

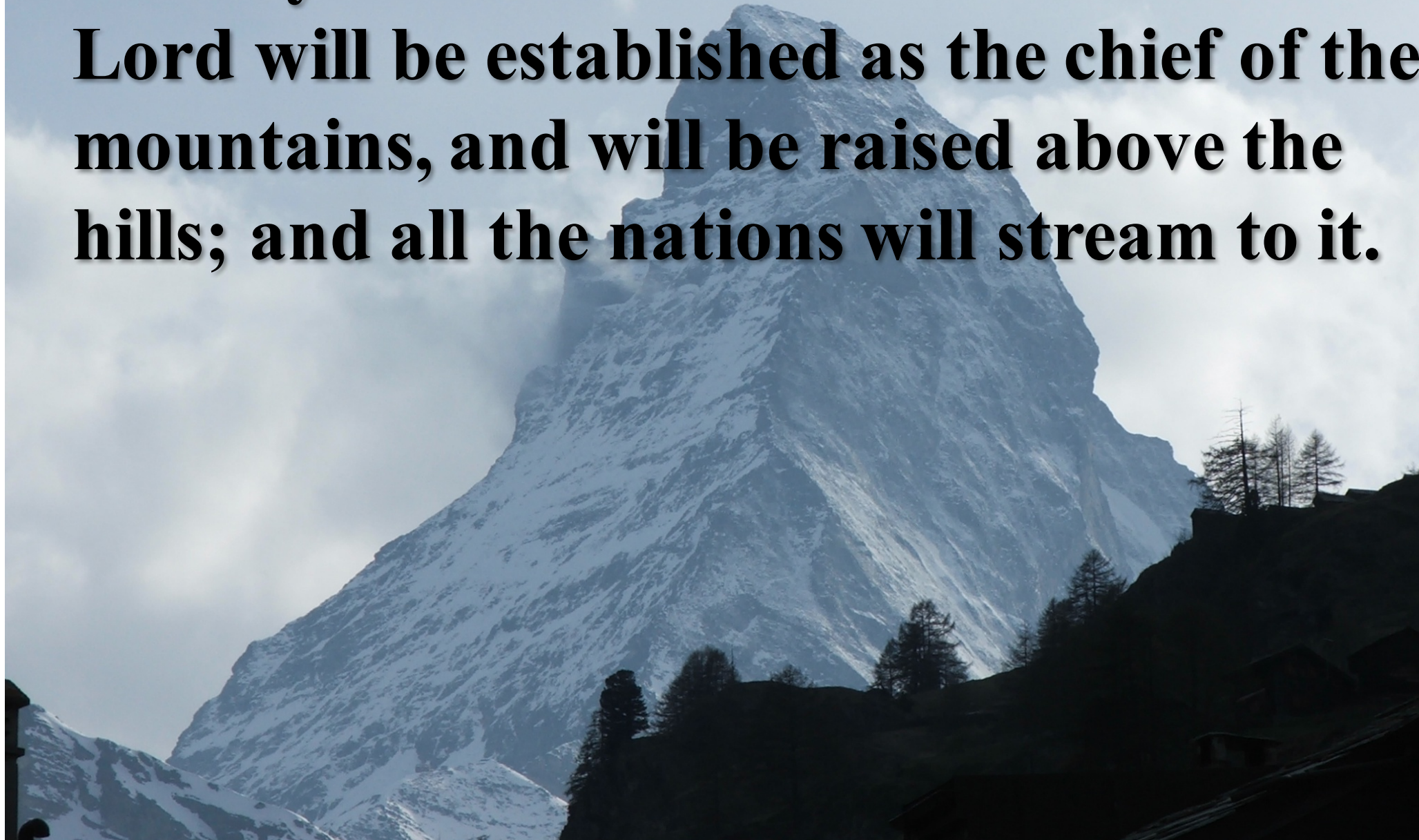


THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH TWENTY

God's Powerful Church

lesser light to rule the night. He made the moon
17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light
earth,
18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the
darkness: and God saw that it was good.
19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.
20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creat-
hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of
heaven.
21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which
the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl
after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in
and let fowl multiply in the earth.
and the evening and the morning were the fifth day.
after his kind.

Isa 2:2 Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it.



Dan 2:44 “In the days of those kings the God of Heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed; and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.”



Mt 13:31-32 “...the kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field; and this is smaller than all other seeds, but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.”



