

ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

1

Sunday School Live 

June 18, 2023

Lesson Title: Meaningless Worship

Lesson Text: Isaiah 29: 9-16 NIV

Devotional Reading Isaiah 1:10-20;

Isaiah 3:1-15; 28; 29

Facilitator : M.C. McCants

LESSON OUTLINES

- 1. You Will Learn Today | 29: 9-12**
- 2. Distant Strangers | Isaiah 29: 9-13, 14**
- 3. Woe Unto You | Isaiah 29: 9-13, 14**

GOALS FOR THIS LESSON

- 1. Understand the significance of sincere worship inside and outside the temple.**
- 2. Adhere to the instruction, warnings and commandments of GOD.**
- 3. Worship from your heart & not your head.**

LESSON CONTEXT

The prophet Isaiah was sent to serve notice on Israel because of their continued hypocrisy, meaningless rituals and arrogance. They were warned and punished and still did not obey the commands of God by following the traditions of the world. In this text we see the prophet Isaiah calling out the hypocrisy & sending another warning to get right with GOD.

ISAIAH 29:9-10 NRSV

⁹ Be astounded and stunned; blind yourselves and be blind! Be drunk but not from wine; stagger but not from strong drink! ¹⁰ For the LORD has poured out upon you a spirit of deep sleep; he has closed your eyes (the prophets), and covered your heads (the seers).

ISAIAH 29:11-12 NRSV

¹¹ The vision of all this has become for you like the words of a sealed document. If it is given to those who can read with the command, “Read this,” they say, “We cannot, for it is sealed.” ¹² And if it is given to those who cannot read, saying, “Read this,” they say, “We cannot read.”

ISAIAH 29:13-14 NRSV

**¹³ The Lord said: Because these people draw near with their mouths and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me and their worship of me is a human commandment learned by rote,**

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER?

- 1. What was the cost of insincerity?**
- 2. How did Isaiah describe the empty worship? (vs.13)**
- 3. What does God want most from us?**

THREE TYPES OF HYPOCRISY

1. HYPOCRISY TOWARDS OURSELVES.
2. HYPOCRISY TOWARDS OTHERS.
3. HYPOCRISY TOWARD GOD.
4. *HYPOCRISY – HUPOKRITES MASKED (PLAY/ACTOR).*

ISAIAH 29:14 NRSV

14 so I will again do amazing things with this people, shocking and amazing. The wisdom of their wise shall perish, and the discernment of the discerning shall be hidden.

ISAIAH 29:15-16 NRSV

**15 Woe to those who hide a plan too deep for the LORD,
whose deeds are in the dark, and who say,
“Who sees us? Who knows us?”** **16 You turn things upside
down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay? Shall the
thing made say of its maker, “He did not make me,” or
the thing formed say of the one who formed it,
“He has no understanding”?**

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. Worship: Hebrew = Shacach; To Bow Down**
- 2. Worship: Greek = Proskuneo: To Kiss(reverence)**
- 3. God is a Justice Forgiveness and Love**
- 4. Praise is sharing the Good news of God to others**
- 5. Worship is our devotion, obedience & lifestyle in honor of God, for God, speaking praise to God.**

Liberating Lesson

When we come to the temple and act in a manner that appears to be worship unto God, however it is a rehearsed ritual, it is **insincere**. When we leave the temple and behave just like “the world” w/o remorse, change or an open ear to being accountable, it is hypocrisy. A sin unto GOD

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVATION

Unbroken fellowship with God is vital to our existence and peace of mind. Our praise and worship bring us into God's presence and protection. However, continual disobedience stirs God's wrath and puts us in a position to lose our greatest possession—a personal relationship with God

BIBLICAL STUDY RESOURCES

- 1. NASB | NIV | NRSV STUDY BIBLE.**
- 2. BIBLEREF.COM | BIBLESTUDYTOOLS.COM.**
- 3. GOTQUESTIONS.ORG | PRECEPTS FOR LIVING.**
- 4. SPIRITUAL GIFTS – CHARLES STANLEY.**
- 5. STRONGS | UNGER | DARBY.**