
The Bible's Top 10 Worshippers – Part 1

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First let me say that I do not suppose myself to be an expert or even a qualified professional voice who is able to grade the great worshippers of the Bible. Like most of us still on this spinning ball, I have merely scratched the surface of what true Biblical worship is. As the hymn says, "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing His praise than when we first begun."

It is this same lack of expertise that drives me to study and write about some of those Saints whose living sacrifices have been recorded for posterity. Perhaps just highlighting one or two facets of the jewel of their lives will produce something that we can learn to develop in our own walks.

I am sure that I have overlooked some great saint that deserves to be on the list, and I am sure that some will find my numbering arbitrary, as it surely is. You will even find that some numbers on the list deal with a group of people or a situation, so the title of this article, while intriguing, is probably less than wholly accurate. This list is mostly a means and structure for doing a little studying – still, I welcome your opinions and "corrections" on the matter.

{mospagebreak title=10. Paul and Silas}

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I think it is important to point out that Scripture gives us no indication that Paul or Silas thought they would be freed from prison that night. I say that because in retrospect we often use worship as a magic formula: If I worship God, He is obligated to get me out of this mess. That is utter bunk as demonstrated by numerous

believers who were filled with praise and worship right up until they met their demise as martyrs.

AROUND MIDNIGHT – when most of us would be tossing and turning in our beds unable to put the affairs of the day behind us – Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. At that moment the power of God rolled through the prison and demonstrated that strength of men cannot thwart the designs of God. But you know what, that was just the icing on the cake because the joy of Paul and Silas in the midst of great tribulation had already proved that point. (Acts 16:16-40)

Now I turn to Paul writing to the Phillipian church. It is a familiar passage, but no less profound each time I read it. Paul was a great man from many vantage points. He was brilliant, prolific, and revered – he was an overachiever at everything to which he put his hand. But everything Paul had achieved he counted as garbage compared to intimacy with Christ. Christ was truly his all in all. (Phillipians 3)

We should learn these two things from these worshipers:

1. Cherish closeness with Christ above everything else.
2. Don't let our worship suffer because of our circumstances.

{mospagebreak title=9. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego}

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Meshach, and Abed-nego

These three may not be among the first that come to our minds when we think of the great worshippers in the Bible, but I think when you see where I

am going with this, you just might change your mind. (Daniel 3)

The world today is full of worshipping Christians who resemble Solomon in a lot of ways. Sure, they worship at the temple of the one true God – but because of their worldly relationships they also find themselves at the altars of many detestable idols as well.

This is not the case for the three Hebrew boys who were taken in to captivity in Babylon. Unlike the story of Daniel, who was forbidden to pray to Yahweh, these young men were simply told to be a part of the crowd. They could have done like Solomon and so many people today, worshipping God on Sunday and idols the rest of the week. It would have helped them fit and kept them clear of the fiery furnace, but it was not the path they chose.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego instead pursued purity in their worship. They would not defile themselves with the king's food and they were not going to pay homage to the god of the hour. We would do well to practice such purity in our own worship.

Two down and eight to go. Check back next week for part 2.