

# The Regulative Principle of Worship

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## LBCF 22.1

The light of nature shows that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all; is just, good and doth good unto all; and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in and served, with all the heart and all the soul and with all the might. But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by himself and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshipped according to the imagination and devices of men, nor the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representations, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures.

## SURVEY OF SCRIPTURE

1. The light of nature shows that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all; is just, good and doth good unto all; and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in and served, with all the heart and all the soul and with all the might. (Jer. 10:7; Mark 12:33)
2. But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by himself and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshipped according to the imagination and devices of men, nor the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representations, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures. (Gen. 4:1-5; Exod. 20:4-6; Matt. 15:3, 8-9; 2 Kings 16:10-18; Lev. 10:1-3; Deut. 17:3; 4:2; 12:29-32; Josh. 1:7; 23:6-8; Matt. 15:13; Col. 2:20-23; 2 Tim. 3:15-17)

## WHAT DOES THIS TEACH US?

1. WORSHIP IS A DUTY OF MAN AS REVEALED BY \_\_\_\_\_
  - Do you believe there is a natural disposition of man towards worship?
  - Do you believe that our natural disposition has been corrupted by the Fall?
  - What are ramifications of this?

2. WORSHIP IS A DUTY OF MAN REVEALED BY \_\_\_\_\_

- DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it necessary to have “revealed by Scripture?”
2. Is this principle without deviation by any church?
3. Is there a principle of deviation from this in 1 Cor. 14:26,40?

- OTHER SUPPORT FOR THE LBCF PRINCIPLE

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM - \_\_\_\_\_

- WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE IN THE SECOND COMMANDMENT?

That we in no wise make any image of God, nor worship him in \_\_\_\_\_ than he has commanded us in his Word.

- ARGUMENTS FOR A REGULATIVE PRINCIPLE OF WORSHIP

1. IT IS THE PREROGATIVE OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO DETERMINE THE TERMS ON WHICH SINNERS MAY APPROACH HIM IN WORSHIP.
2. THE INTRODUCTION OF EXTRA-BIBLICAL PRACTICES INTO WORSHIP INEVITABLY TENDS TO \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ GOD’S APPOINTED WORSHIP (MATT. 15:3, 8-9; 2 KINGS 16:10-18).
3. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE SCRIPTURES IS CALLED INTO QUESTION IF SCRIPTURE, ALONE, IS NOT THE GUIDE FOR WORSHIP (2 TIMOTHY 3:15-17; 2 PETER 1:3).
4. THE BIBLE EXPLICITLY CONDEMNS ALL WORSHIP THAT IS NOT \_\_\_\_\_ BY GOD (LEV. 10:1-3; DEUT. 17:3; 4:2; 12:29-32; JOSH. 1:7; 23:6-8; MATT. 15:13; COL. 2:20-23).