

## **PRINCIPLES WHICH GOVERN WORSHIP**

Sermon by Mark Aites

(Special thanks to Clayton Winters for Sermon Idea)

### **I. PATTERN.**

- A. The Bible contains numerous patterns:
  - 1. Noah & the building of the ark (**Gen. 6:14-16**).
  - 2. Moses & the building of the tabernacle (**Exod. 25 & 26**).
  - 3. Solomon & the building of the temple (**1 Chron. 28 & 29**).
- B. In every day life we are accustomed to patterns:
  - 1. Sewing
  - 2. Carpentry - Blueprints
- C. The New Testament contains a pattern (**2 Tim.1:13; Heb. 8:5**).
- D. The pattern of worship:
  - 1. Singing (**Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16**).
  - 2. Prayer (**Acts 2:42**).
  - 3. Lord's Supper (**Acts 20:7**).
  - 4. Giving (**1 Cor. 16:1-2**).
  - 5. Preaching (**Acts 20:7**).

### **II. NO ADDITIONS OR SUBTRACTIONS.**

- A. **Deut. 12:32; Prov. 30:6; 2 John 9-11;**
- B. The punishment for tampering with God's word is great (cf. **Rev. 22:18-19**).

### **III. AUTHORITY.**

- A. We must have authority for what we do and practice in worship.
  - 1. We must look for a "thus saith the Lord."
  - 2. Our worship is not for our own pleasing, but is offered to God, therefore it **MUST BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS WILL.**
- B. There is a chain of authority in Scripture.
  - 1. God the Father gave all authority to His Son (**Matt. 28:18**).
  - 2. The Son in turn gave authority to the apostles (**Matt. 16:18-19; John 16:13**).
  - 3. The early church respected their God-given authority (**Acts 2:42**).
  - 4. The apostles in turn have given us the proper means of worship (note again **John 16:13**).
- C. To do whatever we want in worship to God is presumptuous and would be only for our own pleasing!

### **IV. THE LAW OF EXCLUSION.**

- A. God tells us what He wants, so that excludes everything else.
- B. For example, if I go into a restaurant, I don't have to tell the waitress everything I don't want.

- C. If I go into an auto body shop to have work done on my car, I don't have to tell them everything I don't want.
- D. This principle must be applied to every act of worship that we seek to engage in!

**CONCLUSION:**

1. If our desire to please God is foremost in our lives, then we will be careful to apply these principles of worship.
2. **Gal. 1:10**