

The Characteristics of Worship: Part 2

- I. Forms: the exact content of the elements.
 - A. The Examples.
 1. The particular passage of Scripture from which to preach.
 2. The words the pastor uses in prayer.
 - a. Common prayer vs. free prayer (define terms).
 3. The particular psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to sing at a given point in worship; i.e., #660, or Ps. 25, etc.
 - B. The Principle: the forms of worship are not to be legislated.
 1. Scripture does not legislate them.
 - a. Scripture gives patterns to use: e.g., the Lord's Prayer; Mt. 6:9-13; cp. Lk. 11:1-4.
 - b. Scripture gives principles: e.g., Mt. 6:7-8.
 2. Scripture does guide us in determining them.
 - a. The forms of worship must be in line with the truths of Scripture. "If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us"; etc.
 - b. Cf. L. C. #185.
 - c. Why don't we sing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"?
 - C. The Debate behind English and Scottish Puritanism and the English Civil War.
 - D. Discussion.