

Uses of the term “worship” (*proskyneō*) in the New Testament

General Categories:

1. Bowing down and/or paying homage (often individually done, but can occur with a group, such as the magi in Matthew 2:11 or the disciples in Matthew 14:33; not used in the context of an official religious gathering)¹
2. Possible Concept of Planned Worship (though still fitting the first category, this has a hint of a more organized gathering, though it isn’t required in the text)
3. Attending a specific place in order to give offerings/sacrifice

Passage	Summary	Category
Matthew 2:2	Magi desire to come “worship” the newborn Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 2:8	Herod feigns a desire to come “worship” the newborn Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 2:11	Magi fall down and “worship” the newborn Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 4:9	Satan tempts Jesus to fall down and “worship” him	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 4:10	Jesus says man is to worship God alone	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 8:2	Leper comes and “worships” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 9:18	A ruler comes and “worships” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 14:33	Those who were in the ship came and “worshipped” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 15:25	The Canaanite woman “worships” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 18:26	In the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant, the servant is said to “worship” his lord to whom he owed money	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 20:20	Mother of the sons of Zebedee	#1 - Bowing down and/or

¹ If general reference to worship, like Rev. 14:7, it is natural to assume it is the general understanding of giving worth to God and acknowledging his lordship and power.

	comes and “worships” Jesus	paying homage
Matthew 28:9	Women “worship” the risen Christ	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Matthew 28:17	Disciples worship Jesus, some doubt	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Mark 5:6	Demon-possessed man said to “worship” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Luke 4:7	Satan tempts Jesus to fall down and “worship” him	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Luke 4:8	Jesus says man is to worship God alone	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Luke 24:52	Disciples “worship” Jesus as he ascended to heaven	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
John 4:20	Samaritan woman says her “fathers worshipped” on “this mountain”	#2 - Possible Concept of Planned Worship
John 4:21	Jesus says that people will worship God neither in Jerusalem or on “this mountain”	#2 - Possible Concept of Planned Worship
John 4:22	Jesus says the Samaritans do not know what they “worship”	#2 - Possible Concept of Planned Worship
John 4:23-24	Jesus says true “worshippers” will worship in “spirit and truth”	#2 - Possible Concept of Planned Worship
John 9:38	Man healed of blindness “worships” Jesus	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
John 12:20	Greeks went up to the feast to “worship”	#3 - Attending a specific place in order to give offerings/sacrifice
Acts 7:43	Stephen quotes Amos who charged the Jews with worshipping images of false gods	#2 - Possible Concept of Planned Worship
Acts 8:27	Ethiopian eunuch went to Jerusalem in order to “worship”	#3 - Attending a specific place in order to give offerings/sacrifice

Acts 10:25	Cornelius “worships” Peter	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Acts 24:11	Paul speaks of having gone up to Jerusalem “to worship”	#3 - Attending a specific place in order to give offerings/sacrifice
1 Corinthians 14:25	A convicted person will “fall down” and “worship” God	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Hebrews 1:6	“Let all God’s angels worship him”	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Hebrews 11:21	Jacob said to have “worshipped” when blessing his sons and leaning on his staff	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 3:9	False Jews will come “worship” at the feet of believers	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 4:10	Twenty-four elders fall down and “worship” the One on the throne	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 5:12	Twenty-four elders fall down and “worship”	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 7:11	Angels fall down and “worship”	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 9:20	Unbelievers did not repent of worshipping idols	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 11:1	John’s vision includes people who are in the Temple to “worship”	#3 - Attending a specific place in order to give offerings/sacrifice
Revelation 11:16	Twenty-four elders fall down and “worship”	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 13:4	Unbelievers worship the dragon and the beast, ascribing worth to them with their words	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 13:8	Unbelievers will worship the beast	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 13:12	Unbelievers will worship the beast	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage

Revelation 13:15	Those who don't worship the image of the beast will be killed	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 14:7	Angel commands people to "worship" God	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelations 14:9-11	Those who "worship" the beast and his image are judged	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 15:4 ²	All nations will come and "worship" before God	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 16:2	Worshippers of the beast and his image are judged	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 19:4	Twenty-four elders fall down and "worship"	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 19:10	The Apostle John falls down to worship the angel	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 19:20	Worshippers of the beast and his image are judged	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 20:4	Those who have not worshipped the beast or his image rewarded	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 22:8	The Apostle John falls down to worship the angel again	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage
Revelation 22:9	Angel tells John to worship God instead	#1 - Bowing down and/or paying homage

² It appears here that the term "worship" is used in a general sense: all the nations of the earth will come and bow down before God, acknowledging him as God.