**Luke 13:21 “It is like leaven,
which a woman took and hid
in three pecks of flour until it
was all leavened.”**



**Acts 5:28 “Filled Jerusalem with
your teaching”**

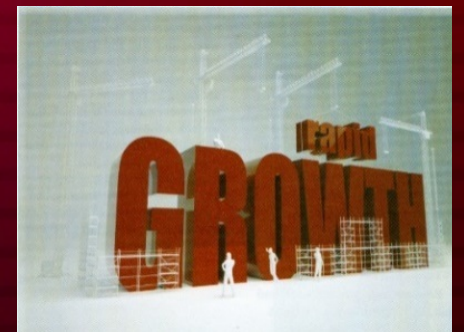


**Acts 13:44 “Nearly the whole
city assembled to hear the
word of the Lord”**

**Acts 17:6 “These men have upso
the world”**


Acts 6:1 the disciples were increasing in number

Acts 6:7 The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great number of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.”



**Acts 9:31 so the church throughout all
Judea and Galilee and Samaria...
continued to increase**

**Acts 12:24 “But the word of the Lord
continued to grow and to be
multiplied”**



Momentum

Acts 13:49 “And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region”

Acts 16:5 “the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily”



**Acts 19:20 “So the word of the
Lord was growing mightily and
prevailing”**



Powerful

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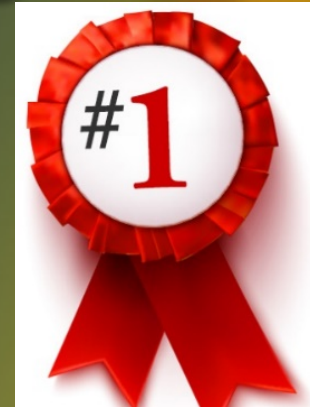
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Acts 2:40-47

- We notice their togetherness (42, 44, 46)
 - We notice their connection to the word of God (41, 42)
- We notice the joy of worship (47, 46b)



*We always want to give
God our best*



1. He deserves the best
2. He demands the best

Sacrificial lamb

First fruits

Our hearts



Worship

Is an action word

Means to appreciate the value

A hand is pointing at a chalkboard. On the chalkboard, a heart has been drawn with chalk. The background is slightly blurred, showing a brick wall and a window with vertical bars.

Worship is the giving of “worth”

- it is the expressing of that worth
- worship is an attitude

Sing with **thankfulness**

Give **cheerfully**

Powerful Worship

Keeps our eyes upon the Lord

Keeps us close to God's word

Reminds us that we are not alone



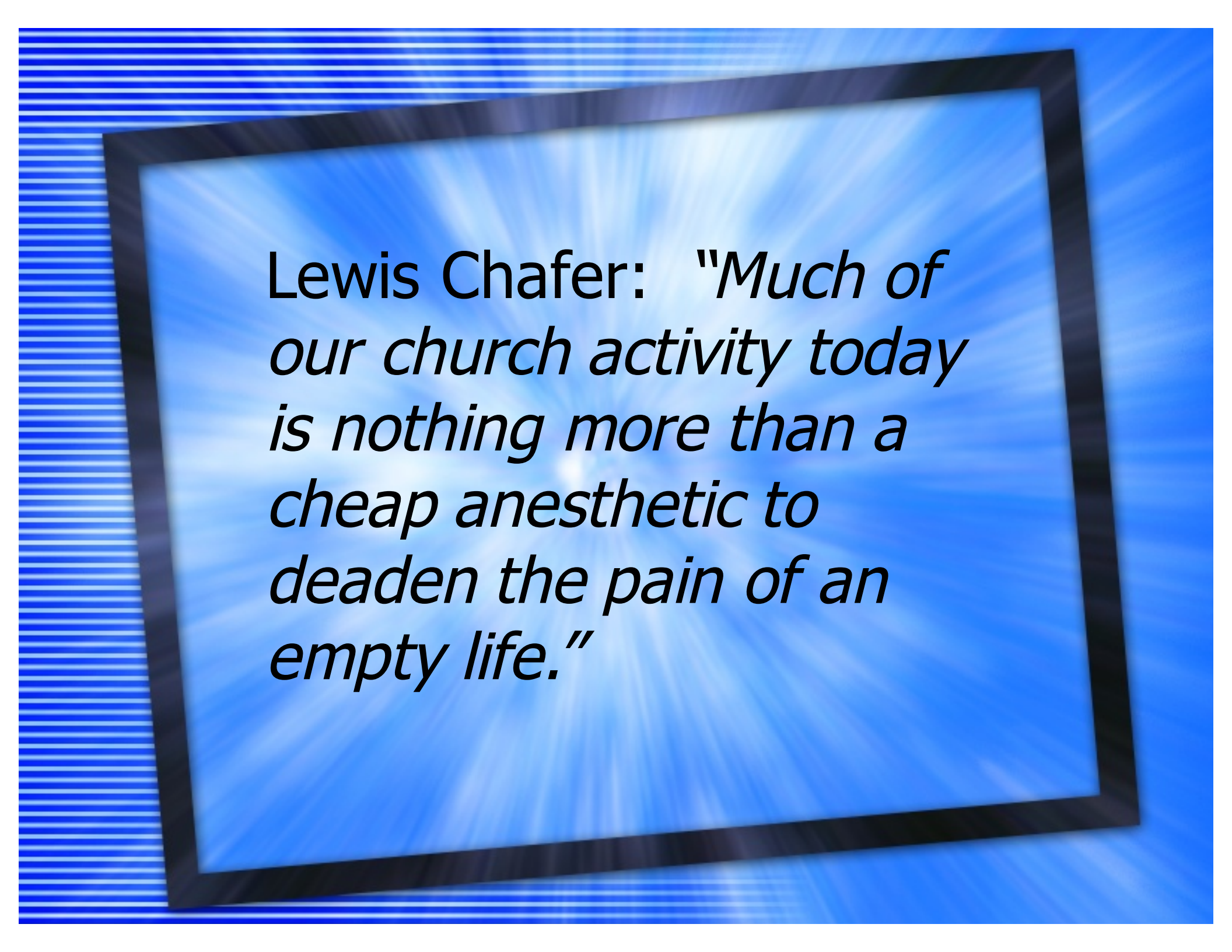
In far too many places, the modern church has turned worship into an entertainment industry

