

Hymnspiration

Why We Sing What We Sing!



A Brief Study of the Music of the Bible Believing Christian

Part One – Music Matters

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Music Matters

It Does Matter What Kind of Music a Christian Listens to and Sings

I. Some Foundational Scriptures

- A. Christians are “peculiar” (strangely different than the world in which they live) in the following ways:
1. In their Spending – we GIVE AWAY our money, instead of hoarding it
 2. In their Praying – we pray not repetitiously, but confidently
 3. In their Music – not worldly music, but music that is pleasing unto God
 4. In their Dress – we dress modestly, not sexy
 5. In their Entertainment – it must be clean and not carnal (fleshly)
 6. A Christian is different that this world in basically EVERY way they live!
 7. Don’t think it unusual that God would transform a believer into someone different than the world around them! It’s all part of what happens when you get born again!
- B. God DOES tell us the kinds of music to listen to and praise Him with...
1. Colossians 3:16 **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in _____ and _____ and _____ songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”**
 2. Ephesians 5:19 **“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart _____”**
- C. God commands us to TEST what we do and like as a believer...
1. 1Thes 5:21,22 **“_____ all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all _____ of evil.”**
 2. Ephesians 5:10 **“Proving what is _____ unto the Lord.”**
 3. Matthew 7:15-20 **“Ye shall know them by their _____”**
 4. Luke 12:57 **“Yea, and why even of yourselves _____ ye not what is right?”**
 5. 1John 4:1 **“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but _____ the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”**
 6. Eph 5:11 **“And have no _____ with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”**
 7. Romans 12:2 **“And be not _____ to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”**
 8. 1Cor 6:12 **“All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the _____ of any.”**
 9. Eccl 7:5 **“It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of _____.”**
 10. Psalm 19:14 **“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in _____, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.”**
- D. Most people will NOT accept God’s limitations on their life-style (1Cor 2:14)
1. The Bible limits a person’s life – why? So that the society in which he lives is safe
 2. Limits on life are “_____” unto the unsaved person
- E. In This Study, let’s discover the Biblical principles by which we judge the things we enjoy – whether they are right to do, or not.

II. What We Are Going to Study in this Series

- A. That Music Matters - *It Does Matter What Kind of Music a Christian Listens to and Sings*
- B. True praise is Possible - *Christians Must Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*
- C. How to Take the Higher Ground - *Satan is Rapidly Destroying Biblical Christianity – Let's Take the Higher Ground*
- D. Some Final Thoughts – *Using Music Rightly*

III. A Bit of Christian Music History

- A. What Happened to the “First Music”?
 1. The first songs were in _____ (Job 38:4-7)
 2. _____ was the first Song Leader (Ezek 28:13)
 3. Sin *quieted down* this universe – it now only hums, but does not sing
 4. _____ will make this universe sing again (Isaiah 44:23)
- B. First Century Christian Music (Col 3:16)
 1. The Church began with all three types of singing:
 - a. _____ - Scripture put to music that affect the soul
 - b. _____ - Songs in honour of God that affect the life of the believer (the flesh)
 - c. _____ - Songs that affect the spirit
 2. _____ affected Christianity and reduced singing to a mode of remembering Scripture – putting loads of Scriptures to music
- C. Biblical Church History is divided up into three time-periods:
 1. **Psalms** were the main type of songs sung until 1300's – examples – use book from Christian
 2. **Hymns** began to be written and sung again 1300's – 1800's – this is where almost all of our hymns come from
 3. **Spiritual Songs** were then written again in the early 1800's – these songs moved into the Hymnal and also became known as hymns
- D. A completely new way of writing and singing Christian songs began in the 1970's – Contemporary Christian Music (CCM)
 1. Emphasis on the choruses instead of the full hymn
 2. The writing of just short little pieces that are repeated over and over
 3. Emphasis on Women leaders singing instead of men
 4. Hypnotic type of emotional singing instead of rousing (manly) type
 5. “Unknown Tongues” singing
- E. Josh McDowell, who works with teenagers said, "Seventy-five percent of all kids coming to Christ today are not coming to Jesus because He's the way, the truth and the life." They are coming to Christ because He is the best thing that's come along so far, (that they've filtered through their experience.) And as soon as something they think is better comes along, they're gone."
- F. Modern Christian music seeks to attract kids and grown-ups who would not otherwise be interested in the Gospel

IV. Some Great Hymns to Know

A. **A Mighty Fortress is Our God**, by Martin Luther

1. Both the words and music of the hymn are by the Protestant Reformer, Martin Luther (1483-1546).
2. Martin Luther, the former Augustinian monk, led the Reformation away from the Church of Rome based upon the battle cry, "The just shall live by Faith" (Romans 1:17), in opposition to the ex cathedra decrees of the Papacy. Luther's confidence in the Power of Faith that comes from the Scriptures, i.e., "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17), was followed closely by his belief that the singing of hymns was most significant in motivating the Believer. He said, "With all my heart I would extol the precious gift of God in the noble art of music... Music is to be praised as second only to the Word of God because by her all the emotions are swayed." It is said that Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" was sung by many an oppressed Christian as they were forced into exile or brought to their martyrdom.
3. "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (Ein' fest Burg ist unser Gott) quickly became the Battle Hymn of the Reformation. Turning away from a music form dominated by the clergy of the Catholic Church, Luther placed the emphasis upon congregational singing. Hymn books were soon published from the newly introduced printing presses (1450) of Johann Gutenberg (1400-1468). Luther's first hymnal was introduced in 1524 with a total of eight hymns-- half by Luther. He wrote at least 35 hymns.

B. **Count Your Blessings**.

1. Words by Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1856-1922
2. Music by Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921
3. Rev. Johnson Oatman, Jr., was one of the important and prolific gospel song writers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He was born near Medford, New Jersey, on April 21, 1856. As a child he became acquainted with the hymns of the church through the singing talents of

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
 Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing:
 For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
 His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
 On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
 Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
 Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,
 And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us:
 The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
 His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
 One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
 The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:
 Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
 The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
 His kingdom is forever.

Count Your Blessings

When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
 When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
 Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
 And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,
 Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
 Count your blessings, name them one by one,
 And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.*

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
 Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
 Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,
 And you will keep singing as the days go by.
 Refrain

When you look at others with their lands and gold,
 Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
 Count your many blessings. Wealth can never buy
 Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.
 Refrain

So, amid the conflict whether great or small,
 Do not be disheartened, God is over all;
 Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
 Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.
 Refrain

his father. At the age of nineteen Oatman joined the Methodist Church and several years later was granted a license to preach in local Methodist congregations. Though he wrote over 5,000 hymn texts, Oatman was busily engaged throughout his life in a mercantile business and later as an administrator for a large insurance company in New Jersey. Other gospel favorites by Johnson Oatman include "Higher Ground", and "No, Not One!"

- "Count Your Blessings" is generally considered to be Oatman's finest hymn. It first appeared in 1897. It has been sung all over the world. One writer has stated, "Like a beam of sunlight it has brightened up the dark places of the earth." Perhaps no American was ever received with such enthusiasm in Great Britain as this hymn. The London Daily, in giving an account of a meeting presided over by Evangelist Gypsy Smith, reported, "Mr. Smith announced the hymn 'Count Your Blessings.' Said he, 'In South London the men sing it, the boys whistle it, and the women rock their babies to sleep on this hymn.'"

C. **Amazing Grace**, by John Newton



- "Amazing Grace" is an autobiographical hymn by John Newton (1725-1807). Formerly a seaman and first officer aboard slave ships, Newton lived a debauched, hardened life until a fearful storm at sea awakened him, and the Mercy and Grace of the LORD Jesus Christ saved him.
- It was in Newton's pivotal year of 1748 on March 21st that he was piloting a ship through a raging storm off the NW coast of Ireland. With nearly two decades of maritime experience behind him, he was well aware that the ship and those aboard were all but lost. Newton began to cry, "Lord have mercy on us!" But, he thought, "What mercy can there be for me?" Nonetheless, he desperately prayed, and God answered. The storm abated. John Newton recorded, "On that day the Lord sent from on high and delivered me from deep waters." He subsequently celebrated that "great deliverance" as the day of his conversion to the LORD Jesus Christ.

Amazing Grace!

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

D. **How Great Thou Art**, by Pastor Carl Boberg

1. The Original Swedish lyrics, titled "O, Store Gud" and written in 1886 were inspired by a visit to a beautiful country estate on the southeast coast of Sweden. Pastor Carl Boberg was suddenly caught in a midday thunderstorm with awe inspiring moments of flashing violence, followed by a clear brilliant sun. Soon afterwards he heard the calm sweet songs of the birds in nearby trees. The experience prompted the pastor to fall to his knees in humble adoration of his mighty God. (Osbeck 133) As the result of this experience he wrote a 9 stanza poem, and several years later at a conference, was surprised to hear his poem sung to the tune of an old Swedish folk melody. It was translated into German, then a literal translation by an American in 1925: "O Mighty God, When I behold the Wonder." The song was also translated from German to Russian in 1927. Missionary Stuart Hine, inspired by the Russian words coupled with the awesome sights of the Carpathian mountains, wrote the first three English verses, the fourth came after WW II.
2. The hymn was made famous by George Beverly Shea during a Billy Graham Crusade in London.

V. **What Are Some of YOUR Favourite Hymns and Why?**

- A. _____

- B. _____

- C. _____

- D. _____

VI. **Next Week – True Praise**

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

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True Praise

Christians Must Worship the Lord Rightly
1 Corinthians 14:15

I. Doctrinal Content is the Most Important aspect of what we sing (Col 3:16; Jude 1:3)

- A. Words matter the most! The message sung, the person being sung to (are you sure to whom you sing?), the way it is sung is conveying a message – the question is, “_____?”
- B. The rage amongst modern Christians to have “new” music comes from an uncontrolled desire to feed the pop (the “now”) appetite.
- C. While there is nothing innately wrong with new or contemporary expressions (as long as they are “acceptable to God”) there is nothing wrong with older expressions and ways of singing either.
- D. But the old ways are usually better than the new ways!
- E. Let’s look at the Content of OLD versus NEW songs:



1. “**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.**” Walter Smith, 1876

Immortal, Invisible, God only wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
 In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
 Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
 Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
 Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
 Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
 Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
 In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
 We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
 And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
 Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
 But of all Thy rich graces this grace, Lord, impart
 Take the veil from our faces, the vile from our heart.

