

TIME REDEEMER WORKSHOP III: SINGING

May 30, 2021

...[REDEEMING] the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but

be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,

singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

giving thanks always and for everything

to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ... -- Ephesians 5:16-20

HISTORY

"...singing has great force and vigor to move and inflame the hearts of men to invoke and praise God [...] the practice of singing [...] is even in the homes and in the fields an incentive for us [...] to lift up our hearts to him, to console us by meditating upon his virtue, goodness, wisdom and justice [...] the Holy Spirit exhorts us so carefully throughout the Holy Scriptures to rejoice in God [...] all our joy is there reduced to its true end [...] our Lord, to distract us and withdraw us from the temptations of the flesh and of the world, presents us all possible means in order to occupy us in [...] spiritual joy [...] among the other things which are proper for recreating man and giving him pleasure, music is either the first, or one of the principal [...] It is true that every bad word perverts good manner, but when the melody is with it, it pierces the heart much more strongly, and enters into it; in a like manner as through a funnel, the wine is poured into the vessel; so also the venom and the corruption is distilled to the depths of the heart by the melody [...] What is there now to do? It is to have songs not only honest, but also holy, which will be like spurs to incite us to pray to and praise God, and to meditate upon his works in order to love, fear, honor and glorify him [...] when we have looked thoroughly, and searched here and there, we shall not find better songs nor more fitting for the purpose, than the Psalms of David, which the Holy Spirit spoke and made through him. And moreover, when we sing them, we are certain that God puts in our mouths these, as if he himself were singing in us to exalt his glory [...] the unique gift of man is to sing knowing that which he sings. After the intelligence must follow the heart and the affection, a thing which is unable to be except if we have the hymn imprinted on our memory, in order never to cease from singing." –John Calvin, **Introduction to the Psalter**

METER

Common Meter (CM – 8686) :

- Hymns:
 - Amazing Grace (NEW BRITAIN)
 - O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (AZMON)
 - O God Our Help in Ages Past (ST. ANNE)
- Christmas Carols:
 - Joy to the World (ANTIOCH) (technically 8686 with the last line repeated a few times)
 - While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night (technically 86866 – last line repeats)
- Popular Songs:
 - The House of the Rising Sun
 - Gilligan's Island
 - Semper Paratus (US Marines song – "From the Shores of Montezuma")

Common Meter Double (CMD – 86868686):

- Hymns:
 - I Sing the Mighty Power of God (ELLACOMBE)
- Christmas Carols:
 - It Came Upon The Midnight Clear (CAROL)

- Popular Songs:
 - Ghost Riders in the Sky

Short Meter (SM – 6686):

- Hymns:
 - Crown Him with Many Crowns (DIADEMATA, actually Short Meter Double: 66866686)

Long Meter (LM – 8888):

- Hymns:
 - The Doxology (OLD 100th)
 - Alleluia (ALLELUIA)
 - Jesus Shall Reign (DUKE STREET)

777777:

- Hymns:
 - For the Beauty of the Earth (DIX)
- Other:
 - Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

7676D:

- Christmas Carols:
 - Good King Wenceslas

8787D:

- Hymns:
 - ODE TO JOY
 - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (NETTLETON)
- Christmas Carols:
 - Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (HYFRYDOL)

888888:

- Christmas Carols:
 - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (VENI EMMANUEL)

10.10.10.10:

- Hymns:
 - Be Thou My Vision (SLANE)
 - Abide With Me (EVENTIDE)

11.11.11.11:

- Hymns:
 - To God Be the Glory (TO GOD BE THE GLORY)
 - My Jesus I Love Thee (GORDON)
- Christmas Carols:
 - Away in a Manger (AWAY IN A MANGER)