

**CONTEXTUALIZATION: A BASIS FOR EFFECTIVE
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP IN BAPTIST CHURCHES**

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CONCLUSION

The Old and New Testament records have given us biblical basis for contextualization of Christian worship. Our modes of worship need to reflect the identity and world-view of African in conformity with and relevant to biblical principles. There is no doubt that a contextualized worship service will be more rewarding and fulfilling to the worshipers and most importantly, acceptable to God.

God needs to be worshipped in Spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and within the context of our understanding and culture. God came down into the world in a bodily form. This made Jesus Christ to be acceptable to people because they shared the same feelings. Jesus Christ emphasized the importance of contextualization in his teaching by the use of stories, parables

²⁰ Michael Sowu p.31

and symbols that were relevant to the prevailing situations and which were easily understood and comprehended by his audience.

Therefore, contextualization remains the best way of making our worship Service effective, inspirational, fulfilling and acceptable to God. Our modes of praying, preaching, teaching, singing and dancing can be made more African without contravening biblical injunctions and principles. By so doing, our worship and presentation of the gospel to unbelievers will be made relevant if the world-view and thought of the worshippers are taken into consideration.