All laud we would render; O help us to see
 'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee,
 And so let Thy glory, Almighty, impart,
 Through Christ in His story, Thy Christ to the heart.

2. Perhaps it escapes the minds of contemporary congregations to sing Isaac Watts’ great text, “**I Sing the Mighty Power of God,**” which he wrote in 1715 to teach his church’s children the doctrines of God’s creation and sustenance.



I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God’s command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food,
Who formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where’er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.

There’s not a plant or flower below, but makes Thy glories known,
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care;
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God art present there.

3. Most Hymns require a level of _____ that modern songs don’t. You have to concentrate to truly comprehend the theology of the above songs.

4. Is it really a fair trade to have a congregation sing a popular chorus, “**El Shaddai**,” the Hebrew names of



God (which most singers could not define scripturally) set to a tune which trivializes its text, when God’s people could sing well-connected thoughts carefully crafted to convey great spiritual truth? Perhaps it is merely a reflection of the state of much preaching, which caters to the currently perceived needs of people at the expense of sound doctrine.

5. It is melodic but brings in a heavy drum-beat

F. Christian Music Must have a Right Message

(Romans 3:4; Titus 1:2). What are the characteristics of a Right message?

1. Must be _____ to be Christian – not just “about Jesus” but things that are true and match the Bible explicitly
2. Must be _____, Peculiar to be Christian (1Pet 2:9) – to sing the same songs or use the same music styles of the world, and just re-label them “Christian” is evil and deceptive
 - a. Can you really read a Christian Horoscope?
 - b. Can you really be a Christian Distiller?
 - c. Can you really be a Christian Pornographer?
 - d. Can you really be a Christian Liar?
 - e. Can you really be a Christian Murderer?
 - f. Can you really sing Christian Rock Music?

Chorus

*El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
El-Elyon na Adonia,
Age to age You're still the same,
By the power of the name.
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
Erkamka na Adonai,
We will praise and lift You high,
El Shaddai.*

Through your love and through the ram,
You saved the son of Abraham;
Through the power of your hand,
Turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees,
You were the God who really sees,
And by Your might,
You set Your children free.
To Chorus

Through the years You've made it clear,
That the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see
What Messiah ought to be.
Though Your Word contained the plan,
They just could not understand
Your most awesome work was done
Through the frailty of Your Son.
To Chorus Twice

3. Must be _____ – not Vague
- a. The message in Christian music should be clear, not vague, or unclear. — the listener should clearly understand the message.
 - b. The apostle Paul didn't try to "trick" anybody, he wanted to make sure he was understood:
 - 1) Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great _____ of speech: 2 Cor. 3:12
 - 2) And my speech and my preaching was NOT with _____ words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 1 Cor. 2:4
 - 3) And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with _____ words. Colossians 2:4
 - c. Look how CLEAR these songs praise the Lord. And literally thousands of examples could be given:
 - 1) "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine" by Fanny Crosby
 - 2) "My Jesus I Love Thee" by Adoniram Gordon
 - 3) "Victory in Jesus" by E.M. Bartlett
 - 4) "Jesus Is All the World to Me" by Will Thompson
 - 5) "Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I Know" by Lela Long
 - 6) "Jesus Lover of My Soul" by Charles Wesley
 - d. Most of CCM music is vague, or it is sung in a "worldly-hip-hop-cool-lingo".
 - 1) Rather than "Jesus", they will say "he", "you", "I", etc.
 - 2) CCMers want to appeal to the world (to sell records and make money!) so they use "double-speak" tactics. They won't come right out and say what it means — but they'll usually put in enough "double-speak" "hidden agenda" to "sell" it to Christians.
 - 3) Stan Moser, former head of Word Records and CEO of Star Song Records, was one of the pioneers and most important executives in CCM. And after 26 years in CCM, in November 1995, walked away from CCM. In an article in Christianity Today, titled "We Have Created a Monster" about CCM, Mr. Moser freely admits: **"But to be candid, I look at the majority of [Contemporary Christian] music I hear today and think it's virtually meaningless."** (Christianity Today, "We Have Created a Monster", May 20, 1996 p. 27)
- G. Christian Music Must Emphasize the _____, NOT the Music!
1. This is where we are at today – it is the _____ that sells the records
 2. People go for the MUSIC, not the message
 3. That's why "christians" put "jesus"-lyrics to worldly songs – to sell them to Christians
 4. The music of a Christian, a Church, a choir MUST put the word of Christ at the top
 5. Mr Stan Moser goes on to say: "There is a growing chasm between CCM and the church – between what's actually happening in the real world of ministry, or even in the music ministry of the church, and what we're doing in CCM. In fact, I would probably be more inclined to call the industry 'commercial Christian music,' rather than 'contemporary Christian music.'" (Christianity Today, "We Have Created a Monster", May 20, 1996 p. 27)

II. Our Emotions Must be Linked to _____, not _____ (1Cor 14:15; 3Jn 1:4; John 4:23,24)

- A. It is NOT natural for a Christian to reject worldly music – the flesh of the Christian will ALWAYS enjoy it. Left to ourselves, we do NOT seek after God – we need a PREACHER (Rom 3:10,11; 10:13-15). A preacher tells people what is wrong and how to get right!
- B. The world, the flesh and the devil cannot compete with the TRUTH, so they work on an emotional level with people – that is where most music is today – only at the emotional level – what “feels” good, what comes “naturally” – it is of the FLESH and is demonic, even if it seems so harmless.
- C. Why should a Christian worship, praise, and sing unto God?
 - 1. Because they FEEL like it, or are paid to do it, or because everyone else is doing it?
 - 2. Or, is it...
 - a. Because HE is good
 - b. Because His mercy endureth forever
 - c. Because HE is worthy
- D. Why does the world sing?
 - 1. Mainly because the MUSIC sounds great
 - 2. Mainly because the way it makes you feel
 - 3. Mainly because it is so popular with everyone else



III. Contemporary Christian Music Emphasizes The *Wrong* Things:

- A. Choruses instead of Entire Hymns
- B. Emotional Music instead of Spiritual Music
- C. *Physically* pleasing entertainment instead of God-honouring music
- D. How serious is all this? Just see what happens to most any church that removes their drums, and worship singers, and started back to leading their people in singing all the verses of hymns! Most of the people attending will leave – because they came their for the MUSIC, and would not accept any change in THAT area of their life!!!

IV. Summary - God’s Kind of Music – Here is the Test of Proper Music

- A. **The Right** _____
 - 1. Singers FIRST, Percussion LAST. Psalm 68:25 *The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.*
 - 2. The timbrels accented the other instruments – they did NOT dominate like they do today
- B. **The Right** _____ – three-fold focus of Christian music
 - 1. Worship of God – pleasing God, not ourselves
 - 2. Edifying of Christians – others first, but also edifying ourselves when discouraged
 - 3. Winning the Lost
- C. **The Right** _____ – Biblical words (Psalm 19:14) – sober words, yet thrilling words!



D. **The Right** _____ – caution, conservative, not open-ended acceptance of anything goes

1. All throughout history, Bible believers have been “slow” to accept things new or different (Gal 1:6-8)
2. It has been the CARNAL Christians who jump at the chance to have something new (2Cor 11:3,4)
3. We as Bible believers draw the line on music that has any of the following things:
 - a. A dominate beat – usually using drums or other percussion instrument
 - b. Un-Scriptural words
 - c. Sensual, (fleshly, carnal) instead of spiritual air
4. Sometimes reasoning based on scripture is how we determine things. God doesn't give us an itemized list of everything that is considered "worldly", we have to use reason based on scripture.
 - a. When 99% of all hymns and music considered godly through the centuries (ie. classical, marches, patriotic) has a straight 1-3 beat, and 95% of the rest of the music in the world has a 2-4 beat with syncopation, offbeat, and backbeat, it shouldn't be too hard to figure which is godly and which is worldly.
 - b. When a certain beat interrupts bodily functions, causes plants to die, and causes mice to kill each other, that should be something even a blind man can see as wrong.

E. **The Right** _____ – righteous, godly living (Titus 2:12), not selfish (Rom 15:1)

V. Hymns to Know

A. **And Can It Be**, by Charles Wesley, 1738

The hymn "And can it be that I should gain?" (always a favourite of mine) is packed with imaginative power, painting a forceful picture of the Passion, but at the same time calling on scripture for many of its allusions.

In all, this hymn contains no fewer than eleven references to the New Testament.



And Can It Be

And can it be that I should gain
 An interest in the Savior's blood?
 Died He for me, who caused His pain—
 For me, who Him to death pursued?
 Amazing love! How can it be,
 That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 Amazing love! How can it be,
 That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above
 So free, so infinite His grace—
 Emptied Himself of all but love,
 And bled for Adam's helpless race:
 'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
 For O my God, it found out me!
 'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
 For O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
 Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
 Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
 I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
 My chains fell off, my heart was free,
 I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
 My chains fell off, my heart was free,
 I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
 Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
 Alive in Him, my living Head,
 And clothed in righteousness divine,
 Bold I approach the eternal throne,
 And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
 Bold I approach the eternal throne,
 And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

B. **Arise My Soul**, by Charles Wesley, 1742

1. No story of a hymn can be more sweet and precious than its basis in scripture. Charles Wesley shows his profound knowledge of scripture in the Biblical references that flowed out through his hymns. Here is the scriptural story behind one his great hymns.

