

HANDOUT FOR LESSON SEVEN
THE ASSEMBLY AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH

- 1) In this lesson we look at the assembly and worship of the church.
 - a) We will find a horizontal relationship with others as fellow worshipers.
 - b) We will find a vertical relationship with God as the object of worship.
- 2) Jesus set the pattern for his people in rejecting any object of worship other than God (Matt. 4:10, quoting Deut. 6:13; 10:20).
 - a) He taught the proper manner of worshipping God (John 4:24).
 - b) He became himself the way of coming to God (John 14:6).
- 3) English definition of worship.
- 4) Theological foundations of worship.
 - a) The nature of God.
 - b) The Atoning Work of Jesus.
 - c) The Access to God through the Holy Spirit.
- 5) The New Temple in His Body.
 - a) The church as a temple.
 - b) Priest and Priesthood.
- 6) Attitudes Toward Worship and in Worship.
 - a) Worship and Assembly.
 - b) Misunderstandings of worship.
 - i) The external or mechanical interpretation.
 - ii) The individualistic interpretation.
 - iii) The emotional uplift interpretation.
 - iv) The performance interpretation.
 - c) Proper attitudes.
 - i) The basic human attitude before God is a sense of dependence and humility.
 - ii) Because of their salvation in Christ, Christians come to God in thanksgiving and joy.
 - iii) Because of the promises associated with their salvation, Christians come to God in expectation and hope.
- 7) The Importance of the Assembly.
- 8) Distinctiveness of the Assembly.
 - a) The assembly of the church is a distinctive expression of the church.
 - b) Not everything acceptable in other contexts has a place in the church meeting.
 - c) Specific Purposes of the Assembly.
 - d) Criteria for Activities in the Assembly.
- 9) Activities in the Assembly.
 - a) Lord's Supper.
 - b) Prayer.
 - c) Singing. (Instrumental music.)
 - d) Giving.
 - e) Reading and Preaching the Bible.