Above All

Tony Mauck · Psalm 95

INTRODUCTION

- Fruitful and acceptable worship begins before it begins.
- Some thought needs to be given, not just to engaging in the right acts of worship together, but how we engage in them.
- For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

1 Reverence: The Proper Respect to Our God

1 Timothy 1:17; 2 Peter 1:17; Job 37:22

- Number one, reverence. The proper respect to our God.
- We cannot diminish the glory of God by refusing to worship him. His glory emanates, whether we acknowledge it or not.
- There's nothing flippant or casual about this. This is not about entertainment or pleasing the consumer.
- We are offerers. We are givers. We are participants, and we bring our very best to the throne of the living God.
- What we're doing here, though we have done it many times before, should never be treated as routine.
- What we do in this place is supreme. It should be done thoughtfully and carefully. And with great respect for our God, who is our creator, redeemer, and ultimate judge.

2 Modesty: Properly Attired

James 2; 1 Peter 4; 1 Timothy 2

- Our attire should not be worn for the purpose of saying, hey, everybody, look at me.
- But we must acknowledge that in our culture, we dress for the occasion. And some attire is not considered appropriate.
- This is at least one place where we need to be saying no to the flesh. Consider the occasion. Consider others. This is not about self.
- Just ask yourself. What does the way I dress reflect about my regard for this activity?
- What is appropriate for the occasion? If this is all you have, fine. Come as you are.
- I know that we are to be modest, properly attired. And we need to give some thought to that.

3 Sobriety: A Mind Not Impaired

Ecclesiastes 5:1–7

- Sobriety in the New Testament is not just about refraining from a beverage that causes your mind to be impaired.

- So often people don't render to God and worship what they should because their mind is impaired by a love for this world.
- My sobriety is never greater than when I am right here. This is where I get crystal clear clarity.
- Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools.
- For God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore, let your words be few.
- We are giving God what we vowed to give him ourselves.

THE CHALLENGE

How do we approach God? Reverence. Modesty. Sobriety.

MY NOTES