

# Hindrances to Worship

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(This is an excerpt from *What Kind of Worship is God Looking For*, a RBC Ministries Publication, 1986)

Our worship can be hindered by several factors. It's important to recognize these obstacles and do what is necessary to overcome them. Here are some of the common hindrances to the right kind of worship.

**Ignorance.** Many people worship gods but not the true God (Acts 17:23). They are "religious" but lack a vital relationship with their Creator. They are sincere but wrong (John 4:22). They need the truth.

**Unbelief.** When we come to God, we must approach Him with believing hearts. If we don't, we cannot expect Him to be pleased with us or to reward our efforts (Hebrews 11:4-6).

**Unconfessed Sin.** When we as Christians sin, we should confess it immediately to God (1 John 1:9). If we don't, it destroys our fellowship with Him and we become cold and insensitive to Him.

**Wrong Attitudes.** If we hold a grudge against someone, God will refuse our worship until we make things right with the other person (Matthew 5:23,24; 6:14; Ephesians 4:31,32).

**Misplaced Priorities.** When we allow other things to become more important to us than God, we take away from the honor He deserves (Matthew 6:33). Right worship recognizes His worthiness to be first.

**Enemy Opposition.** The world system of evil, the indwelling sin nature, and the devil are constantly opposing our worship (1 John 2:15; Romans 7:23; 1 Peter 5:8). But as we daily depend on the power of the Spirit of God, He will enable us to overcome our enemies (1 John 5:4; Galatians 5:16; James 4:7).