

In this article, we will look at the pattern of true worship set by Jesus and examine how his early disciples followed it. We will also provide evidence that Jehovah's Witnesses are following that pattern of true worship today.

(1 Thessalonians 5:21) Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine.

#### Paragraph 2

**(1 Thessalonians 1:5) because the good news we preach did not come to you with speech alone but also with power and with holy spirit and with strong conviction, just as you know what sort of men we became among you for your sakes.**

(2 Timothy 3:16) All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness,

(Titus 1:16) They publicly declare that they know God, but they disown him by their works, because they are detestable and disobedient and not approved for good work of any sort.

(Acts 20:27) for I have not held back from telling you all the counsel of God.

#### Paragraph 3

(1 Thessalonians 5:21) Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine.

(1 Corinthians 13:9) For we have partial knowledge and we prophesy partially,

(1 Corinthians 13:12) For now we see in hazy outline by means of a metal mirror, but then it will be face-to-face. At present I know partially, but then I will know accurately, just as I am accurately known.

#### Paragraph 5

(Luke 4:8) In reply Jesus said to him: “It is written, ‘It is Jehovah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service.’”

(Isaiah 46:5) To whom will you liken me or make me equal or compare me, So that we should resemble each other?

(Exodus 20:4, 5) “You must not make for yourself a carved image or a form like anything that is in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. 5 You must not bow down to them nor be enticed to serve them, for I, Jehovah your God, am a God who requires exclusive devotion, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation of those who hate me,

#### Paragraph 6

(Matthew 4:10) Then Jesus said to him: “Go away, Satan! For it is written: ‘It is Jehovah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service.’”

#### Paragraph 7

(Matthew 23:8-10) But you, do not you be called Rabbi, for one is your Teacher, and all of you are brothers. 9 Moreover, do not call anyone your father on earth, for one is your Father, the heavenly One. 10 Neither be called leaders, for your Leader is one, the Christ.

(John 18:36) Jesus answered: “My Kingdom is no part of this world. If my Kingdom were part of this world, my attendants would have fought that I should not be handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my Kingdom is not from this source.”

Paragraph 8

(John 12:28) Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came out of heaven: “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

(John 17:26) I have made your name known to them and will make it known, so that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in union with them.”

Paragraph 9

(Acts 15:14) Sym'e-on has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name.

(Acts 2:14) But Peter stood up with the Eleven and spoke to them in a loud voice: “Men of Ju-de'a and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and listen carefully to my words.

(Acts 2:21) And everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah will be saved.”

- \*\*\*See the box “Did the First Christians Use God’s Name?” in The Watchtower, July 1, 2010, p. 6.
- \*\*\* w10 7/1 p. 6 The Challenge of Knowing God by Name \*\*\*
- Did the First Christians Use God’s Name?
- During the days of Jesus’ apostles in the first century C.E., Christian congregations were formed in many lands. The members of those congregations regularly met together to study the Scriptures. Did those early Christians find Jehovah’s name in their copies of the Scriptures?

- Since Greek had become the international language, many congregations used the Greek Septuagint, a translation of the Hebrew Scriptures completed in the second century B.C.E. Some scholars claim that from the time it was originally translated, the Septuagint had always replaced God’s name with the title Ky’ri-os, the Greek word for “Lord.” But the facts show otherwise.
- The fragments illustrated here are portions of the Greek Septuagint that date from the first century B.C.E. They clearly show Jehovah’s name, represented in the Greek text by the four Hebrew letters יהוה (YHWH), or the Tetragrammaton. Professor George Howard wrote: “We have three separate pre-Christian copies of the Greek Septuagint Bible and in not a single instance is the Tetragrammaton translated kyrios or for that matter translated at all. We can now say with near certainty that it was a Jewish practice before, during, and after the New Testament period to write the divine name . . . right into the Greek text of Scripture.”—Biblical Archaeology Review.
- Did Jesus’ apostles and disciples use God’s name in their inspired writings? Professor Howard notes: “When the Septuagint which the New Testament church used and quoted contained the Hebrew form of the divine name, the New Testament writers no doubt included the Tetragrammaton in their quotations.”
- Therefore, we may safely conclude that the first Christians could read God’s name both in their translations of the Hebrew Scriptures and in their copies of the Christian Greek Scriptures.