Arise, my soul, arise,
Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

Shake off thy guilty fears;
Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

The Saviour's sacrifice
1 Corinthians 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

In my behalf appears;
Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Before the throne my Surety stands, Before the throne my Surety stands,
Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
Hebrews 7:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

My name is written on His hands;
Isaiah 49:16 Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.

He ever lives above, For me to intercede,
Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

His all redeeming love,
John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

His precious blood to plead;
1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

His blood atoned for all our race, His blood atoned for all our race,
Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.
1 Timothy 2:6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

And sprinkles now the throne of grace.
Hebrews 12:24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.
Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Five dreadful wounds He bears,
John 20:27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

Received on Calvary;
Luke 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

They pour effectual prayers, They strongly plead for me:
Lamentations 3:58 O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do....

"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"
Job 33:24 Then he is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom.
Now I am reconciled;

Romans 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

God's pardoning voice I hear;

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

He owns me for His child;

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

I can no longer fear;

Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

1John 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

With confidence I now draw nigh, With confidence I now draw nigh,

Ephesians 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: 12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Hebrews 7:19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

And, "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Galatians 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

C. **It is Well With My Soul**, by Horatio Spafford, 1873

The author of this hymn was a layman, a lawyer and professor of medical jurisprudence from Chicago who maintained a close friendship with D.L.



Moody and other Christian leaders. During the 1871 Chicago Fire, Spafford lost all of his real estate holdings. The year before his son had died. In order to assist Moody in a Great Britain campaign, Spafford planned to travel there with his wife and four daughters. Due to business commitments, he was unable to travel with his family, but planned to join them within a few days. On November 22, 1873 two ships collided; Mrs. Spafford was rescued, but their four daughters were lost. While Horatio Spafford sailed to join his grieving wife, it is believed that he penned the words to this hymn, including the words, "When sorrows like sea billows roll...." In the face of overwhelming tragedies, he was able to declare, "It is well with my soul."

It is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain

It is well, with my soul,

It is well, with my soul,

It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

To Refrain

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

To Refrain

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

To Refrain

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

To Refrain

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

To Refrain

D. Jesus Loves Me.

1. Words by Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915
2. Music by William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868
3. Without doubt the hymn that has influenced children for Christ more than any other is this simply stated one, written in 1860 by Anna Bartlett Warner. Miss Warner wrote this text in collaboration with her sister Susan as a part of one of the best-selling novels of that day, a novel written by Susan entitled Say and Seal. Today few remember the plot of that novel, which stirred the hearts of many readers. But the simple poem spoken by one of the characters, Mr. Linden, as he comforts Johnny Fax, a dying child, still remains the favorite hymn of children around the world to this day.
4. The popularity of "Jesus Loves Me" soon spread quickly beyond the boundaries of our own land. Numerous stories are told by missionaries of the universal appeal this hymn text has had with children in every culture. It is often one of the first hymns taught new converts in foreign lands. The hymn has even been appropriated by other religious sects; missionaries have reported that they have heard groups in Buddhist Temples singing, "Yes, Buddha loves me, Yes, Buddha loves me..."
5. Dr. William B. Bradbury, the composer of the music for the text, was one of the important contributors to the development of early gospel hymnody in this country. He was born in York, Maine, on October 6, 1816. As a young man he moved to Boston, Massachusetts. Bradbury served as choir director and organist in several large Baptist churches in the East, where he became especially noted for his work with children. Among the highlights of his career were his annual Musical Festivals, where more than one thousand children would gather, all dressed alike, and sing many of his own compositions. Soon Bradbury gave himself exclusively to the teaching, writing and publishing of a great volume of music. From 1841 until his death in 1868, he was involved with the publishing of fifty-nine collections of sacred and secular music. Bradbury composed the music for "Jesus Loves Me" in 1861 especially for Anna Warner's text and personally added the chorus to the four stanzas.
6. Other hymns by William B. Bradbury include "He leadeth Me", "Just As I Am", "Depth of Mercy", "Even Me", "Sweet Hour of Prayer", and "The Solid Rock".



Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but He is strong.

Chorus

*Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! He who died,
Heaven's gates to open wide;
He will wash away my sin.
Let His little child come in.

Jesus loves me! He will stay
Close beside me all the way;
If I love Him, when I die
He will take me home on high.



VI. Next Week – Claiming the Higher Ground

- A. The Science of Music
- B. The Power of Music
- C. The Way to Take Back the High Ground in Music

Hymnspiration

Why We Sing What We Sing!



A Brief Study of the Music of the Bible Believing Christian

Part Three – Claiming the Higher Ground

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Claiming the Higher Ground

Satan is Rapidly Destroying Biblical Christianity – Let's Take the Higher Ground

I. The Science of Music

A. So now, what is music?

1. It is a _____ all its own.
2. Music is not a “_____ thing”, but it shares traits with all other forms of language.
 - a. The notes on the staff are merely visual representations (icons) of aural activity.
 - b. Just as in any language where particular letters and even words are inconsequential standing alone, when grouped and placed in context and given specific emphasis and nuance, those letters and words can be joyous or depressing, complimentary or degrading, blessing or curse; so too, are musical notes and phrases.
 - c. And while music may not have the capacity to communicate specific thoughts, it can create general moods and cause *determinable* reactions.

B. Yet, listen to what modern CCM musicians and “pastors” say:

1. A representative of Contemporary Christian Music: "There is no such thing as 'gospel music.' Every style and form of music can become gospel, whether it's jazz, pop, rock 'n' roll, or rap." --Don Butler, Gospel Music Association
2. “There is actually no such thing as ‘Christian Music.’ There is no such thing as a ‘Christian’ musical instrument. There is no such thing as a ‘Christian’ key or a ‘Christian’ note or tone. Only ‘Christian’ lyrics set to music. Christian lyrics can be set to any music. In the same way, ... the Christian message can be proclaimed in every language, even the language of "rock" music. One of the very best sermons and invitation I have ever heard was delivered by Mark Farner, he used to be with Grand Funk Railroad, ... at a Christian rock concert. Scores of teens responded to receive Christ that night. Years later, ... I still remember him singing about "Judgment Day Blues" and playing some great blues licks as he communicated the gospel to those teens in a language they could understand.”
Pastor Jerry Lewis

C. Most musicologists and theoreticians agree that there are **five** basic elements of music: melody, harmony, rhythm, tempo, and volume.

1. The _____ is simply the “tune.” We know melody is important because we are commanded to “sing and make melody in our hearts to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19). A tune hummed on its own can stand up to the criteria of being musical. In fact, every age has appreciated the beauty of unison melody.
2. Implied in every melodic line is _____. A harmonic sequence is an acoustical phenomenon based on sympathetic vibrations in what is called the overtone cycle. In other words, Every note has other notes that complement it in the context of a given melody.
3. _____ is often called “the pulse of music.” It gives the melody a sense of drive or pause, of agitation or restfulness.
4. The _____ is the speed of the music. In music, the same rhythm can be played fast or slow.
5. _____ refers to the loudness or softness of the music.

D. The Apostle Paul knew the nature of man and the nature of music when he suggested that the appropriate way to pray is the same as an appropriate way to sing (I Corinthians 14:15):

- E. God says, everything has two sides to it – the good, clean, holy aspect, and the unclean, unwholesome, profane aspect. It is the job of the pastor to teach people right and wrong and to command them to stay separate (Ezek 44:23; 22:26)
- F. Music is an expression capable of crossing cultural boundaries, linguistic obstacles, and eras of time. Music can generate emotional and physical responses in human beings without preconditioning or sensitizing education. It is naïve to think that music is beyond the scope of a Christian’s ability to prove appropriateness according to God’s terms. Certainly, a pastor who is engaged in the Word and led by the Spirit ought to be able to distinguish between carnal and holy music in the same manner in which he evaluates literature, art, movies, activities, and any other current social phenomenon not specifically defined in Scripture.
- G. Music that does not conform to a list of biblical criteria is wrong. By the admission of all but some contemporary Christians, there are forms of musical expression which are encourage sinful behavior, rebellion, hate, new age spiritualism, and even paganism. We must through God’s grace, by His Word, and through the help of His Holy Spirit prove all things — including our music.

II. The Power of Music

- A. Music is Not _____ – the music is just as important as the words
 1. The foundational philosophy for both Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) and Contemporary Christian Worship (CCW) is the idea that music is neutral or amoral and that any style of music can be used in the worship of a holy God.
 2. The Music behind old silent movies _____ emotion. Music is extremely important to movies today – great movies HAVE to have great scores that express what’s happening on the screen, musically!
 3. If all musical styles are neutral...
 - a. Why can an orchestra create different feelings by changing the style of the music?
 - b. Why do pubs and night clubs always play only a certain kind of music? (They know what some modern backslidden preachers seem to be ignorant of)
 - c. Why did the old bluesmen believe that certain kinds of rhythms caused women to be morally loose? (They know what some preachers seem to be ignorant of)
 - d. Why do rock musicians claim that their heavily syncopated rhythm is sexy? (They know what some preachers seem to be ignorant of). Why do these secular rock lovers describe the heavily syncopated rock rhythms as sexy, primitive, seductive, rough, hardcore, loose, wild, and hypnotic? What do they know, or what are they admitting, that the contemporary christian music crowd denies? They are admitting that music is not neutral and that the heavy backbeat of rock & roll is sensual. Music is a language.
 - e. Why does one of the foremost experts in drumming claim that certain rhythms can alter the state of one's consciousness? **Mickey Hart, drummer for the Grateful Dead, has traveled the world researching the power of drums. In his book Drumming at the Edge of Magic he observes: "Everywhere you look on the planet people are USING DRUMS TO ALTER CONSCIOUSNESS. ... I've discovered, along with many others, the extraordinary power of music, particularly percussion, to influence the human mind and body. . . . There have been many times when I've felt as if the drum has carried me to an open door into another world."**
 - f. Why did the Howard Hanson, who directed the prestigious Eastman School of Music for 40 years, say: "Music can be philosophical or orgiastic. it has powers for evil as well as for good"?
 - g. Why did the world famous conductor Leonard Bernstein say that “music is a language that reaches the heart.”?