*peppy self help talks have replaced the preaching and the emphasis upon the word of God
casualness has replaced reverence
feelings have replaced faith
God has been set aside
for the joy of man*



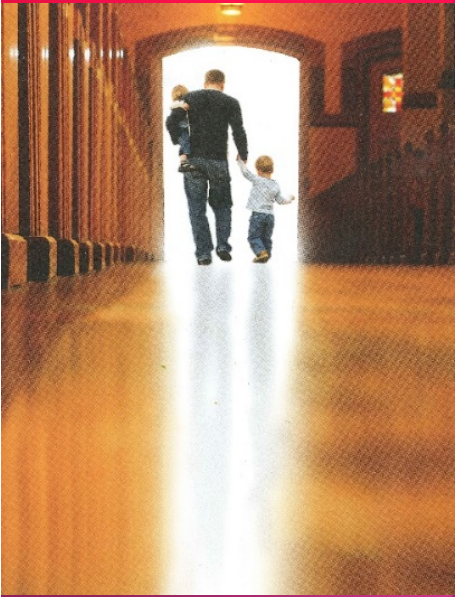


Steven Lawson wrote, *"In a strange twist, the preaching of the cross is now foolishness, not only to the world but also to the contemporary church."*



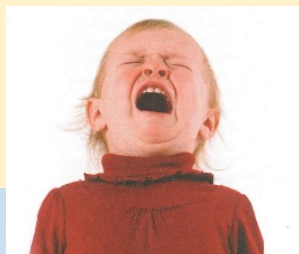
Lewis Chafer: *"Much of our church activity today is nothing more than a cheap anesthetic to deaden the pain of an empty life."*

