

God Is Worthy

Worthy Of Our Worship - Matthew 4:8-11

Worthy Of My Worship

- God is worthy of our love
 - “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”, *(Deut. 8:3 NIV)*
- God is worthy of our trust
 - “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”, *(Deut. 6:16 NIV)*

Worthy Of My Worship

- **Genesis 3:4-5 ESV**, 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
 - Read between the lines, what is the serpent saying or implying?
 - “There is something lacking in your life and I know what it is and how you can achieve it”
 - “Worship me”, “Get your truth from me”
 - “Worship my vision for your life, attitude, right/wrong”
 - “See your life through my eyes”
 - “O the joy and satisfaction I have available, set aside for you”
 - “Follow me and I will make you like God”

Worthy Of My Worship

- That mindset will push you deeper and deeper into a life of rebellion toward God
 - **Genesis 3:5 ESV**, “the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise”
 - “Worship yourself”
 - “Worship your vision for your life, attitude, version of right/wrong”
 - “See your life through your eyes”

Worthy Of My Worship

- Biblical definition of true worship
 - A lifestyle of reverent obedience
 - Reverence - profound awe, respect, and even fear mixed with love for God, His holiness, and His authority, expressed through worship, obedience, and a devout life
 - And a public act of honoring God through praise, prayer, and service
 - Stemming from a deep inner reverence and love for God
 - True biblical worship involves laying down one's own will and actions to glorify God through every aspect of your life rather than merely performing religious activities

Worthy Of My Worship

- What if Jesus is offered a simpler, easier way of establishing His Kingdom on earth?
 - That looks like it would fulfill His purpose for coming from Satan's standpoint
 - Think of this like scams going around today

Scripture

- **Matthew 4:8-11 NIV**, 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”
 - 10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”
 - 11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Worthy Of My Worship

- Such a simple request from Satan
 - “No one else needs to know or will know”
 - “We will keep this hidden between us”
 - **AMP** – “all the kingdoms of the world and the glory [splendor, magnificence, and excellence] of them”
- Think of this like an advertisement
 - Not a hint or sign of the effects of sin

Worthy Of My Worship

- **John 8:44 NIV**, 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
- Is Satan good at this?
 - Just look at Judas

Never argue with sin

- Don't allow it to linger or give it a home when it enters our mind like Eve did where it took root
 - **Genesis 3:5 ESV**, “the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise”
 - Sin makes logical sense to our old sinful nature
- A former addict can never entertain the idea of just one
 - Just one more cigarette, drink, hit, porn or gambling site
 - Maybe your addiction is anger, pride, bitterness, control, self-loathing...
 - We all have addictions of some sort

Never argue with sin

- In the addiction recovery circles, there's a saying: "Once an addict, always an addict."
 - After salvation you are a former addict to sin
 - **Romans 6:14 NIV**, For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.
 - But it still has a pull on your life like all the other addictions of life
- You never win walking on the path toward sin
 - You never win looking longingly toward the path of sin
 - It slows down your Christian maturity
 - It opens up a crack in your defense to seep in
 - It occupies places in your mind reserved for the Word of God

Never argue with sin

- **Philippians 4:8 AMP**, 8 Finally, believers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable and worthy of respect, whatever is right and confirmed by God's word, whatever is pure and wholesome, whatever is lovely and brings peace, whatever is admirable and of good repute; if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think continually on these things [center your mind on them, and implant them in your heart].
- **Hebrews 2:12-13 NIV**, 12 See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving (*disobedient*) heart that turns away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

The only power against the pull of sin is direct and outright rejection

- **2nd Corinthians 10:5b AMP**, we are taking every thought and purpose captive to the obedience of Christ
 - The Greek is written with the assumption of continually taking captive every sinful thought and purpose
 - In other words, “Do it again, and again, and again”
 - And you keep doing it until the voice begins to weaken

The only power against the pull of sin is direct and outright rejection

- **Vs. 10a**, Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan!”
 - Away from me sinful desire, falsehood, lies from Satan
- Have you ever picked up something barehanded that was nasty or unexpected
 - Your immediate unfettered reaction is to throw it away or release it immediately
 - Now if what you picked up is sticky you continue the throwing process until it is gone
 - “I am a child of the living God and there is no room for that thought, desire, pull in my life”

The only power against the pull of sin is direct and outright rejection

- Then Jesus immediately overlays the sinful temptation with the truth of God's Word
 - **Vs. 10b**, "For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"
 - Worship - Be totally awed by the authority of God
 - Be completely respectful of God's position
 - Be lovingly fearful of His holiness, and His authority
 - Expressing through praise, obedience, and a devout life
- It was only when Jesus had completely rejected Satan were angels allowed to attend or minister to Him

The battle is never over until we take our last breath

- **Luke 4:13 NIV**, When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.
 - Opportune – well-timed, suitable, or favorable
- Circus lion and tiger act
 - The animals are not really tame, they've just learned where their food comes from, and they tolerate the trainer
 - They still kill and maim at times
- That's your addiction, no matter what it is
 - The full-frontal attack may be over but then it goes into sniper mode

