

Not Neglecting the Assembly

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. “Oh, worship the King, all glorious above, / And gratefully sing his wonderful love; / Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, / Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.”
- B. Worship is an honor.
 - 1. The psalmist said he “was glad when they said to [him], ‘Let us go into the house of the LORD’ (Ps 122:1).
 - a. Ps 122 is a “Psalm of Ascent.”
 - b. These were the psalms which were sung on the way to Jerusalem for feasts.
 - 2. Ps 148 calls on all to praise God.
- C. We need to worship God.
 - 1. We need not do such just once a week.
 - 2. We need to worship God all that we can. Let’s examine some reasons why this is so:

II. GOD COMMANDED IT.

- A. We have been instructed by inspiration not to forsake the assembly (Heb 10:25).
- B. Obedience God is a Christian virtue.
 - 1. Jesus calls us friends if we do what he asks (Jn 15:13-14).
 - 2. We can only call Jesus “Lord” if we do the things he asks (Lk 6:46).
- C. This should be enough reason for us to attend worship.

III. GOD DESERVES IT.

- A. God deserves our worship.
 - 1. David encouraged the people to give God “the glory due his name” (1 Chr 16:29).
 - 2. We should worship God because he is holy (Rv 15:4).
 - 3. There is none like God who deserves our worship.
 - 4. God has done so much for us, and we should want to honor him.
- B. God deserves to be first in our lives.
 - 1. Jesus said that loving God with our all is the first & great commandment (Mt 22:37-38).
 - 2. If we are not willing to worship god regularly, how can we say that we love him?

IV. GOD’S LEADERS EXPECT IT.

- A. Christians are to submit to the elders in the local congregation (Heb 13:17; 1 Pt 5:5).
- B. We need to do what the elders believe is in our best interest, including attending worship.

V. GOD’S PEOPLE CAN LEARN.

- A. We need to hear Scripture.
 - 1. The words of Jesus will judge us in the last day (Jn 12:48).
 - 2. Scripture makes us wise for salvation (2 Tm 3:15).
 - 3. When Jesus was tempted, he replied, “It is written” (Mt 4:1-11).
- B. If we are not hearing the Word of God regularly, how can we be wise for salvation?

VI. GOD’S PEOPLE NEED FELLOWSHIP.

- A. The Scriptures affirm that God’s people need fellowship.

1. The early church fellowshiped with one another (Acts 2:42).
 2. The psalmist declared that it is good for brethren to dwell in unity (Ps 133).
 3. We are to encourage each other, and our worship together does that (Heb 10:24-25).
- B. But, if we don't worship together, how can we be unified?

VII. GOD'S PEOPLE ANTICIPATE HEAVEN.

- A. Those who did not worship the best served God night & day in his temple (Rv 7:15).
- B. Our worship here is an anticipation of the day when we will worship God night & day.

VIII. JESUS IS THERE.

- A. Jesus said where two or three are gathered in his name he is there (Mt 18:20).
- B. We should want to be where Jesus is.