Paragraph 10

(Isaiah 43:10-12) “You are my witnesses,” declares Jehovah, “Yes, my servant whom I have chosen, So that you may know and have faith in me And understand that I am the same One. Before me no God was formed, And after me there has been none. 11 I—I am Jehovah, and besides me there is no savior.” 12 “I am the One who declared and saved and made known When there was no foreign god among you. So you are my witnesses,” declares Jehovah, “and I am God.

Paragraph 11

(John 18:37) So Pilate said to him: “Well, then, are you a king?” Jesus answered: “You yourself are saying that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is on the side of the truth listens to my voice.”

(John 4:23, 24) Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshippers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for indeed, the Father is looking for ones like these to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit, and those worshipping him must worship with spirit and truth.”

(2 Peter 2:2) Furthermore, many will follow their brazen conduct, and because of them the way of the truth will be spoken of abusively.

(Colossians 2:8) Look out that no one takes you captive by means of the philosophy and empty deception according to human tradition, according to the elementary things of the world and not according to Christ;

(3 John 3, 4) For I rejoiced very much when brothers came and bore witness about the truth you hold, as you go on walking in the truth. 4 No

greater joy do I have than this: that I should hear that my children go on walking in the truth.

Paragraph 12

(Colossians 1:9, 10) That is also why from the day we heard of it, we have never stopped praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the accurate knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual comprehension, 10 so as to walk worthily of Jehovah in order to please him fully as you go on bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the accurate knowledge of God;

(Proverbs 4:18) But the path of the righteous is like the bright morning light That grows brighter and brighter until full daylight.

(James 4:4) Adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever, therefore, wants to be a friend of the world is making himself an enemy of God.

(1 Thessalonians 2:3, 4) For the exhortation we give does not spring from error or from uncleanness or with deceit, 4 but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the good news, so we speak to please, not men, but God, who examines our hearts.

Paragraph 13

(John 13:34, 35) I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are my disciples—if you have love among yourselves.”

Paragraph 14

(1 Peter 4:8) Above all things, have intense love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

(Colossians 3:12-14) Accordingly, as God's chosen ones, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with the tender affections of compassion, kindness, humility, mildness, and patience. 13 Continue putting up with one another and forgiving one another freely even if anyone has a cause for complaint against another. Just as Jehovah freely forgave you, you must also do the same. 14 But besides all these things, clothe yourselves with love, for it is a perfect bond of union.

#### Paragraph 15

(Philippians 1:1) Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus, to all the holy ones in union with Christ Jesus who are in Phi-lip'pi, along with overseers and ministerial servants:

(Titus 1:5) I left you in Crete so that you would correct the things that were defective and make appointments of elders in city after city, as I instructed you:

(Acts 15:28, 29) For the holy spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you except these necessary things: 29 to keep abstaining from things sacrificed to idols, from blood, from what is strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you carefully keep yourselves from these things, you will prosper. Good health to you!"

(1 Corinthians 5:11-13) But now I am writing you to stop keeping company with anyone called a brother who is sexually immoral or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man. 12 For what do I have to do with judging those outside? Do you not judge those inside, 13 while God judges those outside? "Remove the wicked person from among yourselves."

(1 Corinthians 6:9, 10) Or do you not know that unrighteous people will not inherit God's Kingdom? Do not be misled. Those who are

sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, men who submit to homosexual acts, men who practice homosexuality, 10 thieves, greedy people, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners will not inherit God's Kingdom.

(Hebrews 13:4) Let marriage be honorable among all, and let the marriage bed be without defilement, for God will judge sexually immoral people and adulterers.

#### Paragraph 16

(Matthew 7:21-23) "Not everyone saying to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the Kingdom of the heavens, but only the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. 22 Many will say to me in that day: 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them: 'I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness!'

(2 Timothy 3:1) But know this, that in the last days critical times hard to deal with will be here.

(2 Timothy 3:5) having an appearance of godliness but proving false to its power; and from these turn away.

(Ephesians 4:4-6) One body there is, and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.