The battle is never over until we take our last breath

- **Matthew 16:21-23 NIV**, 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.
 - 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”
 - 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

The battle is never over until we take our last breath

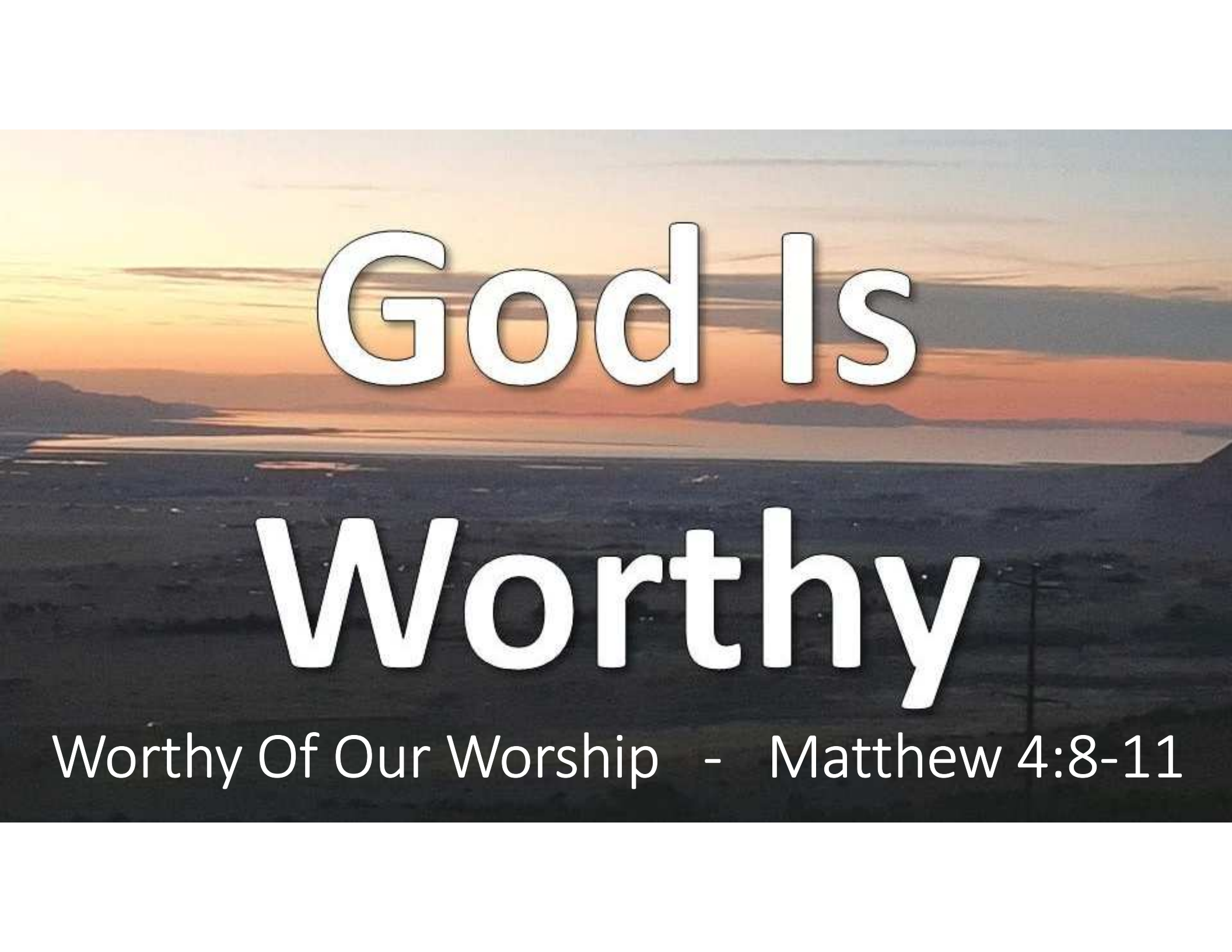
- You might get hit with a smell, sight, sound or something else that draws your attention once again toward your addiction
 - **1st Peter 5:8-9 NIV**, 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.
 - Just like any wise animal trainer, you must keep your eye upon the threat of sin
 - And you never cuddle up to them

Worthy Of My Worship

- **Vs. 10**, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”
 - “Serve him only (*exclusively*)”
 - This includes me
- Are you looking for a God that serves you?
 - Do this for me Lord. Take this away Lord. Heal this person, Lord. Make me happy Lord. Give me this Lord.
 - If this is your only prayer life, then you are looking for a God to serve you rather than you serving Him in whatever way He desires

Worthy Of My Worship

- Jesus is our example
 - **Matthew 26:39 NIV**, 39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”
- Yes, God you are worthy of all my love
 - And Yes, God you are worthy of all my trust
 - But mostly, Yes God you are worthy of all my worship



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