Hindrances to Acceptable Worship
1 Pet. 2:5

Introduction:
A. Christians must “offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God”
   1. Our bodies as a once for all living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).
   2. Our worship and service continually (Heb. 13:15, 16).
   3. Acceptability unto God is strongly emphasized.
B. Let us notice some things that the Bible says will hinder acceptable worship.

Discussion:
I. Domestic Abuse (1 Pet. 3:7).
   A. Text written to prevent abusive husbands.
   B. Would not principle also apply to abusive wives, parents, and children?
II. Unclean Heart (Psa. 66:18).
   A. A heart with a love for sin.
   C. A heart with hatred, envy, grudges, etc.
III. Unreconciled Differences (Matt. 5:24).
   A. This is a situation of which one is aware – “rememberest”
   B. We must not wait on the other party to come to us.
   C. Strictly speaking, its takes both parties bring about reconciliation.
   D. But, I must do all that I can to bring it about. (Rom. 12:18).
IV. Unholy Motive (Matt. 6:1-6).
   A. Trying to impress people with your generosity.
   B. Trying to impress people with piety or oratory.
V. Unforgiving Spirit (Matt. 6:15).
   A. Unwilling to forgive a penitent brother (cf. Lk. 17:3,4).
   B. Unforgiving spirit will seek repentance of offender nor forgive when he repents.
VI. Uninvolved Heart (Matt. 15:8).
   A. Acts of worship just acts with heart elsewhere.
   B. Can’t wait for worship to end so can be elsewhere (Cf Amos 8:5)
   C. Let too many things distract our hearts as we worship.
VII. Unauthorized Worship (Matt. 15:9).
   A. Nadab and Abihu learned the hard way. (Lev. 10:1-5).
   B. Not only must heart be right, act also must be right (cf. John 4:24).
VIII. Unbridled Tongue (Jas. 1:26).
   A. No end to mischief an uncontrolled tongue can cause (Jas. 3:6-8).
   B. Beside damage to others, makes our religion vain.

Conclusion:
A. We must worship and serve God acceptably to go to heaven.
B. We must have forgiveness in answer to our prayers.
C. Therefore, we must remove any hindrances to acceptable worship.