

# John 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

## Analysis

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Jesus' declaration 'salvation is of the Jews' affirms God's redemptive plan through Israel and the Jewish Messiah. 'Ye worship ye know not what' indicates that Samaritan religion, lacking the prophets and full Scripture, was deficient in revelation. Reformed theology affirms that only worship based on God's self-revelation in Scripture is acceptable—sincerity without truth is insufficient.

## Historical Context

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Samaritans accepted only the Pentateuch, rejecting the Prophets and Writings. They modified the Ten Commandments to designate Gerizim as the place of worship. This limited canon resulted in incomplete understanding of God's redemptive purposes.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse challenge modern notions that sincerity in worship matters more than truth?

2. What does it mean that salvation comes through the particular history and people God chose?

## Interlinear Text

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ὑμεῖς προσκυνοῦμεν ὁ οὐκ οἴδαμεν ἡμεῖς

Ye  
G5210

worship  
G4352

what  
G3739

not  
G3756

we know  
G1492

we  
G2249

προσκυνοῦμεν ὁ οἴδαμεν ὅτι ἡ σωτηρία ἐκ τῶν

worship  
G4352

what  
G3739

we know  
G1492

for  
G3754

G3588

salvation  
G4991

of  
G1537

G3588

Ἰουδαίων ἔστιν

the Jews  
G2453

is  
G2076

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 17:23** (Worship): For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

**Isaiah 2:3** (Parallel theme): And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

**Luke 24:47** (Parallel theme): And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

**Acts 17:30** (Parallel theme): And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

**Psalms 147:19** (Parallel theme): He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel.

**Hebrews 7:14** (Parallel theme): For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

**Psalms 68:20** (Salvation): He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord belong the issues from death.

**Isaiah 12:2** (Salvation): Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

**Isaiah 46:13** (Salvation): I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.

**Zechariah 9:9** (Salvation): Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

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