*Being right doesn't mean you
have to be long, dull and
boring*

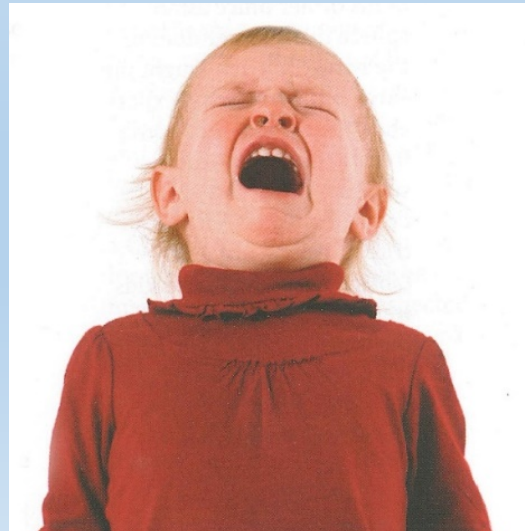
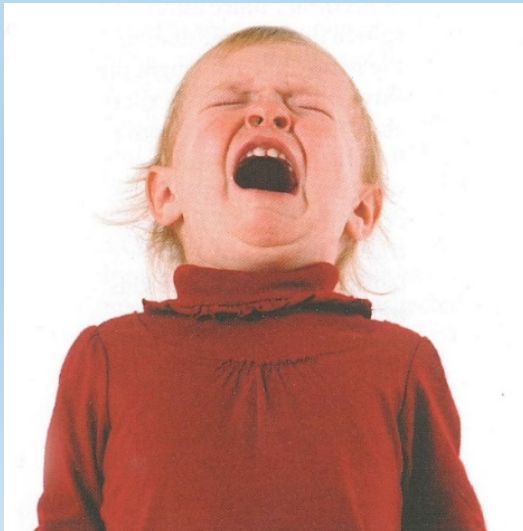
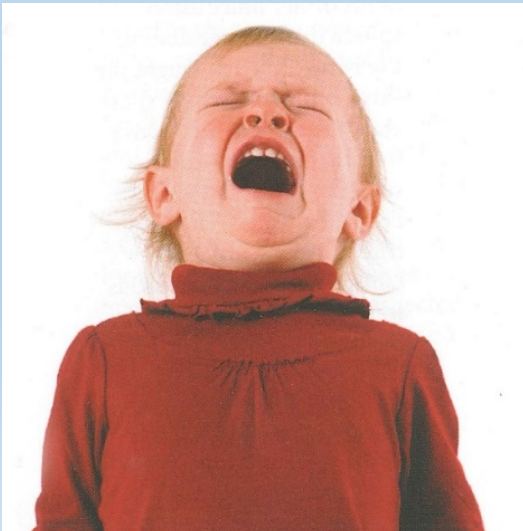


American religion is a genuine fix. How long until people weary of the entertainment that churches provide? No church can compete with the devil in the game of 'fun.' Sin is always more fun than doing right! If we are appealing to people to come to church because they will enjoy it, what do we do when people find they enjoy sleeping in,

watching the NFL pregame show, or just doing nothing a lot more than church? When you make the wrong appeal, wrong results must follow. Instead, let us drop the pretense that worship is fun. It is not. It may be fulfilling, and it should be meaningful. But it cannot be entertaining and be worship."

