WHY SHOULD WE WORSHIP?

Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, v29 for our "God is a consuming fire."

IT FOCUSES OUR ATTENTION ON OUR ETERNAL SALVATION

Hebrews 12:28-29 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,

OUR SALVATION SAVES US FROM ETERNAL SUFFERING

Luke 16:22-24 "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. v23 In hell,[3] where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. v24 So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

OUR SALVATION GIVES US PURPOSE IN LIFE

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual[1] act of worship.

Colossians 3:1 Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

OUR SALVATION MAKES US PART OF GOD FAMILY

Ephesians 2:19-22 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, v20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. v21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. v22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

OUR SALVATION GIVES US HOPE IN A HOPELESS SOCIETY

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, v2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. v3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; v4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. v5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

OUR SALVATION ELEVATES OUR STATUS IN SOCIETY

1 Peter 2:9-10 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. v10 Once you were not a people,

but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

OUR SALVATION KEEPS JESUS EVER BEFORE US

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

IT FORCES US ACKNOWLEDGE OUR AWESOME GOD v29 for our "God is a consuming fire."

Deuteronomy 4:1-14 Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. v2 Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. v3 You saw with your own eyes what the LORD did at Baal Peor. The LORD your God destroyed from among you everyone who followed the Baal of Peor, v4 but all of you who held fast to the LORD your God are still alive today. v5 See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. v6 Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." v7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? v8 And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? v9 Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. v10 Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when he said to me, "Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children." v11 You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain while it blazed with fire to the very heavens, with black clouds and deep darkness. v14 Then the LORD spoke to you out of the fire. You heard the sound of words but saw no form; there was only a voice. v13 He declared to you his covenant, the Ten Commandments, which he commanded you to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets. v14 And the LORD directed me at that time to teach you the decrees and laws you are to follow in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess.

Deuteronomy 4:23-24 Be careful not to forget the covenant of the LORD your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the LORD your God has forbidden. v24 For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

CONCLUSION

Worship means "to bend the knee", or "kiss the hand". What are we doing that takes our attention away from God, and places that attention on something else?