- h. Why does the bible specify that believers should sing a certain kind of music? "speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the lord" (Ephesians 5:19).
- i. If all musical styles are neutral, THAT MEANS THAT THE DEVIL HASN'T CORRUPTED MUSIC. Such an idea is nonsensical. The devil hates God and has attempted to corrupt everything that God has created. Music is one of the most powerful influences in society. To think that the Devil has not corrupted music to his own wicked purposes and for the enticement of fallen man is contrary to everything the Bible teaches us.

4. We conclude that music is not "neutral" or "amoral." Music is a language, and in the Christian realm the message of the music must match the message of the lyrics.

B. Music affects _____ living thing – Rock Music effects living things **WRONGLY!!!**

- 1. It's effect on Mice
- 2. Its Effect on Plants
- 3. It's effect on Chicken and Livestock
- 4. It's effect on People

III. The High Value of the “Older” Songs

- A. Hymns are a unity of voices
- B. Everyone may not sing well, but they sing from the heart.
- C. It's not the instruments that's important per se, but congregational singing makes sure the instruments don't get in the way of true worship.

IV. Hymns to Know

A. There's Room At The Cross for You.

- 1. Words & Music by Ira R. Stanphill 1914-1994
- 2. Out of the varied experiences of a fruitful life have come the many moving hymns of Ira Stanphill. As a child he traveled by covered wagon from Arkansas to New Mexico, then later moved to Oklahoma and Kansas. Saved at the age of 12, Stanphill began preaching at 22 in revival meetings and later served pastorates in Florida, Pennsylvania, and Texas. At 17 he wrote his first gospel song and traveled for several years with evangelists, playing the piano, organ, ukulele, and accordion.
- 3. Mr. Stanphill began to write his own gospel hymns, and he employed the unusual practice of creating a text from titles suggested from the congregation during a service. He would explain: "The basic reason I have written songs is that I love God and Christ has loved me.



There's Room At the Cross for You

There's a room at the cross for you
 There's a room at the cross for you
 Though millions have come
 There's still room for one
 Yes, there's room at the cross for you

Chorus:
 The cross upon which Jesus died
 Is a shelter in which we can hide
 And its grace so free is sufficient for me
 And deep is its fountain; as wide as the sea

Though millions have found Him a friend
 And have turned from the sins they have sinned
 The Saviour still waits
 To open the gates
 And welcome a sinner before its to late

Chorus
 The hand of my Saviour is strong
 And the love of my Saviour is long
 Through sunshine or rain
 Through loss or in gain
 The blood flows from Calvary to cleanse every stain

Chorus

Most of my songs are the outgrowth of real experiences with Christ. I think they appeal to people because I have had trials, heartaches, and sorrow in my own life, and I know what I write about."

4. "Room at the Cross" was a title suggested to Ira in 1946 at one of his meetings. He wrote it on a scrap of paper, which he found in his pocket after returning home. Impressed with the title, he quickly wrote both words and music as they appear today. Only eternity will reveal the number who have been directed to Christ through this one gospel hymn that reminds us that there is always room at the cross for one more sinner.

B. I Am So Glad That our Father in Heaven – **Jesus Loves Even Me.**



1. Written by P.P. Bless,
2. "I think it was in June, 1870, that 'Jesus loves [even] me ' was written.

Mr. and Mrs. Bliss were at the time members of my family, at 43 South May Street, Chicago. One morning Mrs. Bliss came down to breakfast, and said, as she entered the room: 'Last evening Mr. Bliss had a tune given him that I think is going to live and be one of the most used that he has written. I have been singing it all the morning to myself, and cannot get it out of my mind.' She then sang over to us the notes of 'Jesus loves [even] me.' The idea of Mr. Bliss in writing it was that the peace and comfort of a Christian were not founded upon his loving Christ, but upon Christ's love to him, and that to occupy the mind with Christ's love would produce love and consecration in keeping with Romans 5:5: "...the love of God [to us] is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." This view of gospel truth was at this time being very preciously brought to the souls of believers in Chicago by the preaching of Moorhouse and Mr. Moody and by the Dublin tracts and English commentaries upon gospel truth, which, through Mr. Moody, began to be

3. Mr. Sankey had a beautiful experience with this song. A little girl, a member of his singing-class, lay dying, and as he was talking with her one day she said, "Don't you remember when you were teaching us to sing, 'I am so glad that Jesus loves me,' you told

Jesus Loves Even Me

I am so glad that our Father in Heav'n
Tells of His love in the Book He has giv'n;
Wonderful things in the Bible I see,
This is the dearest, that Jesus loves me.

Refrain
*I am so glad that Jesus loves me,
Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me.
I am so glad that Jesus loves me,
Jesus loves even me.*

Though I forget Him, and wander away,
Still He doth love me wherever I stray;
Back to His dear loving arms I do flee,
When I remember that Jesus loves me.
Refrain

Oh, if there's only one song I can sing,
When in His beauty I see the great King,
This shall my song through eternity be,
"Oh, what a wonder that Jesus loves me!"
Refrain

Jesus loves me, and I know I love Him;
Love brought Him down my poor soul to redeem;
Yes, it was love made Him die on the tree;
Oh, I am certain that Jesus loves me!
Refrain

If one should ask of me, how can I tell?
Glory to Jesus, I know very well!
God's Holy Spirit with mine doth agree,
Constantly witnessing Jesus loves me.
Refrain

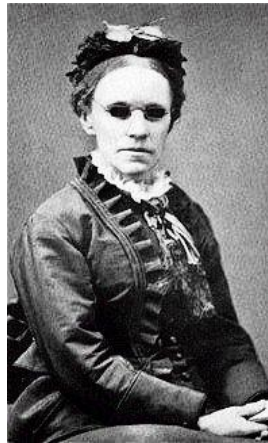
In this assurance I find sweetest rest,
Trusting in Jesus, I know I am blessed;
Satan, dismayed, from my soul now doth flee,
When I just tell him that Jesus loves me.
Refrain

us that if we only gave our hearts to Him He would love us? and I did give my heart to Him." Mr. Sankey added, "What that little dying girl said to me helped to cheer me on more than anything I had heard before, because she was my first convert."

4. A missionary of the American Sunday School Union once sang that song in a meeting he was conducting in a small town in Missouri, where he had just organized a Sunday school. At the close of the song the missionary asked: "Are you glad? If not, why not?" On this a young man rushed up to the missionary, threw his arms about him, and said: "O, that song! I could not keep away from it, and it has saved me."

C. **Rescue the Perishing.**

1. Words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
2. Music by William H. Doane, 1832-1915
3. Fanny Crosby, the blind American poetess, has often been called the queen of gospel song writers.



Although she did not begin writing gospel songs until she was forty-four years of age, from her radiant heart and prolific pen flowed more than 8,000 gospel hymns before her home-going at the age of ninety-five, on February 12, 1915. The authoress has left the following account of the writing of this hymn:

4. It was written in the year 1869. Many of my hymns were written after experiences in New York mission work. This one was thus written. I was addressing a large company of working men one hot summer evening, when the thought kept forcing itself on my mind that some mother's boy must be rescued that night or not at all. So I made a pressing plea that if there was a boy present who had wandered from his mother's home and teaching, he should come to me at the end of the service. A young man of eighteen came forward and said, "Did you mean me? I promised my mother to meet her in heaven, but as I am now living that will be impossible." We prayed for him and he finally arose with a new light in his eyes and exclaimed in triumph, "Now I can meet my mother in heaven, for I have found God." A few days before, Mr. Doane had sent me a theme for a new song, "Rescue the Perishing," based on Luke 14:23. While I sat in the mission that evening, the line came to me "Rescue the perishing, care for the dying." I could think of nothing else that night. When I arrived home, I went to work on the hymn at once, and before I retired it was ready for the melody. The song was first published in 1870 in Doane's Songs of Devotion.
5. This hymn, like so many of Fanny Crosby's soul-stirring songs, has been greatly used of God to bring conviction of repentance to many. Ira Sankey, who used this hymn continually in his evangelistic campaigns with D.L. Moody, tells this story in his book *My Life and the Story of the Gospel Hymn: On a stormy night a middle-aged man staggered into the Bowery Mission. He was intoxicated, his face unwashed and unshaved, with*

Rescue the Perishing

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;
Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen,
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save.

Refrain

*Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
Jesus is merciful, Jesus will save.*

Though they are slighting Him, still He is waiting,
Waiting the penitent child to receive;
Plead with them earnestly, plead with them gently;
He will forgive if they only believe.

Refrain

Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more.

Refrain

Rescue the perishing, duty demands it;
Strength for thy labor the Lord will provide;
Back to the narrow way patiently win them;
Tell the poor wand'rer a Savior has died.

Refrain

clothes soiled and torn. He sank into a seat, and, gazing around, seemed to wonder what kind of place he had come to. "Rescue the Perishing" and other familiar gospel hymns were sung and seemed to interest him and to recall some memories of his youth long forgotten. As the leader of the meeting told the simple story of the Gospel and how the Lord had come to seek and to save sinners, the man listened eagerly. The leader in his younger days had been a soldier and had seen hard and active service. In the course of his remarks he mentioned several incidents which had occurred in his experience during the war, and he gave the name of the company in which he had served. At the close of the meeting the man staggered up to the leader and in a broken voice said:

6. "When were you in that company you spoke of?"
7. "Why all through the war," said the leader.
8. "Do you remember the battle of--?"
9. "Perfectly."
10. "Do you remember the name of the captain of your company at that time?"
11. "Yes, his name was--."
12. "You are right! I am that man. I was your captain. Look at me today, and see what a wreck I am. Can you save your old captain? I have lost everything I had in the world through drink and don't know where to turn."
13. He was converted that evening and was helped by his friend to a life of usefulness and respectability. The captain often retold the story of how God used his former soldier in a mission service to rescue his perishing soul.

