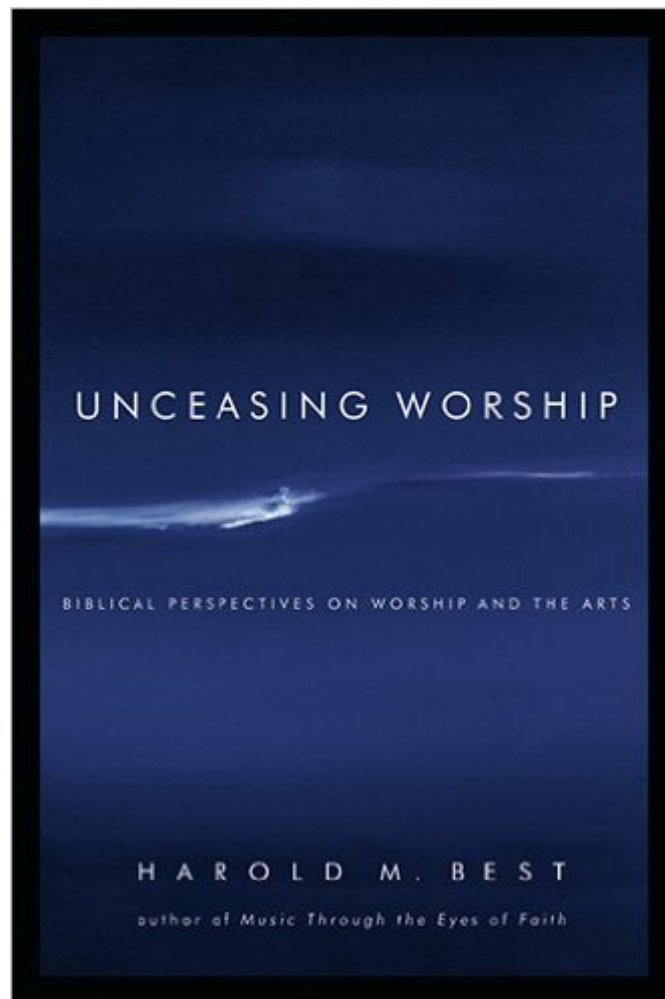


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Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives On Worship And The Arts



Synopsis

Discerning Reader's Best Book of 2003! We are not created to worship. Nor are we created for worship. We are created worshipping. Too often Christians have only thought of worship in terms of particular musical styles or liturgical formats. But a proper view of worship is far larger than what takes place in churches on Sunday mornings. Worship is not limited to specific times, places or activities. God is by his very nature continuously outpouring himself. Because we are created in his image, we too are continually pouring ourselves in various directions, whether toward God or toward false gods. All of us, Christian or not, are always worshipping, whether or not that worship is directed toward God. We are unceasing worshipers. The fruition of a lifetime of study, reflection and experience, this volume sets forth Harold M. Best's understanding of worship and the arts. Widely respected as one of the foremost thinkers and practitioners in his field, Best explores the full scope of worship as continuous outpouring in all settings and contexts. With careful exposition and eloquent analysis, Best casts a holistic vision for worship that transcends narrow discussions of musical style or congregational preference. On this broader canvas, Best addresses popular misunderstandings about the use of music and offers correctives toward a more biblically consistent practice of artistic action. Incisive, biblical, profound and comprehensive, Best's landmark volume is one by which all other statements on worship and the arts will be measured.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Harold Best posits that "nobody does not worship." He develops the idea of "continuous outpouring," saying that God has eternally been continuously outpouring and that human beings, as

creatures made in God's image, are also created "continuous outpouring." For humans, that outpouring is expressed in worship. In fact, all human beings are always in a state of worship. The problem is, worship is not always directed God-ward. For the Christian, though, because of Christ's work, our worship can be redeemed and can be directed toward God. Best understands that all of life is a matter of worship--of honoring and serving that which (or the One whom) we value. Moreover, Best understands corporate worship to be a continuation of the worship Christians do even when they are not assembled together. Thus, there is no need to have a "call to worship" at the beginning of a corporate worship service, as though worship was something Believers need to begin doing for a while (and which they will stop doing in an hour's time or so). Rather, there is only One call to worship and once we respond to it, our lives are lived out in continuous worship. Interestingly, if all of the Christian life is a matter of worship, then evangelism can easily be seen as an invitation (or a call) to the Unbeliever to worship.

This book is a gem! It is beautifully written as well as profound. Best has developed a deeply thought out theology of worship that is rooted in biblical truth. It begins with his noting that we are created by God to worship throughout our existence, heavenly as well as earthly. I bought a digital copy first but then went on to order a paperback as there was so much in this book, I wanted to make margin notes and will go back to it again and again. As one responsible with two others for worship in our church, this book is enriching our experience of God and our work as we read. Best does not get bogged down in debates of one music type rather than another but looks at worship as "an outpouring of worship to God and from God to us" as worship is connected to preaching and praying as well as music of worship. Well worth your time - whether you are a lay person or a worship leader. "Unceasing Worship" is thought-provoking as well as inspiring.

Great book on worship. May be the best book I will ever read on what it means to worship in your life as an individual as well as corporately. Best does a phenomenal job of striking to Scripture and letting it speak into what Worship is. I would recommend this for every Follower and have purchased copies for my worship leaders that I work with and direct.

Good book. His language is very elevated and can take some time to comprehend. I wanted to quote this book so many times but would require a whole page for context. Its a good read and really takes a in depth look at worship from the Bible and now.

This is a great book for anyone wanting to build their knowledge of the theology of worship. It sets the ground for learning about how people interact in a worship gathering. It is impossible to know how to engage people in a worship gathering without first knowing how we all worship in everyday life.

I suggest this book for every Christian who really want to know about the authentic worship. And this book is also a must read for worship leaders. Harold Best describes the meaning of worship so profoundly that we could easily differentiate between worship and idolatry in our daily lives, gatherings and offerings. This is the best book I ever read on the subject of worship.

Packed with love and wisdom on living in continuous outpouring to Jesus. The author's "voice" and writing style are a delight. Joyful, thought provoking read.

This book is a fantastic read! It is very challenging to the standard approach to worship. However, my book came in damaged. The spine of the book was scrapped and granted has nothing to do with the actual book, but was very disappointing.

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