“Why Do Ye These Things?” — No. 2
Why Worship God As We Do?
Acts 14:15

Introduction:

A. A valid question for apostles to ask.
   1. People tried to worship them as gods: Why? By what authority?
   2. People needed to think on this question?
B. A good question for anyone to ask. (cf. 1 Pet. 3:15).
   1. Have asked: Why do Anything in religion?
   2. Will ask: Why work in religion as we do?
   3. Will ask: Why organize in religion as we do?
   4. Are asking: Why worship God as we do?
C. This question is especially important because:
   1. Worship, even to God, can be done in a way to make it vain. (Mt. 15:9).
   2. Worship is not a matter of individual tastes.
D. Worship to God must pass to basic tests:

Discussion:

I. Is It “In Spirit” — From the heart, sincere, in proper spirit?
   A. Must be reverent. (Heb. 12:28; 1 Cor. 11:27-29).
   B. Must be orderly. (1 Cor. 14:40; cf. 31).
   C. Must be edifying. (1 Cor. 14:15-17); w/o distraction or confusion.

   A. God told O.T. Worshipers what He wanted.
      1. Not just any sacrifice pleased Him.
      2. Not what anything the Lord had not commanded. (Lev. 10:1-2; cf. Abel).
   B. God tells N.T. Worshipers what he wants. (Jn. 4:24; Mt. 15:9).
      1. Singing (Acts 16:25; Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).
         a. Not just any music — singing.
         b. Not just any singing — Spiritual.
         c. Not just any purpose — Teach, praise rather than entertain.
      2. Prayer. (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14:15; 1 Tim. 2:8).
      3. Lord's Supper. (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11; Mt. 26:28). When? How often? What?
      5. Giving (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:7) When? (Note: Only means of revenue).
   C. Men have sought out many inventions. (cf. Ecc. 7:29).

Conclusion:

A. To merely go through Scriptural acts of worship is formalism.
B. To merely follow one's desires in worship is humanism.
C. To incorporate both heart and truth is real worship.