D. Saved By the Blood.

1. Written by S. J. Henderson, 1902
2. Nothing seems to known about this man!
3. But GOD knows him, and we sure do appreciate his hymn!

Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!
 Now ransomed from sin and a new work begun,
 Sing praise to the Father and praise to the Son,
 Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Refrain
Glory, I'm saved! Glory, I'm saved!
My sins are all pardoned, my guilt is all gone!
Glory, I'm saved! Glory, I'm saved!
I am saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!
 The angels rejoicing because it is done;
 A child of the Father, joint heir with the Son,
 Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Refrain

Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!
 The Father He spake, and His will it was done;
 Great price of my pardon, His own precious Son;
 Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Refrain

Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!
 All hail to the Father, all hail to the Son,
 All hail to the Spirit, the great Three in One!
 Saved by the blood of the Crucified One!

Refrain

Hymnspiration

Why We Sing What We Sing!



A Brief Study of the Music of the Bible Believing Christian

Part Four – Taking the High Ground

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Taking the High Ground

Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 3:16; Deuteronomy 32:31

I. The Effect of Wrong Music on Christianity (1Cor 15:33)

A. The Rise of Modern Worldly styles of Music in Churches (From the Wikipedia)

1. Early Roots: Late '60s & Early '70s

- a. The term " music" did not come into use as a common expression until the mid-'90s. The phrase is really a progression from the original coined phrase of "praise music", which began appearing and being labelled as such during the early 1970s. This expression was an outgrowth of the music ministries that accompanied the *Jesus Movement* of the '70s through the US and especially as it originated from the Calvary Chapel churches throughout Southern California. The Jesus people also concurrently expanded the notion of popular Christian music with Jesus music, which eventually became known as CCM (Contemporary Christian Music).
- b. Much of the original praise music was itself heavily inspired by a series of then "contemporized" church songs written from the lyrics of the Bible, called "Scripture in Song". The Calvary Chapel music became known as Maranatha! Music.

2. Expanding into the Church: The '80s

- a. Towards the late '70s and at the start of the '80s, another southern California church based music group began expanding in popularity - Vineyard Music (Charismatic doctrines). Springing up from the music ministries of the Vineyard churches, they reflected very similar style and lyrical content as the early Calvary Chapel/Marantha Music song content, but began to label their songs as "worship songs". In mid '80s other companies sprang up to meet the needs of the quickly modernizing church. Musical tastes and styles were rapidly changing as the church **struggled to close a gap of nearly fifty years from the modern music of the culture**. The '70s, '80s and '90s saw the church close that gap with increasing attentiveness to the modern sounds and expressions.
- b. In 1987, a music ministry that birthed "Hosanna Music" began to expand. Originally, as direct mail club, eventually changing its name to Integrity Music, they branded the phrase "praise worship" into their products, solidifying the name for many church music lovers. Over the next 5-10 years, songwriters and worship leaders helped fill American churches with new choruses that became basis of the Integrity song catalog. (This was not because of the need for song, but in order to "tap into" the money market that was emerging in the churches.)

3. Modernization of Sound & Style: The '90s

New styles of worship music have been emerging and becoming popular, such as the intimate or deep worship style, which is used to denote more of a quiet type of worship music. There is also acoustic worship, which relies on acoustical instruments only without electronic instruments such as electric guitars.

4. Popularity & Commercialization: 2000 and beyond

The popularity of worship music has grown tremendously since the year 2000, and has seen the release of many new worship music albums by both major record companies and independent labels. This explosion in the Christian music market has brought worship music to the forefront, and no longer relegated for congregational singing only.

B. The Main Issue has been the modern merger of Rock Music with Christianity

1. CCM is AGAINST _____ (by David Cloud) – see 1Cor 1:21
 - a. Steven Curtis Chapman says he tries to communicate a Biblical world view in a way that **WILL NOT BE "ABRASIVELY PREACHY"** (Huntsville Times, Oct. 30, 1994). He says his quest for relevance has shown that the best way to communicate his faith is "not to preach fire and brimstone."
 - b. The lyrics to Donna Summer's music is described as being **"UNPREACHILY AS POSSIBLE, the approach most likely to win the attention of an intelligent non-Christian audience"** (Contemporary Christian Music Magazine, Oct. 1984, p. 40).
 - c. Randy Stonehill says: **"I DON'T WANT TO PREACH AT PEOPLE. What I want to do is communicate the truth in the most compelling, fresh, and challenging way I can. I just want to be the best songwriter and performer, unto God, that I can be. That's the main thing"** ("Kicking Around with Uncle Rand," Christian Music Review, April 1991).
 - d. Michael W. Smith, one of the most popular Contemporary Christian Musicians, plainly admits that he is not preachy. **"MY SONGS ARE NOT PREACHY -- at all..."** (Michael McCall, Contemporary Christian, June 1986, p. 19). Smith described his non-judgmental philosophy in an interview in the May 1998 issue of CCM Magazine.
 - e. In reviewing Steve Taylor's music, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer noted that **"THERE IS LITTLE PREACHING IN HIS SONGS. Most of them are metaphoric story-songs written from a Christian perspective"** (Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Oct. 11, 1984). Taylor admits that people like his concerts because there is no preaching: "Our concerts attract people because THEY KNOW THEY WON'T BE PREACHY or insult their intelligence" (Peters Brothers, What About Christian Rock, p. 138). Taylor was quoted as saying: **"I DON'T THINK PEOPLE REALLY LIKE TO BE PREACHED AT. One of the reasons Jesus was so effective is because he told parables. I think it's INSULTING TO PEOPLE'S INTELLIGENCE TO PREACH AT THEM. No one likes to be told what to believe"** (Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Oct. 11, 1984).
 - f. CCM writer/performer Wayne Watson says: **"I won't write a song that says, 'You better get right with God.' From my own experience I find that way sometimes makes people defensive"** (Wayne Watson, Christian Activities Calendar, Spring/Summer 1989, p. 11). This is not how the Apostles and early Christians looked at things. They did not appear to mind making people defensive, because they preached boldly against sin and called upon people to repent. Preaching about God's holiness and man's sinfulness has always made people defensive. By the way, this is why the faithful Christians through the centuries have been hated, scorned, persecuted, and martyred. The Word of God has always been offensive and divisive. The only person who can avoid making people defensive and offending people is the person who refuses to obey God's command to preach the truth to a crooked and perverse generation (Luke 24:46-48; Ephesians 5:11; Philippians 2:15,16).
 - g. P.O.D. (Payable on Death), a hard rock group from California, also subscribes to the positive-only philosophy: An interviewer with Pollstar observed: **"While THEY DON'T PREACH or try to ram their spirituality down anyone's throat, they hope that their positive message will have an influence on rock fans"** (Pollstar, March 20, 2000).
 - h. In a 1987 interview with CCM Magazine, the late Rich Mullins, popular CCM writer/performer said that he was **"really sick of all this heavy-handed Christianity,"** that **MUSICIANS "SHOULD STOP PREACHING unless that's what God has called them to"** (CCM Magazine, Apr 1987, p. 12). Yet every Christian has a responsibility before God to proclaim the Word of God to this lost world.
2. All of this is rebellion against the Word of God, because _____ is God's ordained way of proclaiming the truth (not singing). The words "preach" and "preaching" are mentioned 141 times in the New Testament. Jesus Christ was a preacher. John the Baptist was a preacher. The Apostles were preachers. A chief characteristic of the apostasy of the end times is to turn away one's ears from the preaching of God's Word

3. Here's a short list of some so-called Christian Contemporary performers who sing "worldly-secular-rock" songs.

- a. Amy Grant "PLAYS" Joni Mithchell songs (a spiritual medium)
- b. Petra "PLAYS" Argent (ditto KISS)
- c. DC talk "PLAYS" Doobie Brothers, Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, Nirvana, REM, et. al.
- d. 77's "PLAYS" Led Zeppelin.
- e. Point of Grace "PLAYS" Earth, Wind and Fire
- f. Jars of Clay "PLAYS" Ozzy Osbourne
- g. Holy Soldier "PLAYS" Rolling Stones
- h. Rachel, Rachel "PLAYS" Kansas
- i. Deliverance "PLAYS" Black Sabbath



Michael W. Smith
Notice how he spelled his name backwards?

