

MUSIC AND WORSHIP

THE BIBLICAL PLACE OF MUSIC

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

~ Colossians 3:16

1. Music in Life and the Bible

- a. It says things words cannot, the universal language, it moves you, excites passions
- b. Singing, music, "merry making" is natural – a big part of life, culture, entertainment
- c. What does the Bible say about it?
 - i. Celebration of victory with music – 1 Sam 18:6
 - ii. Jehovah is their strength and song – Isa 12:2
 - iii. David appointed singers in the temple (with instruments!) 1 Ch 9:33, 15:16-22
 - iv. Solomon wrote 1005 songs – one is in the Bible as a book.
 - v. The prodigal son had music at his homecoming party – Luke 15:25-29
 - vi. Psalms contain all sorts of descriptions – Ps 135:3, Ps 147:1, Ps 150

2. Religion and Music

- a. 38% of people said good music or praise band was huge draw for choosing church
- b. "Praise and worship" – is 20-45 minutes of singing, music, and hand waving, right?
- c. **Worship** ~ *def*-Showing worth of adoration, respect, glory, and honor with our service
 - i. Old wedding vow: 'With this ring I thee wed, with my body I thee worship'
- d. Worship not just singing – Gen 22:5, devils? Mark 5:6-7, Matt 4:7-8
- e. Worship after the singing stopped - 2 Chron 29:28-29, after reading – Neh 8:4-8
- f. All commands under the law hung on worship – Deu 6:4-5, Mtt 22:40
- g. Worship requires understanding who and what you worship – John 4:20-24
- h. Many religions forbid music in the past – Muslims, Catholics, Calvin/Knox (instrument)

3. Paul's Statements on Music

- a. Worship is what happens without men's hands – Acts 17:24-25
- b. Worship God in the Spirit – Phil 3:3
- c. Eph 5:19-20 – Perhaps he was recalling Psa 92:1-3
- d. Col 3:16 – Psalms (kind), hymns (direction), spiritual songs (content)
 - i. Psalms = sung with instruments; hymn = praise to God; Spiritual = not flesh
- e. "one body" by singing together "making melody" – (eg. 2Chr 5:13)
- f. The function of the singing and music is 1) to deliver the word of Christ in you, 2) to teach and admonish
- g. This will require wisdom in our lyrics, it will require love and edification in the sounds we make, it requires consideration of others, and most of all a strength of heart with sound doctrine towards the God who gave us grace (not law)