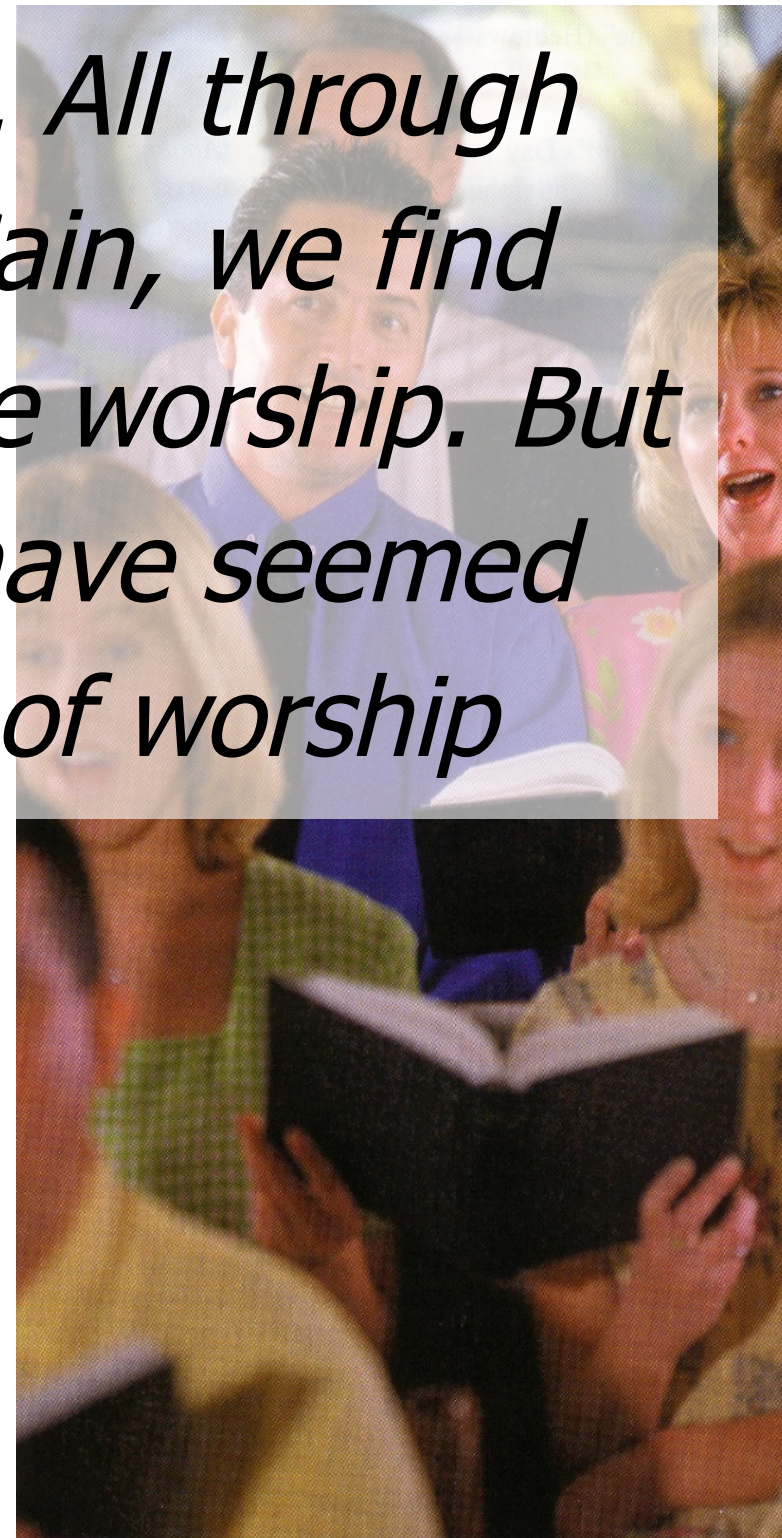


*When you make the wrong appeal, wrong results must follow. Instead, **let us drop the pretense that worship is fun. It is not.** It may be fulfilling, and it should be meaningful. But it cannot be entertaining and be worship."*

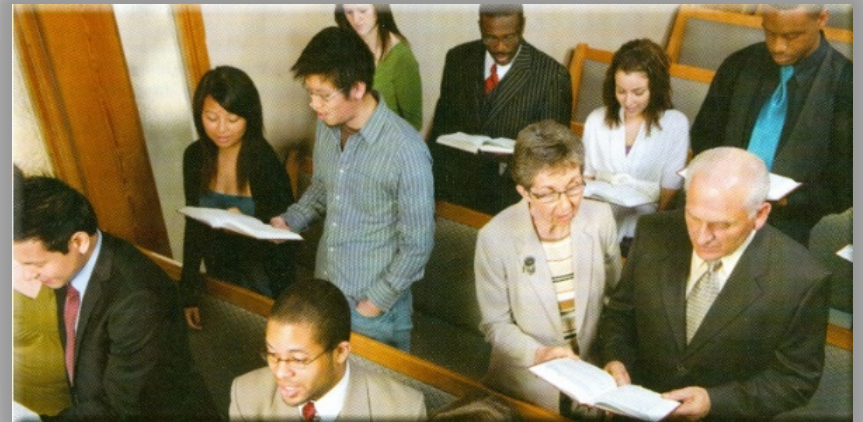


This isn't a new problem. All through the Bible, starting with Cain, we find folks who want to change worship. But we also find those who have seemed to have lost the essence of worship

- **Isaiah 1:10-14; Amos 8:5; Malachi 1:12-13**



worship is not confined to this building
worship is an attitude
worship is individual
worship involves all of you
worship is something that you do
worship is defined by God



The background features a stylized, abstract illustration. On the left, there's a silhouette of a city skyline with several skyscrapers. To the right, a large, circular gear or wheel is depicted, with a small figure of a person standing on one of its spokes. The color palette is dominated by warm tones like orange, yellow, and brown, with black and white accents for the city and gear details.

Powerful Worship

Fervent Prayers

Energetic Singing

Passionate Preaching

Emphasis upon the Lord

Ephesians 3:14-21

**Revelation 4:5-11;
7:11-12**

POWERFUL

WORSHIP

Makes us stand in awe of God

Magnifies the Lord

Leads us to counting our blessings
and being thankful to the Lord

Brings the word of God alive in our
hearts

Teaches us, reminds us, warns us &
fills us

Humbles us and gets our priorities in order

Helps to remind us what is important to God

Makes us feel guilty for sleeping during worship, playing games during worship and not being changed because of worship

Reminds us of that what we do
before we come in here affects
our worship

Was so good, so right and so unlike
anything else seen in the first
century world that it helped the
early church grow and impact
the world

Is what we need today