C. "When Christian music carries the beat, instrumentation, and exact sounds of the lost crowd, it results in confusion and shame... It is shameful to use musicians who in shallow songs daze instead of praise, who entertain instead of train... They transfer the worship owed to Christ to 'concert hopping', money-hungry entertainers who have never left, the world far enough behind to stop sounding like it..." (*Shame*, Dr. Hal Webb, pp. 2,4,6)

D. **Some CCM Words and Music Examples** *"For their rock is not as our Rock..." Dt 32:31*

<p>Michael W. Smith – “Draw Me Close”</p> <p>Draw me close to you Never let me go I lay it all down again To hear you say that I'm your friend You are my desire No one else will do Cause nothing else can take your place To feel the warmth of your embrace Help me find the way Bring me back to you</p> <p>You're all I want You're all I've ever needed You're all I want Help me know you are near</p>	<p>Michael W. Smith's song "Love Me Good"</p> <p>Sometimes I feel like this world Is just one big, gigantic merry-go round You gotta hold on tight Or you get hurled thru the air Yea, life is a 3 ring circus With clowns and freaks and camels and such And you never know when you might be attacked by the bears Give me love, give me love Love me good</p>
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<p>Let My Life Be Worship by James Moore - Copyright © 2006</p> <p>Intro: Let my life be worship, unto You May Your name be glorified Through all I say and do</p> <p>Chorus: Hallelujah You are worthy So I will lift my voice Let my life be worship And my praises bring You joy</p> <p>Let my life be worship, unto You I found my purpose When my sins were removed</p>	<p>Flame Within My Soul (Fire Within Me) by James Moore - © 2005 James Moore</p> <p>I need Your fire within me I'm tired of being cold Come and fill me with Your touch Light a flame within my soul</p> <p>I need Your fire within me Without You I'm alone Come and fill me with Your touch Light a flame within my soul</p> <p>I need Your fire within me Your Spirit makes me whole Come and fill me with Your touch Light a flame within my soul</p>
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Delirious, Inside Outside	Delirious, Everyone Knows
<p>Inside outside, under my skin Never ending love I don't know where it begins? I don't know where it ends, I don't know how high I don't know how deep, I don't know how wide Outside inside around the world Never ending love envelops me like a cloud I feel you in front, I feel you behind I feel you up above, And I feel you at the side</p> <p>And you, you're all over me, you're all over me Your banner is over me, I give it all 'cos</p> <p>You still captivate me, fascinate me You still captivate me, saturate me</p>	<p>Love grows stronger When you give it away I'm holding on to see the sunrise, your eyes</p> <p>You have this wonder and it's beautiful It makes my face shine like the sunrise, your eyes Time to realise</p> <p>It was love that saved us and love will save again Only love can save us and love will save again</p> <p>Everyone knows that this fire grows And I'm a, a man who knows where this fire glows</p> <p>I love to hear you singing Sweet redemption songs Your face is brighter than the Sunrise, your eyes, time to realise It was love that saved us, and love will save again Only love can save us, and love will save again</p>

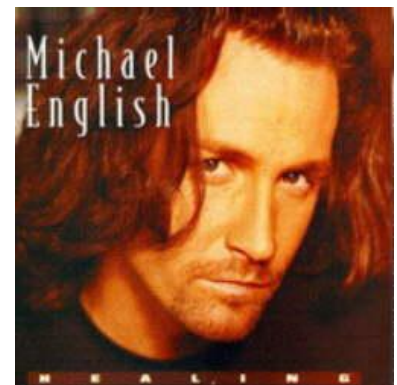


Payable on Death (P.O.D.)
 Their rap album, "Testify"



Who is the REAL Michael English?

In 1994, Michael English swept the Gospel Music Association's Dove awards, winning six awards, including the prestigious "artist of the year". A few days later, he confessed to an affair with Marabeth Jordon of the Christian rock trio First Call. Michael is now opening for the secular rock band Foreigner, with songs like, "Hot Blooded" and "Dirty White Boy".



Robert Sweet of Stryper

Tim Gaines of Stryper

Stryper – this group sings blasphemous words, and boasts effeminate looks! Yet they are loved by “christians” who could care less about whether their music was alright with God or not! Both people in the pictures are MALES!!! Puke!

- E. **Principle:** Don't try and allow for worldly music in your *private* life and try and hold to spiritual music in your spiritual life – that's hypocrisy (that's why the modern musicians have instead MERGED them into Christian Rock, and Christian Jazz)!

1. My body is the Temple of the _____ – a place of worship 24/7
2. My ears are gates that allow things into my memory and thought patterns
3. My eyes are gates that also allow things into my memory and thought patterns
4. I cannot go to Church on a Sunday, and to a Pub on Friday
5. I cannot be an angry man all week, and then a sweet man on Sunday
6. I am called to be holy in all manner of conversation – lifestyle (1Peter 1:15).

II. What's a Christian to Do?

- A. **Repent.** See Rock Music, and Christian Rock Music as RUBBISH from hell!
- B. **Break away from the dominion of that rubbish** (1Cor 6:12). "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the UNCLEAN thing; and I will receive you" (2Cor 6:17)
- C. **Take back the high ground** – sing songs that are NOT like the world!!! Write songs that are truly different than the world, and will "minister GRACE unto the hearers!"

III. Taking Back the Higher Ground

- A. CHRISTIAN MUSIC IS A NEW SONG — NOT AN OLD SONG! For a Christian, "old things are passed away; behold, all things are become **NEW**" and that includes our music!
 1. Psalm 40:1-3 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a NEW SONG in my mouth, even PRAISE unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.
 2. Psalm 144:9 I will sing a NEW SONG unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee.
 3. Psalm 149:1 Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a NEW SONG, and his praise in the congregation of saints.
- B. Fanny Crosby is the greatest hymn writer that ever lived, writing over 9,000 songs! Before Fanny got saved, at 45 years old, she wrote many secular songs. But after she got saved — things were different. . . Here's what Fanny said about mixing Christian and worldly music:
 1. "Sometimes I need to reject the music proposed for my songs because the musicians misunderstand that the Fanny Crosby who once wrote for the people in the saloons has merely changed the lyrics. Oh my no. The church must never sing it's songs to the melodies of the world." (Danny Castle, video "What's Wrong with Christian Rock")
 2. And do you know why Fanny Crosby said that — because Fanny got saved! And God "hath put a NEW SONG in my mouth, even PRAISE unto our God" inside the NEW Fanny Crosby! Fanny Crosby wrote over 9,000 songs to the Lord!

Praise Him! praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
 SING, O Earth, His wonderful love proclaim!
 Hail Him! Hail Him! Highest archangels in Glory;
 Strength and honor give to His holy name!
 Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,
 In His arms He carries them all day long;
 Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of His excellent greatness;
 Praise Him! Praise Him! Ever in joyful SONG!

Fanny J. Crosby

- C. How different are today's CCM performers. They copy the world's tunes. Many try to "crossover" into the worldly music world. They copy the world's looks and "hip-hop" language. They fellowship with the world. They even play the world's songs – even some of the most anti-Christ, Satanic songs available!

IV. Hymns to Know

A. Just As I Am, 1836

1. Words by Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871
Music by William Bradbury, 1816-1868
2. The text was born within the soul of an invalid woman who wrote these words out of intense feelings of uselessness and despair.
3. Charlotte Elliott was born in Clapham, England, on March 18, 1789. As a young person she lived a carefree life, gaining popularity as a portrait artist and writer of humorous verse. By the time she was thirty, however, her health began to fail rapidly, and soon she became a bedridden invalid for the remaining years of her life. With her failing health came great feelings of despondency. In 1822 a noted Swiss evangelist, Dr. Caesar Malan, visited the Elliott home in Brighton, England. His visit proved to be a turning point in Charlotte's life. In counselling Miss Elliott about her spiritual and emotional problems, Dr. Malan impressed upon her this truth, "You must come just as you are, a sinner, to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." Throughout the remainder of her life, Miss Elliott celebrated every year the day on which her Swiss friend had led her to a personal relationship with Christ, for she considered it to be her spiritual birthday. Although she did not write her text for this hymn until 1836, fourteen years after her conversion experience, it is apparent that she never forgot the words of her friend, for they form the very essence of this hymn.
4. In all, Charlotte Elliott wrote approximately 150 hymns.



Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou biddest me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

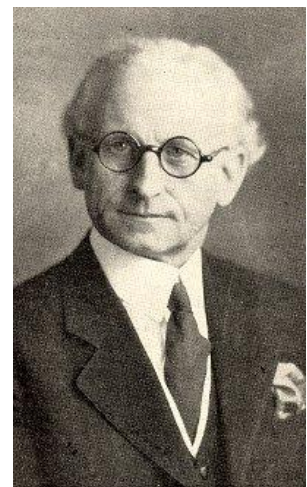
Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot;
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown
Hath broken every barrier down;
Now, to be Thine, yes, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

B. The Old Rugged Cross, 1913

1. Words and Music by George Bennard, 1873-1958
2. Seldom can a song leader suggest a time for favorites from any congregation without receiving at least one request for "The Old Rugged Cross." This gospel hymn, a sentimental favorite of Christians and unsaved alike, was written by George Bennard in 1913. It is generally conceded to be the most popular of all twentieth century hymns.
3. George Bennard was born in Youngstown, Ohio, but his parents soon moved to Albia, Iowa, and later to the town of Lucas in the same state. It was here that young George made his personal acceptance of Christ as his Savior. Following the death of his father before George was sixteen years of age, he entered the ranks of the Salvation Army. Bennard and his first



wife served for a period of time as officers in this organization. Consequently, Bennard was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church, where his devoted ministry was highly esteemed. For some time he was busily involved in conducting revival services, especially throughout the states of Michigan and New York. One time, after returning to Michigan, he passed through a trying experience which caused him to reflect seriously about the significance of the cross and what the Apostle Paul meant when he spoke of entering into the fellowship of Christ's suffering. As Bennard contemplated these truths, he became convinced that the cross was more than just a religious symbol but rather the very heart of the gospel. George Bennard has left the following account regarding the writing of this hymn: The inspiration came

to me one day in 1913, when I was staying in Albion, Michigan. I began to write "The Old Rugged Cross." I composed the melody first. The words that I first wrote were imperfect. The words of the finished hymn were put into my heart in answer to my own need. Shortly thereafter it was introduced at special meetings in Pokagon, Michigan on June 7, 1913. The first occasion where it was heard outside of the church at Pokagon was at the Chicago Evangelistic Institute. There it was introduced before a large convention and soon it became extremely popular throughout the country.

4. Shortly after writing this hymn, George Bennard sent a manuscript copy to Charles Gabriel, one of the leading gospel hymn composers of that era. Gabriel's prophecy, "You will certainly hear from this song," was soon realized as "The Old Rugged Cross" became one of the most widely published songs, either sacred or secular, in this country. Bennard continued his evangelistic ministries for forty additional years following the writing of this hymn. He wrote other favorite gospel hymns, but none ever achieved the response of "The Old Rugged Cross." On October 9, 1958, at the age of eighty-five, Bennard exchanged his "cross for a crown." He spent the last years of his life by the "side of the road," a few miles north of Reed City, Michigan. Near this home there still stands a twelve foot high cross with the words, "'The Old Rugged Cross'-Home of George Bennard, composer of this beloved hymn." Although we do not worship the cross but rather the Christ of the cross, one cannot ponder the truths of Christ's atonement without a keen awareness of the centrality of the cross in God's plan of redemption for lost mankind.

