

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - May 19, 2024
THEME: "Praise and Worship"
HYMN OF MOSES

Sunday Read Exodus 15:1-11

"Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea." One of the greatest events in all of human history is the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. Having served as slaves for years, God used Moses to lead the people of His chosen nation out of bondage and into freedom. The famine was over, and they were headed back to their homeland. It would not be an easy trip. A huge obstacle was the Red Sea. It appeared as though they would be trapped and conquered, but God opened the sea and made a path. When the Israelites were across, God closed the waters and engulfed the enemy army. Moses then led them in a hymn of praise and thanksgiving! Yes, singing is one way to thank and praise God!

JOYFUL SINGING

Monday Read Psalm 95:1-2

"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation." The psalmist emphasized that singing was an appropriate way to honor and worship the God of our salvation. He truly is a solid rock, a sure foundation for our faith. One of the ways to show our appreciation to God our Savior is through singing! Without God's saving grace, we, as sinners, would be destined to eternal punishment for sin: eternal hell. Instead, by accepting Jesus as Savior, we have the blessed hope of an eternity in heaven! That is a reason for joy, a joy that can be successfully expressed by song. Many of the hymn writers have used "joy" as the focus of their hymns.

HYMN OF JESUS

Tuesday..... Read Matthew 26:30-31

"And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." Near the end of His life on earth in that first appearing, Jesus led His disciples in singing a hymn. His going to the cross at Calvary was difficult, but it was an experience that led to the greatest victory in history: His resurrection, and victory over death. The ultimate victory. Would it not be wonderful to know the lyrics of that hymn? Maybe we will sing it when we get to heaven! By singing, it helped to lessen the horror of His knowing He was headed toward His crucifixion. But that was essential for God to pardon sinners. Maybe that hymn Jesus sang focused on His resurrection! They had just gathered for the Passover Feast to commemorate the plight of the Israelites centuries before when the angel went over Egypt, passed over the homes of Jews in Israel. By so doing, they were spared God's Divine judgment. Jesus was heading to the victory of the resurrection.

SPIRITUAL SONGS

Wednesday Read Ephesians 5:19-21

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Here we are told that there are at least three different types of music: psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Perhaps now we could add to that, or possibly, our music identifications today would fit under "spiritual songs." Whatever, we know that God can be glorified by different types of music. We can be sure that the different types of music must have one thing in common: the glory of God. We can be sure that Satan will try to use music for his deceptive reasons, as he has done with a lot of un-Biblical false teaching. Musicians must be careful to make certain the lyrics of the songs they sing are consistent with Biblical truth! They then can be assured God will be glorified!

GLORY TO GOD

Thursday Read Revelation 4:10-11

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Spirit-filled musicians, whether verbal or instrumental, should be using their talent for the glory of God! Those doing it for self-glory and the applause of men miss out on the real value of music. Those who use their talent to draw the listeners' attention to God may well receive rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ! The Psalmist expresses the desire, as in today's Bible reading, that God, and He alone receive all the honor and glory, the fundamental purpose in the Creation.

SHARING

Friday Read Matthew 28:18-29

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." From time to time we have music concerts to honor our Lord. The gospel message can be presented very effectively through music. It may be that there are those who would come to church for a music concert but not to a regular service. If they hear and respond to the gospel message in song, they will likely come to be fed from the Scriptures by attending Bible classes or the sermon in a worship service. There are probably many in the family of God because of the songs of our musicians.

ANTICIPATION

Saturday.....Read Revelations 22:20-21

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." The real motivation for all Christians in using their talents is the anticipation of the return of Jesus: His appearing in the air and then His return to earth. That anticipation is a great motivation to doing His work. The command of Jesus to be His witness to build His church is our great motivation! Reaching souls with the Gospel message is the greatest work on earth today. People are building reputations; governments are building nations; Christians are building the Church. Christians realize that when the final soul to receive Jesus actually does, He will appear in the air to take His followers home to heaven. That is the believer's greatest anticipation! Imagine being called home by our Lord.