



# **BUILDING A KINGDOM CULTURE**

Part 7

*'Our Father who dwells in  
Heaven, May Your holy  
Name be honoured. Let Your  
Kingdom come, let Your will  
be done here in Elim Church  
Aberystwyth as it is in  
Heaven. Amen.'*

# Kingdom Culture



- Kingdom
  - The domain of the King... doing things His way
- Culture
  - ‘the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society’ (Oxford Dictionary)
  - ‘How we do things around here’

# Building a Kingdom Culture



1. Kingdom Culture
2. A People who OBEY
3. A People who COMMIT
4. A People who ARE AUTHENTIC
5. A People who BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
6. A People who GIVE WORTHY SERVICE TO THEIR KING



# **A People Who... OFFER THEIR LIVES**

Building a Kingdom Culture 7

# 'Acts 2' Church

42 And **they devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers....

46 **And day by day, attending the temple** together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 **praising God** and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

# A ROMANS 12:1 PERSON

- An Acts 2 Church is made up of Romans 12:1 people...

**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.**

## Romans 12:1-2 (MSG)

**“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”**

# What is the Therefore There for?

- Romans 1-11 is a tremendous journey in understanding the amazing mercy to us...
  - The Gospel: The power of God
  - Our need of Grace
  - Justification by faith
  - Our acceptance by God
  - Power over sin and death
  - Our heritage as Christ's bride
  - Life in the Spirit
  - And much more!!!

# Living Sacrifice

- The perfect sacrifice has been made
- Sacrifice = death
- Christ = life = living sacrifices



# Sacrifice < Obedience < Love

- Sacrifice is borne out of obedience
  - 1 Sam 15:22
- Obedience is borne out of love
  - John 14:23
- We love because He first loved us (RESPONSE)
  - 1 John 4:19
  - ‘Obey because he’s given you a gift...’ JK

# He Knows What's Good For Us!

- What sounds like it is to our cost is actually our gain.

“I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.” (Psalm 119)

“... thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.” (Romans 6:17-18)