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Chorus:
So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
'Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

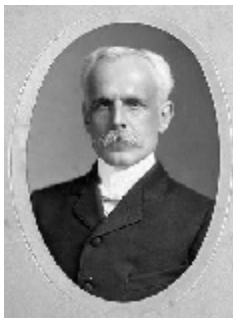
O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To pardon and sanctify me.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear.
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away.
Where His glory forever I'll share.

C. Trust and Obey, 1887

1. Words: John Sammis, 1887.
2. Music: Daniel Towner
3. This song gives a simple, clear explanation of living the Christian life. The title expression was used in a testimony meeting, following an evangelistic crusade in Brockton, Massachusetts, by Dwight L. Moody (a powerful evangelist of that day). A young man stood to speak, and it soon be-came clear he knew little Christian doctrine. But he finished by saying, "I'm not quite sure—but I'm going to trust, and I'm going to obey." Daniel Towner, who was in the meeting, jotted down the words, and gave them to John Sammis, who developed the lyrics from them.



V. Next Week – Using Music Rightly

- A. Review and Concluding Thoughts
- B. A Look at Other Music and how to judge it
- C. We will answer some questions
- D. We will sing some more!
 1. Some Psalms
 2. A few more Hymns
 3. Some Spiritual Songs

Trust and Obey

When we walk with the Lord
 in the light of His Word,
 What a glory He sheds on our way!
 While we do His good will,
 He abides with us still,
 And with all who will trust and obey.

Chorus
 Trust and obey, for there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus,
 but to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise,
 not a cloud in the skies,
 But His smile quickly drives it away;
 Not a doubt or a fear,
 not a sigh or a tear,
 Can abide while we trust and obey.
 To Chorus

Not a burden we bear,
 not a sorrow we share,
 But our toil He doth richly repay;
 Not a grief or a loss,
 not a frown or a cross,
 But is blessed if we trust and obey.
 To Chorus

But we never can prove
 the delights of His love
 Until all on the altar we lay;
 For the favor He shows,
 for the joy He bestows,
 Are for them who will trust and obey.
 To Chorus

Then in fellowship sweet
 we will sit at His feet.
 Or we'll walk by His side in the way.
 What He says we will do,
 where He sends we will go;
 Never fear, only trust and obey.
 To Chorus

Hymnspiration

Why We Sing What We Sing!



A Brief Study of the Music of the Bible Believing Christian

Part Five – Using Might Rightly

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Concluding Session – Using Music Rightly

How Christians Can Best Use Their Need to Sing

Psalm 50:23; 1Peter 1:15

I. Review the Principles of Music from Scripture

- A. Christians are Peculiar (different) from the world – even in our MUSIC (1Peter 2:9)
- B. We are commanded to TEST everything we do by the word of God, not by our feelings (1Thes 5:21,22; 1John 4:1)
- C. Who was in charge of music in heaven at first (Ezek 28:13)? _____. Shouldn't HIS tactics be worrisome when it comes to MUSIC in a believer's life? _____
- D. What are the three types of music that a Christian should be listening to (Col 3:16)
 - 1. _____ - Scripture put to music that affect the soul
 - 2. _____ - Songs in honour of God that affect the life of the believer (the flesh)
 - 3. _____ - Songs that affect the spirit
- E. The most important part of the music we listen to is the WORDS (Col 3:16; Jude 1:3). They need to be the dominate part of our music!
- F. Modern Christian Music (CCM) downplays the words of their music (just repetitious simple phrases that “seem” to be Christian) and instead, emphasizes the music itself – anything that just emphasizes the music instead of the message is suspect and should NOT be accepted as either godly or spiritual (1Cor 2:4; 1:21).
- G. Our emotions most of all must be anchored to TRUTH instead of just feelings (3 John 1:4)
- H. What is the test a believer can put any music to, to tell if it is appropriate for them to listen to?
 - 1. Does it have a dominate _____ – usually using drums or other percussion instrument?
 - 2. Is it proclaiming un-Scriptural words, or promoting un-Scriptural practices? Resulting in depression, rebellion, or madness?
 - 3. It is Sensual (fleshly, carnal) in its feeling, instead of having a spiritual air? The goal of modern music is sex – so the music is “sensual,” fleshly (James 3:14,15)
- I. Music is a Language all its own – a UNIVERSAL language at that
- J. Do modern musicians worry about what their music is “saying” to this generation? _____
- K. In this world, there are always two sides to everything – the _____, and the _____ (Ezek 44:23), and it is the job of pastors to make sure believers know the difference and to stay _____ (2Cor 6:17).
- L. Music effects everything – so, for the right effect on our lives, we need the right kind of music
- M. Modern Christian Music has been heavily influenced by the world's music styles – all within just the last ____ years: Christian Rock, Christian Jazz, Heavy Metal Christian Rock, and milder types that are now in almost every evangelical church today!
- N. But that music and those musicians are against **strong preaching** (cf 1Cor 1:21); and against **separation** from the world (i.e., they love to listen to and play the world's songs)!
- O. Our bodies, minds, hearts make up the TEMPLE of the Holy Ghost, where WORSHIP is supposed to take place – you can't enjoy the world's music in a Temple that is wholly dedicated to the Lord!
- P. **CCM has not built Christianity – it has split and splintered it – only the Bible builds!**

II. What's a Christian to Do?

- A. _____. See Rock Music, and Christian Rock Music as RUBBISH from hell!
- B. **Break away from the dominion of that rubbish** (1Cor 6:12). “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye _____, saith the Lord, and touch not the UNCLEAN thing; and I will receive you” (2Cor 6:17).

- C. **Take back the high ground** – sing songs that are NOT like the world!!! Write songs that are truly different than the world, and will “minister GRACE unto the hearers!”

III. Christians Have a Need to Sing

- A. It is built-in to us. It’s the _____ song that God gives us at Salvation (Ps 40:1-3)
- B. Because we NEED to sing, Satan will try one of the following:
 1. Give us a wrong song to sing – sex-music (Rock music, Jazz music)
 2. Give us a wrong way to sing – swaying, jumping, “performing”
 3. Convince us that Christian singing must sound like the world
 4. Convince us that we CAN’T sing!
 5. Bore us with thoughtful songs that don’t have a BEAT!
- C. Music is NOT about preferences, but _____, strong choices that we are being called to make! Will we passively, and apathetically listen to and sing along with:
 1. **Eminem** “I'm not sayin' I'm the perfect father, but the most important thing is to be there for my kids and raise them the right way.”
 2. **Michael Jackson** “Well they say the sky's the limit - And to me that's really true - But my friend you have seen nothing - Just wait 'til I get through... - Because I'm bad, I'm bad.”
 3. **Maddona** “I have the same goal I've had ever since I was a girl. I want to rule the world.”
 4. **P Diddy** (aka Puff Daddy) “I feel safe [wearing] white because, deep down inside, I'm an angel.”
 5. **Bob Dylan** “Being noticed can be a burden. Jesus got himself crucified because he got himself noticed. So I disappear a lot.”
 6. **Garth Brooks** “Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers.”
 7. **Shania Twain** “I don't want my body to be a distraction from my talent or my brain”
 8. **50 Cent** “Don't much good come from me, but my music is a gift given from God so I'm gonna use it.”
 9. **Snoop Dog** “So what if I'm smokin' weed onstage and doing what I gotta do? It's not me shooting nobody, stabbing nobody, killing nobody. It's a peaceful gesture and they have to respect that and appreciate that.”
 10. **Prince** “When one finds himself, one finds God. You find God, and you find yourself.”
 11. Or any number of 1,000 pop song wanna-be’s?

D. What’s Wrong With MOST Music Today?

1. The majority of the popular music has always been rejected by Christians – Christians are by nature VERY conservative! That’s why we are hated by the world!!!
2. Here is a list of some of the “kinds” of music available today.

African (Drum)	Heavy Metal (Drum)	Rave
Alternative Rock (Drum)	Hip Hop	Reggae
Big Band (Drum)	Jazz	Regional and Ethnic
Blues	Latin (Drum)	Religious
Cajun and Zydeco	Lounge	Rhythm and Blues
Celtic	Marching (Drum)	Rock (Drum)
Choral	Middle Eastern	Salsa
Classical	Military Bands and Music (Drum)	Samba (Drum)
Country (Drum)	Opera	Swing
Dance (Drum)	Polka	Techno
Disco (Drum)	Pop	Traditional Pop
Easy Listening	Progressive Rock Punk (Drum)	Vocal
Electronic	Ragtime	Worldbeat (Drum)
Folk	Rap (Drum)	

3. Examples of Mainly Wrong Music

- a. Rock Music – Heavy Metal, Rap, Samba, Punk, Disco, Rave
- b. Most Country and Western Music
- c. Celtic music because it is paganistic, and makes much use of the drum
- d. Blues and Jazz – sensual – a saxophone is pretty bad when played for sex
- e. Religious Music that is not godly and does not exalt Jesus Christ is bad!

IV. Here is the Christian's Conviction about Music:

- A. "I will NOT allow my heart or my mouth to sing the world's songs, or even Christian songs when they are put to music that carries the same beat, and has exact same sounds of the lost culture of today.
- B. I will never transfer to money-hungry entertainers the holy worship that I owe to Christ alone!
- C. My Lord deserves all my heart, and all my best, so I will not allow this world to soil it with its seemingly innocent music and lyrics that I now know to be both deceptive, and damaging to my spiritual life.
- D. I will instead worship my blessed Saviour and edify others with music and songs that are clearly Biblical in content, and mainly spiritual in emphasis, which means I will mainly sing and memorize Psalms, and Hymns, and Spiritual Songs."

