

<p><b>1 Timothy 3:16</b> And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:</p> <p>God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.</p>	<p><b>1 Timothy 3:16</b> Καὶ ὁμολογουμένως μέγα ἐστὶν τὸ τῆς εὐσεβείας μυστήριον·</p> <p>θεὸς (ὁς) ἐφανερώθη ἐν σαρκί, ἐδικαιώθη ἐν πνεύματι, ὤφθη ἀγγέλοις, ἐκηρύχθη ἐν ἔθνεσιν, ἐπιστεύθη ἐν κόσμῳ, ἀνελήφθη ἐν δόξῃ.</p>	<p><b>1 Timothy 3:16</b> Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:</p> <p>He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.</p>
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<h2>I Can Only Imagine</h2> <p><a href="#">MercyMe</a></p>	
<p>I can only imagine what it will be like When I walk, by your side I can only imagine what my eyes will see When you face is before me I can only imagine I can only imagine</p>	<p>Surrounded by You glory What will my heart feel Will I dance for you Jesus Or in awe of You be still Will I stand in your presence Or to my knees will I fall Will I sing hallelujah Will I be able to speak at all I can only imagine I can only imagine</p>
<p>I can only imagine when that day comes When I find myself standing in the Son I can only imagine when all I would do is forever Forever worship You I can only imagine I can only imagine</p>	<p>Surrounded by Your glory What will my heart feel Will I dance for You, Jesus Or in awe of you be still Will I stand in your presence Or to my knees will I fall Will I...</p>

<p>1 Arise, my soul, arise; shake off thy guilty fears; the bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears: before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands: my name is written on His hands.</p>	<p>2 He ever lives above, for me to intercede, His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead; His blood atoned for all our race, His blood atoned for all our race, and sprinkles now the throne of grace.</p>	<p>3 Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary; they pour effectual pray'rs, they strongly plead for me: "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"</p>
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<p>4 The Father hears Him pray, His dear anointed One; He cannot turn away the presence of his Son; His Spirit answers to the blood, His Spirit answers to the blood, and tells me I am born of God.</p>	<p>5 I now am reconciled; His pard'ning voice I hear; He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear; with confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh, and, "Father, Abba, Father," cry.</p>	
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## A TALE OF 3 SONGS 1 TIM.3:16

### 1<sup>st</sup> Song:

- A NT hymn
- Well recognized as a hymnic fragment / liturgical text
- Focus is:

Incarnation

Cross

Resurrection & the messengers (angels)

Gospel & the mission / missions

Faith alone in Christ alone

Ascent – back to the Father

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Song:

- Popular
- Winsome
- Happy
- Not singable for a congregation
- About me & my reactions / actions / feelings
- No discernable doctrine
- Highly individualistic → me & not us!
- Can be used / sung by most any religious group

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Song:

- Theology of song sounds like the theology of Romans, Galatians, John etc...
- All about what the Triune God has done and is doing
- Highly singable

For some, church music is only and always about taste / like / personal opinions....

I don't care to discuss that!

**Instead I want to discuss 3 moves / movements:**

### **I. A direct appeal to &/ attack upon the emotions**

**Romans 6:17** But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

**Psalm 143:5** I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.

**Jeremiah 15:16** Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

**Jeremiah 20:9** Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

**I would like to observe this from 2 angles:**

## 1. Atmosphere & technique

Let's note the movement over the last 100~ years:

→no song leader --→song leader --→theatrical song leader → worship leader → praise band  
→pyrotechnics / smoke / dance→→→→

<b>Watch / attend:</b>	
A political rally	
Pep rally	
boxing match	
3 ring circus / carnival	
Rock concert	
Etc...	<b>What do you <u>find</u> in all of them to one degree or another:</b> Stage focus Lighting A Barker... barking! High noise level Bodily movement Repetition Let's sing it again, louder, softer Just the altos / sopranos / tenors.... Percussion Heavy on the beat

## 2. Emotions:

Thoughts:

- All “worship” impacts the emotions
- The more modern form of “worship” appeals to / attacks the emotions directly
- But only certain emotions
- And no others - even if Biblical!

**Job 28:28** And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

**Psalm 111:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: **but** fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Proverbs 3:7** Be **not** wise in thine own eyes: **fear** the LORD, and **depart** from evil.

**Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

**Proverbs 15:33** The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

**Ecclesiastes 12:13** Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.** **Ecclesiastes 12:14** For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

**Deuteronomy 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: **Deuteronomy 6:5** And thou shalt **love** the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

**Mark 12:28** And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, **Which is the first commandment of all?** **Mark 12:29** And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: Mark 12:30** And thou shalt **love** the Lord thy God with **all** thy heart, and with **all** thy soul, and with **all** thy mind, and with **all** thy strength: this is the first commandment. **Mark 12:31** And the **second** is like, namely this, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.** There is none other commandment greater than these.

**Psalm 46:10** **Be still, and know that I am God:** I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

**Isaiah 30:7** For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: **therefore** have I cried concerning this, **Their strength is to sit still.**

**Isaiah 30:15** For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; **In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.**

- Rarely, if ever, stillness, fear, love, humility, obedience...!
- Never emotions that dampen the party atmosphere
- Always a direct appeal to &/ attack upon emotion – never an indirect appeal!

## II. A direct minimizing, / downplaying of doctrine!

This is not new (since minimally 1960s-1970s).

**Leave your doctrine at the door!**

**Love unites, doctrine divides!**

Today: emotions / music (called worship) unites **but** the songs must be doctrine-free &/ doctrinally-ambiguous.