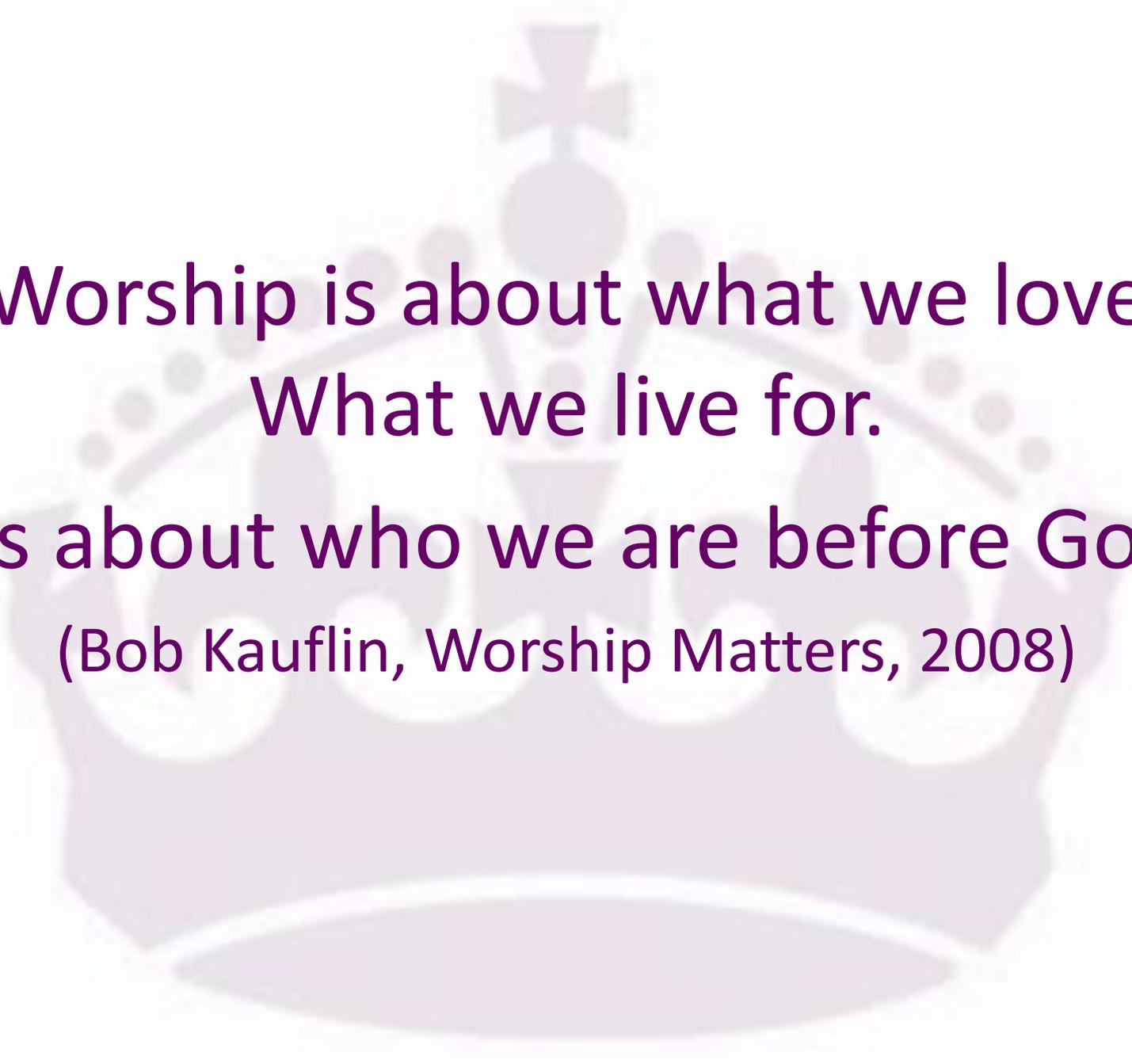
# True Worship

- is not a religious ritual

**...is a response to mercy**

- is not for 45 minutes on Sundays

**...is whole life**



‘Worship is about what we love.  
What we live for.  
It’s about who we are before God’  
(Bob Kauflin, *Worship Matters*, 2008)

# Within Reason!

- **True and proper...**
- **Logikos: Divinely Reasonable**
- **Worship...**
- **Latreia: Service**



# No Matter What...

- ‘Lord, I want to be one of those people who is overflowing with YOU no matter what’  
(David Fardouly, 19/2/17)
- Paul learnt to be content in every situation and knew what it was to praise God in every situation even when in prison
  - And he made sure Timothy knew about it!  
“The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus” (1Tim 1:14)

“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. **4** But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. **6** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, **7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – **9** not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Ephesians 2)

# A Gathered Romans 12:1 People

- Our celebrations are not meant to be a well or a waterfall where we come just to receive, but a coming together of worshipping individuals overflowing and exploding together in a fountainhead of praise, spurring one another on to glorify Him with our whole lives.
- To be continued...

# Living on the Altar

- ‘The problem with living sacrifices is they can climb off the altar’
  - Worshipping at another altar (Idolatry)
  - Living
- We are talking about daily a choice
  - 1) To look to, ask for and receive His mercy
    - His mercies are NEW every morning
    - Day by day (Acts 2) but we now know the temple is us
  - 2) To respond to His mercy by placing our lives on the altar afresh

# Making That Choice

- Today is an opportunity to make the choice to respond afresh to His mercy...

... because you've never done so before

... because you've been worshipping at another altar

... because you have had a fresh realisation of the beauty of His mercy toward you

# Building a Kingdom Culture

‘Becoming a **people** whose **beliefs** and **behaviours** are increasingly **aligned** with the **heart** of **God**...

**Revealing heaven** to each other  
and **to our world!**