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#### THE CHURCH AWAKENING: AN URGENT CALL FOR RENEWAL



WORSHIP: A COMMITMENT . . . NOT A WAR, PART TWO MATTHEW 15:1–12; ROMANS 11:33–12:2



### The Heart of the Matter

Can there be a more oxymoronic expression than *worship wars*? And yet that phrase aptly describes what is taking place in too many churches. How tragic! The unique privilege to deepen our walk with Christ through worship is no longer a matter of commitment but an ugly war. Surely, this must grieve the heart of God! In an attempt to come to an understanding of worship, it is helpful to realize there is a difference between the *essence* of worship and the *expression* of worship.



# Discovering the Way

#### 1. A Quick Review

Focusing on the worthiness of God is one of the truly important things in life, but if we aren't careful, the tyranny of the urgent can distract us.

# 2. What Worship Represents—Its Essence (Matthew 15:1–12; Romans 11:33–12:2)

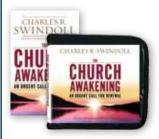
The essence of worship is a commitment to God and Christ, a matter of the heart and mind, and a perspective on living and dying.



## **Starting Your Journey**

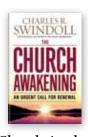
The expression of our worship must focus on glorifying God; it must be Godcentered, Spirit-empowered, and Bible-based.





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