c h a r a c t e r and work of the *Lord* or
is it focused on *me* and my p r e f e r e n c e s?