

## Worship?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

**Matthew 27:26-31.** "Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him."

Could this be called worship? These men mocked the Lord, not only because he was a Jew, but because he was called the King of the Jews. They certainly didn't believe in him, and having permission from Pilate, they would show the Jews what they thought of them and their king. Still, it

seems not too far from some so-called worship services that I have heard of in our day by folks who say that they believe in Jesus.

How, one might wonder? Well they bowed the knee to him making fun of the thought that he was a king. They did it in jest, not in respect, or faith. Calling him king, they spit on him and hit him with the reed that they had used for a scepter. Clearly he was not their king and they cared not for what he said, or thought. They went through the motions of a worship service, but without anything but mockery in their hearts.

Are there not services today where people talk of their love for Jesus but deny so much of what he said and taught? I have heard quite a few mock doctrines of the bible and claim that the Lord didn't mean for us to do them. Really? I heard years ago of someone saying that Jesus told some not to do something, knowing that they would do it and so that was his way of getting them to do something. How sad that a person could seriously make such a statement. Why did Jesus say in Luke 6:46, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" When he said to not do something, he meant -Don't do it! Likewise when he said to do something, he meant -Do It! If we leave out what he said to do, while proclaiming our faith and

love, would we be any different from the soldiers who mocked him?

A "Service" may have beautiful music, long prayers, a sermon and all the things that most people think that make a good service. Everyone may leave the church pleased with the way the service went and the large congregation. The question is - was the Lord pleased? I don't see how he can be if the plan of salvation is not followed and the other doctrines set forth in scripture are not only forgotten, but at times mocked by the "preacher" and amen is heard from the people. In the Old Testament God told the people that their solemn assemblies were not accepted when they went through the motions of worship, but didn't obey his commands. All their sacrifices were not sufficient to make up for not obeying his commands. Consider what Samuel told Saul. 1 Samuel 15:22-23, "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king." Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." **John 4:24.**

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## 507 Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Exodus intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

**JACOB'S TOIL**

JACOB HAS SERVED LABAN FOR SEVEN YEARS, FOR RACHEL TO BECOME HIS WIFE, INSTEAD LABAN HAS PRESENTED TO JACOB HIS OLDER DAUGHTER, NOW...

I SERVED THREE SEVEN YEARS FOR RACHEL - WHEREFORE HAST THOU TRICKED ME?!

THIS IS NO TRICKERY, MY SON!

DOST THOU NOT KNOW THAT IT CAN NOT BE DONE IN OUR COUNTRY, TO GIVE A YOUNGER DAUGHTER IN MARRIAGE BEFORE THE FIRST BORN?!

ACCEPT LEAH AS THY WIFE AND CONSUMMATE THIS MARRIAGE FOR ONE WEEK AND I WILL GIVE THEE ALSO RACHEL FOR A WIFE IF...

...IF THOU SERVEST ME WELL FOR ANOTHER SEVEN YEARS!

AND SO JACOB RECEIVES RACHEL, HIS HEART'S DESIRE, AS A WIFE ALONG WITH LEAH - BUT NOW HE MUST LABOR FOR LABAN ANOTHER SEVEN YEARS, DUE TO LABAN'S TRICKERY AND SHREWD BARGAINING...

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