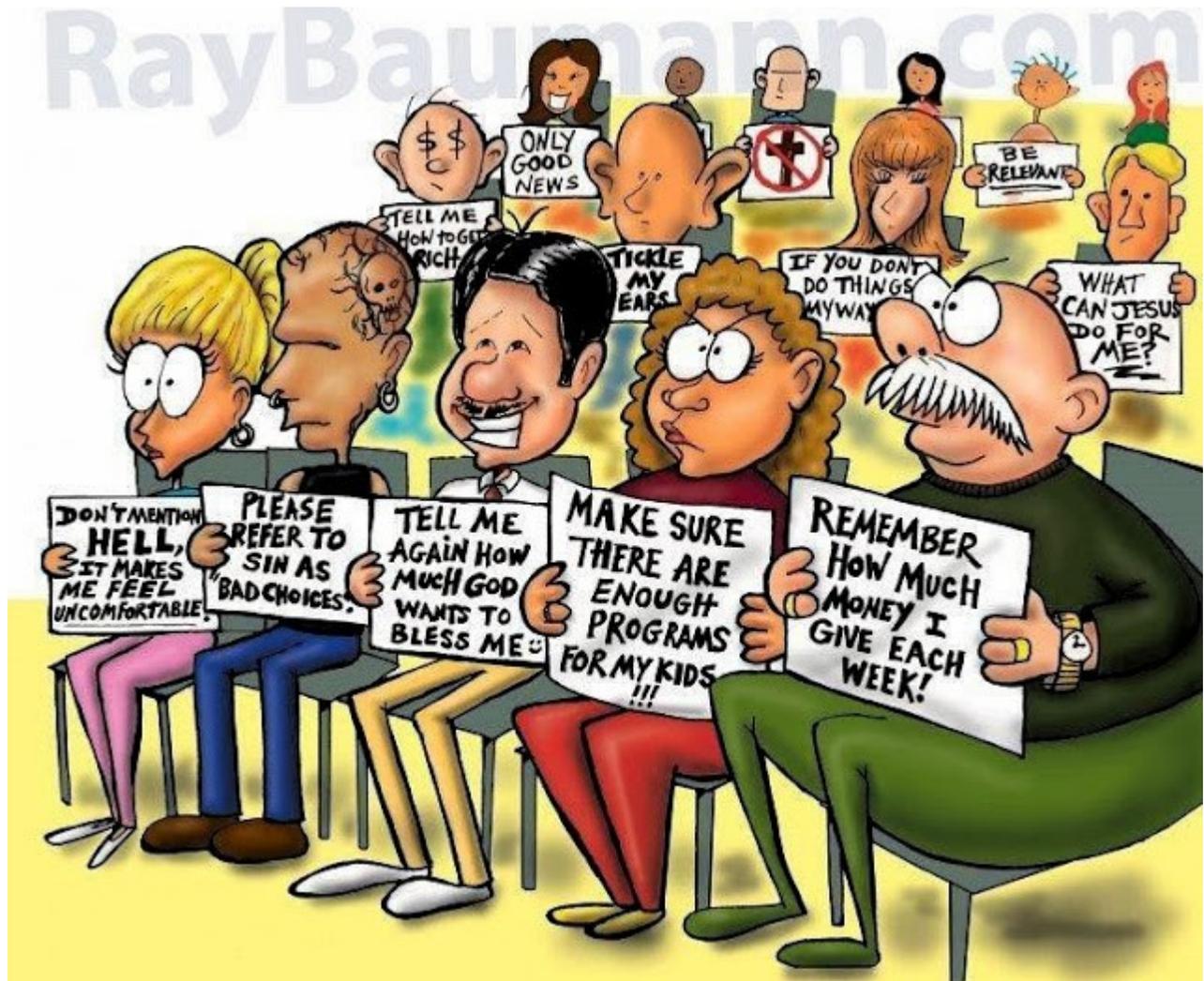


You can tell a lot from a sign...



This little picture begs the question: what is worship, anyway? Well, in this context, it seems to be public worship, although this could be just some sort of meeting to discuss the topic. From the original, "worship" means to "submit" or "to bend the knee" which tells me that all these people are just

plain WRONG!!! It is NOT ABOUT US- IT IS ABOUT GOD, AND WHAT HE WANTS!!! If one of these placards applies to you, then its time to re-think what you are doing. One of my favorite passages from the book of John seems very appropriate to read at this point...

John, Chapter 4

1 Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John 2 (although Jesus himself didn't baptize, but his disciples), 3 he left Judea, and departed into Galilee. 4 He needed to pass through Samaria. 5 So he came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son, Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being tired from his journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. 7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

9 The Samaritan woman therefore said to him, “How is it that you, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

11 The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. From where then have you that living water? 12 Are you greater than our father, Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself, as did his children, and his livestock?”

13 Jesus answered her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst

again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never thirst again; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I don’t get thirsty, neither come all the way here to draw.”

16 Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

17 The woman answered, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You said well, ‘I have no husband,’ 18 for you have had five husbands; and he whom you now have is not your husband. This you have said truly.”

19 The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is

the place where people ought to worship.” [21](#) Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour comes, when neither in this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, will you worship the Father. [22](#) You worship that which you don’t know. We worship that which we know; for salvation is from the Jews. [23](#) **But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such to be his worshipers. [24](#) God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”**

The woman at the well; interesting, quite interesting indeed!!! She wasn't a somebody- if fact, the Jews would look down on her for being a Samaritan. She lived a life-style that was directly against God's laws of marriage (she just co-habited with men- I would call it a shack up). But, she was straightforward and honest about her life and later on, led many people to Jesus. If I would paraphrase the highlighted verses above, it would be

something like.... God wants people who have the right attitude and honesty about their worship; people who come to God on HIS terms and honestly want to do HIS WILL!!! Frankly, this is still a somewhat free country and you have the ability to do what you want to in regards to worship. But, that doesn't mean it pleases God. I wonder, if you were to make your own sign about why you are at the worship service- WHAT WOULD IT BE??? Would it be about what you want, or what God wants?