V. What Music CAN a Christian Listen to? Some basic, general conclusions

- A. _____ Christian Songs – Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs
- B. Much of the _____ Music (see the list of some recommended classical musicians)
- C. _____ – Be careful though because much of the opera is just an older way of presenting life's issues without an answer and leaves people very depressed or
- D. _____ – this is a very dangerous area of music because it can feed too many dreams and thoughts that the Christian will find themselves in trouble with when they are lonely. The majority of these kind of songs are good for relationships – NOT for when you are lonely!!!
- E. Traditional _____ songs and _____ music
- F. _____ Songs – Patriotic Songs

VI. The Most Important Song Book in your Life – the Hymnal!

- A. The word *hymn* derives from Greek *hymnos* "a song of praise"
- B. Our Hymnal is a collection of over 500 Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs
- C. Listen to the kinds of song themes contained in our Hymnal... these are the themes of life

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Adoration, Praise and Worship of God | 14. Joy |
| 2. Assurance | 15. Love |
| 3. Atonement | 16. Loyalty |
| 4. The Blood | 17. Missions |
| 5. Christmas | 18. Peace |
| 6. Comfort | 19. Prayer |
| 7. The Second Coming of Christ | 20. Revival |
| 8. Christian Warfare | 21. Promises of God |
| 9. Courage | 22. Salvation and the New Birth |
| 10. Eternal Security | 23. Soul-Winning |
| 11. Faith | 24. Thankfulness |
| 12. Grace | 25. Trust |
| 13. Heaven | |

- D. It is quite a collection that no Christian home should be without!

VII. Hymns We Have Learned in this Study So far:

- A. **A Mighty Fortress is Our God**, by Martin Luther, 1524
- B. **Count Your Blessings**. Words by Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1856-1922; Music by Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921
- C. **Amazing Grace**, by John Newton, 1725-1807
- D. **How Great Thou Art**, by Pastor Carl Boberg, 1886
- E. **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**, Walter Smith, 1876
- F. **I Sing the Mighty Power of God**, Isaac Watts, 1715
- G. **And Can It Be**, by Charles Wesley, 1738
- H. **Arise My Soul**, by Charles Wesley, 1742
- I. **It is Well With My Soul**, by Horatio Spafford, 1873
- J. **Jesus Loves Me**. Words by Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915; Music by William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868
- K. **There's Room At The Cross for You**. Words & Music by Ira R. Stanphill 1914-1994
- L. **Jesus Loves Even Me**. Written by P.P. Bliss, 1870
- M. **Rescue the Perishing**. Words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 ; Music by William H. Doane, 1832-1915
- N. **Saved By the Blood**. Written by S. J. Henderson, 1902
- O. **Just As I Am**, Words by Charlotte Elliott, 1836
- P. **The Old Rugged Cross**, by George Bennard, 1913
- Q. **Trust and Obey**, John Jammis, 1887
- R. **There are at least 500 more to learn, memorize, and SING in praise and worship of the Lord**
- S. Remember, these were not written by just some musicians that sat in rooms trying to come up with some new pop single in order to sell worthless records – these were sold out Christians who so believed in the Person of Jesus Christ, and had gone through such deep valleys in their lives that ONLY the brightness of the love of Jesus Christ and the promises of His word could have gotten them through. Their words and music were out of the fiery furnace, and once learned, can transform the coldest of hearts still today!!!

VIII. Questions and Answers Time

Some Good Classical Music Composers to Know



Johann Sebastian Bach, German, 1685 - 1750

Famous works are the *Brandenburg Concerti*, the *Well-tempered clavier*, The art of fugue, his Mass in B-minor, and the St. Matthew Passion.



Ludwig van Beethoven, Austrian, 1770-1827. Became deaf in his later years and yet continued to compose awesome music!

Famous for his symphonies (like his 5th symphony), his violin concertos



Johannes Brahms, German 1833-1987

Brahms's major works include all four of his symphonies, *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, the two piano concerti, the violin concerto and the clarinet quintet.



Frederic Chopin, Polish, 1810-1849

A composer famed for his ability at the piano, who in turn wrote the vast majority of his music for that instrument.



Sir Edward William Elgar, England, 1857-1934

Elgar's most famous pieces are the *Pomp and Circumstance* marches (one of which became the hymn, *Land of Hope and Glory*), and the *Enigma Variations*.



George Frederic Handel, Germany (later England), 1685-1759

Pieces of his that are particular favourites of mine are his organ concerti, his *Water-music* and *Fireworks-music*, and **the Messiah**. The latter is probably his most famous work. It is a huge choral piece that includes the well-known *Hallelujah Chorus*.



(Franz) Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809

He wrote 104 symphonies, arguably creating the form as we understand it today. The last 12 of these are known as the *London symphonies*, being written on the occasion of two visits to London in the 1790s, and are very good. Haydn is also credited with the development of the string quartet into a form capable of real feeling and subtlety.



Gustav (Theodore) Holst, England, 1874-1934

Gustav Holst was an English composer of the same era as Elgar, but, like Pachelbel, is really only famous for one piece, his *Planets' Suite*. This is a series of seven "movements", one for each of the non-Earth planets known in Holst's day (i.e., all of the planets but Earth and Pluto).



Gustav Mahler, Austria, 1860-1911

Conductor of the Vienna Opera. Wrote several major symphonies.



(Jacob Ludwig) Felix Mendelssohn, German 1809-1847

Another composer who was famous as something of a child prodigy, He wrote five symphonies (the last of which, the *Reformation* symphony, I particularly recommend), a famous violin concerto and some famous theme music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (the *Wedding March* from this is often used at real weddings). Mendelssohn also wrote a number of religious works, including the *St. Paul* oratorio.



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Austria, 1756-1791

Major works would include his *Requiem*, the operas *Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni* and *Die Zauberflöte*, the clarinet concerto, the string quartets, the later piano concerti (nos. 20 onwards) and the later symphonies (numbers 36, 38, 39, 40 and 41).



Franz Peter Schubert, Austria, 1797-1828

Wrote a number of symphonies, piano sonatas, chamber music in general, including the famous *Trout Quintet*, operas (26 of them!).



Robert Alexander Schumann, Germany, 1810-1856

Wrote a great deal of music, including a piano concerto, four symphonies, song cycles, and a variety of chamber music. His third symphony (the "Rhenish") is known as the "Queen of Symphonies" (with Beethoven's ninth being the "King").



Dimitri Shostakovich, Russian, 1906-1975

All of his music that I have heard is full of feeling, though the feeling expressed is often bitterness, sadness, or sardonic "humour".



Jean Sibelius, Finland, 1865-1957

Finland's most famous composer. He wrote seven symphonies, a violin concerto and a number of suites for orchestra.



Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikovsky, Russian, 1840-1893

Tchaikovsky is probably most famous for ballet music (*The Nutcracker Suite*, *Swan Lake* and the like) and the *1812 Overture*.



Antonio Lucio Vivaldi, Italy, 1678-1741

He composed much of his work for the orchestra at the girl's orphanage in Venice where he was music master. His most famous work is undoubtedly the *Four seasons*, but his flute concerto *La Notte* is also well-known and very good listening.



Johan Pachelbel, Austrian, 1653-1706

Famous for writing Pastor's favourite Classical music piece, *The Canon!*

Helpful Music Resources

As a church, we try and provide many CD's and Tapes of godly Christian music for the Bible believer in our Bookstore. There are many other sources of music for the Christian, and below is just a sample of some of the places you can obtain more information on Biblical Christian music.

I. Hymn Stories – the stories behind the Hymns we sing. Most of these can be obtained through Amazon UK

- A. "**101 Hymn Stories**" by Kenneth Osbeck. **Kregel Publishers**, P.O. Box 2607, Grand Rapids, MI 49501, USA, 1982.
- B. "**101 More Hymn Stories**" by Kenneth Osbeck. **Kregel Publishers**, P.O. Box 2607, Grand Rapids, MI 49501, USA, 1982.
- C. **200 Amazing Hymn Stories** - http://www.tanbible.com/tol_sng/0tol_sng_0Menu.htm
- D. **Great Hymn Stories** - <http://www.blessedquietness.com/journal/housechu/storhym.htm>
- E. **Hymn History** - <http://www.crosswinds.net/~schfrs/hymns.htm>
- F. **Hymn Stories** - <http://www.stpetersnottingham.org/hymns.htm>

II. Music Websites

- A. The Cyber Hymnal - <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/>
- B. Hymn Lyrics, MP3's and Sheet Music - <http://www.hymnsite.com/>
- C. Midi files of Hymns to download onto your computer - <http://my.homewithgod.com/heavenlymidis/hymns.html>
- D. Great Place to order Godly Christian Music - <http://www.oldchristianmusic.com/>

III. Christian Radio on the Internet

- A. Old Christian Radio – live Christian Music played 24 hours over the internet - <http://www.oldchristianradio.com/>
- B. Grace Broadcasting Network – Live Christian radio - <http://www.wblwradio.com/>

IV. Places to Get Good Christian Music

- A. These are just some suggested places to get some music. You will find more selections as you go. Just remember that most places that sell Christian music today, do it for profit and will sell almost anything that is popular. Be careful what you order, and expect to be disappointed as a discerning Christian from time to time with the music that is out there.
- B. In Ireland
 1. Get them here in our **Bible Baptist Church Bookstore** – you can place an order for music CD's and Tapes with Pastor Craig
 2. Get them from **the Christian Bookshop** on Tucky Street in Cork
- C. From the U.K. **Penfold Book and Bible House**. PO Box 26, Bicester, Oxon, OX26 4GL, England, UK, Tel: +44 (0) 1869 249574 www.penfoldbooks.com
- D. From the U.S.
 1. **Christian Book Distributors** - www.christianbook.com
 2. **West Coast Baptist College** – www.strivingtogether.com
 3. **The Marshall Family** – great collection of music - www.johnmarshallfamily.com