

# Commentary Blog C

## One Expression Of WORSHIP Is Emulation

Week of 11/27 - 12/1 (B48;17)

### *One Expression Of WORSHIP Is Emulation*

And boy do I need to clarify our use of "emulate" even before I take the next step!

Webster's New World Dictionary's\* definition of "emulate" reads:

1. to try to equal or surpass; esp., to imitate or copy with a view to equaling or surpassing
2. to rival successfully

\* 2nd College Edition

In **NO** way do we mean this: We emulate to equal or surpass.

What we do mean by our title above is to seek to be like our Savior unto the glorification of the One and only True יהוה God. It's this One whom we emulate/seek to be like in this context: "God is God and we are not!" And the "we" of this (now no longer popular) quote includes His adopted children - those in Christ - this side of eternity.

In **this** effort we worship in declaring **His** supreme greatness. As His adopted children (by His mercy and grace), through Christ Jesus alone, we seek to be like our heavenly Father.

Another clarification is warranted here:

It's **NOT** that we are seeking to repeat the mistake of Genesis 3 nor the mistake of past Mormon doctrine (that is, "We believe in a God who is Himself progressive, whose majesty is intelligence; whose perfection consists in eternal advancement - a Being who has attained His exalted state by a path which now His children are permitted to follow, whose glory it is their heritage to share. In spite of the opposition of the sects, in the face of direct charges of blasphemy, the [Mormon] Church proclaims the eternal truth: '*As man is, God once was; as God is, man may be.*'" in *The Articles Of Faith* by James Talmage; pg. 430; [bracket ours]; 1975).

**In contrast**, our seeking is this:

We seek to be children of God who bear His qualities (minus divinity, though our one-day hope ["promise" in II Peter 1:2-4] is that we will, in our future divine-nature glorification, be children of God in the context of a new body - I Cor. 15:50-57).

But I need to get to the point of this blog so please excuse my leaving open (that is, unfinished), the above comments. Here's our appeal in this blog: Jesus Christ perfectly modeled, during His earthly ministry, qualities of Sonship. One HUGE quality we **MUST both** acknowledge (due to its lacking in His Church today) and emulate, is grace-based **obedience**.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, OBEYED His Father. Read about this by reading through the Gospel of John - the revelation is awesome IF we could allow it to produce in us, *corrective* fruit.

In like manner, as we seek to emulate (to be like) our Lord Jesus, we OBEY our Father.

In this we **love** Him - John 14 - 16.

This is NOT duty-driven human work which seeks justification before God but is the ongoing grace of God in our lives as we take steps **after** new birth, steps tied to James 2:24's "justified by works." You see, we are born spiritually and then, obviously, we move forward to live out our new lives **in Christ** (John 3:16-21).

Good works (e.g., "Be holy as I am holy" is both positional and active in expression) **in Christ** - as we abide in the Vine (John 15) and walk under the influence of His Spirit (Gal. 5) - graciously allow us to DO "good deeds" which are pleasing to Him because they are done in God, NOT by unregenerate humanity.

So let's *seek His Kingdom first* as He has so Counseled. This is okay before God, dear Church; it's NOT a "works' salvation" **sin** as some of the unbiblical *free grace* folks accuse us of promoting!

Let's emulate our LORD Jesus and **obey** in the power of the Holy Spirit of God as the Word of God clearly calls us to do.

In this, we lovingly **worship!** God be praised.

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love." (Jesus Christ as recorded in John 15:9, 10; NKJV)

In conclusion, please recall one general universal God-sanctioned mandate: Let's respect God and obey Him. Yes, "let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil." (Ecc. 12:13, 14; NKJV)

Let's OBEY our LORD - the LORD of lords and KING of kings – and heed His Counsel (in addition to His Counsel in Rev. 2 & 3 and elsewhere).

"Here is a call for endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus." (Rev. 14:12 ; ESV)

"Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." (Rev. 14:12 ; NKJV)

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed

are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates."  
(Rev. 22:12-14 ; ESV)

"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to everyone according to his work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last. Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city." (Rev. 22:12-14 ; NKJV)

[CLICK HERE](#) to view our comments on this matter of translation of verse 14 of chapter 22.

Lord, in worshipful relationship with You, please help us to emulate You by following the supreme example of Your Son. Help us to *trust and obey*. Thank You, Lord, for Your faithful promise:  
"Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, please come soon Lord Jesus!