Most great Christian songs / hymns cannot be sung, or can only be sung, with great difficulty by the unsaved!

Examples:

Amazing Grace

The Solid Rock

Arise my soul, Arise!

Once for all!

## III. A direct reversal of philosophy & / policy

Exodus 14 → 15

Judges 4 → 5

Christianity obviously has three parts:

		What we b Orthodoxy To k	Him!
How we w Orthopathy To l	Him!	How we l Orthopraxy To s & o	Him!

**What we read in the Scripture → we sing in our “worship” → & live out in our daily lives!!!**

# GATHERED, CORPORATE, PUBLIC WORSHIP MT. 25:30

From the 1600s until the late 1980s most Bible believing Baptist churches got it. Obviously, things didn't change in a moment.

- **1860s-1930s transition from Hymns to gospel songs**

**From** Watts & Wesley **to** Fanny & Francis...

**From** songs about \_\_\_\_\_ **to** songs about how \_\_\_\_\_ **about** \_\_\_\_\_

Not disastrous since most churches maintained a mixture

- **1870s-1930s Gospel singing & music from the Revivals & Revivalists**

Sentimental, sensational, sassy → often tinged / mixed with

Thankfully most of these songs were

Again, still a

Most of these songs were not included in

- **1940-1970s Youth for Christ, Singspiration, and Billy Graham**

Schmaltzy, often big bandish, frivolous music, often very poor music

**Always h** **!!!**

And the turn to pragmatism (whatever w \_\_\_\_\_ )

- **Late 1940s-1970s music of / by / for the youth...that was d** **!!!**

- **Late 1980s-2017 Bill Hybels & Rick Warren +++**

Brought the youth group to

Use the music you already like and listen to in church!

## Thoughts about GCP Worship:

### 1. This is not about p \_\_\_\_\_ pr \_\_\_\_\_ !

What you / I / we / they like! Or, what he / she likes!

**Ephesians 5:19** Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

### 2. The words are obviously e \_\_\_\_\_ and have first

### 3. The music is not non-essential and can never be n \_\_\_\_\_ !

**Ephesians 5:19** Speaking to yourselves in psalms (ψαλμοῖς) and hymns (ᾠμοὶς) and spiritual songs (ὧδαῖς πνευματικαῖς), singing (ᾄδοντες) and making melody (ψάλλοντες) in your heart to the Lord;

**Matthew 26:30** And when they had sung an hymn (ὕμνησαντες), they went out into the mount of Olives.

Each noun has a corresponding verb:

Psalms: ψαλμός, ψάλλω

Hymn: ᾠμος, ᾠμέω

Song: ᾠδή, ᾄδω

←-----Evangelical views of music today:-----←		
Minority view	Majority view	Minority view

<b>Neither words <u>nor</u> music is essential</b>	<b>Words are essential or neither</b>	<b>Both words <u>and</u> music are essential</b>
<b>At liberty to use any music possible</b>	<b>At liberty to use any music / style as long as the content is good</b>	<b>At liberty to use any music / style that comes with the words / content.</b>
<b>Secular styles of music are good.</b>	<b>Secular styles are good</b>	<b>Secular content matches styles</b>

By the way - **If** the music is neutral and doesn't matter → why does it matter so much to you?

#### **4. There are at least 4 broad principles that must govern our GCP worship:**

**Public worship is to be God-centered:** that God is to be worshipped and He is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:24), and in the beauty of holiness (Ps. 27:4; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Chron. 16:29; 2 Chron. 20:21; Ps. 29:2; Ps. 96:9). All public worship has God as its audience and God is to be approached with reverence and godly fear (Heb. 12:28-29; Ex. 3:5; Isa. 6:1-8). This would exclude all so-called worship that is man-centered and entertainment oriented. This would also exclude all forms of music that are directly associated with the world and worldliness (Lev. 11:44-45; Lev. 20:7, 26; 1 Pet. 1:14-15). God is holy and we are to worship Him and Him alone in the beauty of holiness (1 Chron. 16:29).

**Public worship is to be Bible-based:** that the content of public worship is to be regulated by the teaching of Scripture (Acts 2:42; 1 Tim. 2:1-4), and that that content is to be rooted in, and a direct reflection of, the doctrines of the Bible (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Public worship includes singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs that express the full range of the Christian experience (Mt. 22:37-40; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16) as do the Biblical Psalms. This would exclude all songs that are mere empty repetition (Mt. 6:7-8) and without Biblical content. This would also exclude music that lacks the variety and depth of the Christian experience and does not express the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:20, 26).

**Public worship is to be distinctly-Christian:** that all parts of worship are to emphasize the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ and the resultant new life we have in Christ (1 Cor. 2:2; 2 Cor. 5:17). We are to sing a new song unto the Lord (Ps. 33:3; Ps. 40:1-3; Ps. 144:9) that clearly expresses what the Lord Jesus Christ has done for us. This would exclude all forms of worship that are not clearly Christian in content and expression. This would also exclude all forms of music that identify with the old life prior to knowing Christ.

**Public worship is to be congregation-oriented:** that all parts of the service include the entire congregation publicly, corporately and whole-heartedly engaging in the worship of the Triune God through praying the Word, singing the Word, hearing the Word and obeying the Word (Isa. 29:13; Eze. 33:31-33; Mt. 15:8-9). This would exclude the congregation as being mere spectators in an entertainment atmosphere since this is not worship but entertainment.

