**By DE & CQ**

**Topic 29:** Singing/ Godly music/ songs/ hymns/psalms/ right choice of

 **(5 short prophecy messages from Jesus to children, on the subject.)**

1. (Jesus says:) Music is like a spiritual transporter that takes you to a place of either joy and goodness, or melancholy and lethargy; a place of inspiration and love, or anger and destructive thoughts; a place of faith and courage, or fear, worry and stress. There are so many stations the vehicle of music can take you to, according to the mood of the composer and whatever spirit helped create that piece of music—good from Heaven, or something from the dark side. Be careful what you listen to, because it will influence you a whole lot.

2. Picture three wells. The first is full of crystal clean water; the second has some clean and some muddy water, and the third is filled with dark, smelly water. –Which one would you drink from? Of course, you’d want to drink the cleanest water! That’s the way it is with music. You can choose to drink in God’s music, which is like crystal clean water and good for your spirit. The Devil dirtied the other two wells, which is the world’s music. Sometimes it’s got a bit of good mixed in, so it’s hard to know. But you can always tell by the effect it has on your spirit. So be careful what you listen to. –Just like you’re careful about the water you drink!

3. Singing brings a special blessing to your soul. Not only are you blessed because you are showing your love for Me. You are also blessed because singing causes My Word to dwell in you strongly and richly. You are twice blessed when you sing songs of praise. This is how the Word of God can dwell in you richly. So, sing your praises to Me! Especially sing those songs that are based on the Word.

4. One of the last things I did on Earth after the Last Supper was singing a praise song with My disciples. I knew the terrible test that was awaiting Me and that the salvation of all mankind hung in the balance. So, before we left for the Garden of Gethsemane, we sang a song of praise. That song gave me courage and faith. I knew the events that were coming to pass were My Father’s doing and He would be with Me. So, whenever you are facing a difficult time, sing a song of praise and you, too, can get Heaven’s comfort and courage.

5. Chances are, you don’t connect singing with warfare. But if you think about it, what does the devil hate more than a believer who is singing godly songs? Nothing puts you more on My side and nothing makes you more formidable in the Enemy’s eyes. It’s also hard to hold any kind of sin in your heart when you’re singing and making melody to Me. A singing heart is a heart at war with the evil one. Singing breaks the power of sin.

**(5 Short true story, or object lesson or reflection, on the subject.)**

1. Once there was an old man who sang praise songs to the Lord every evening. One day, two visitors stopped by his cottage and asked if they could lodge with him. He agreed and after the evening meal, he invited them to join in singing praise songs. The two visitors sang so beautifully that the old man stopped singing and listened to them instead. Night after that, it continued: The visitors sang, and the old man listened. One day, the angels stopped by and said, “God sent us to ask what happened. There used to be such beautiful music coming from your cottage. Now we hear nothing.” That made the old man start singing again. He realized God loves it when we sing from the heart; He doesn’t go by how perfect it is.

2. King Jehoshaphat had to battle two powerful kings who had allied against him. Jehoshaphat was very scared, and he called the people together to pray and fast. One of the prophets prophesied: “**You will *not***need***to* fight in this**battle…Stand **still and see the salvation of the LORD!” (2 Chr 20:13-15). Everybody immediately started praising and thanking God. The next morning, King Jehoshaphat put the singers in front of the troops and told them to sing praise songs as they led the way (vv.20-21). When they began to sing, the Lord set ambushers (angels and spirit beings) against the wicked kings and totally defeated them. The people’s songs of praise showed they had faith God was going to give them the victory. We, too, should sing praises to God because He has given us the victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ.**

3. When he was little, Harry loved to sing, “*Jesus Loves Me This I Know.”* The song made him happy and feel close to Jesus. Over time, though, Harry wandered away from the faith and ended up in dark places. One time, he was feeling very lonely and sad. He was in a bar when he heard some singers. They were singing “*Jesus Loves Me This I Know.”*  Suddenly Harry realized why he was so sad. He had forgotten all about Jesus! That evening, Harry prayed and recommitted his life to Jesus. From then on, he was a changed man. Harry always remembers the little song he had learned when he was a child. It brought him back to Jesus, and set him on the right path.

4. Do you remember how Paul and Silas were unjustly imprisoned in Philippi for preaching the Gospel? A mob attacked them and brought them before the magistrates who ordered them to be beaten with metal rods. Afterwards, they threw Paul and Silas in the jail with heavy chains and their feet in stocks. What did Paul and Silas do? Did they cry and feel sorry for themselves? No, they prayed and sang hymns of praise to God and all the prisoners listened to them. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake and all the prison doors swung open! Even though they were in a miserable situation, Paul and Silas sang praises to God. No wonder the prison was shaken open! (Acts 16:22-26).

5. A pastor was jailed for his faith in Christ and spent several horrifying years in prison. Although he remembered the tortures there, he did not focus on them. Instead, he spoke about the times of joy he and his fellow Christian prisoners had found in prison. “We sang every day because Christ was alive in us. When the guards put chains on our hands and feet, they thought they were adding to our grief. But we discovered that chains are great musical instruments! We clanged them together and sang, ‘*This is the day (clink, clank), this is the day (clink, clank), which the Lord has made (clink, clank), which the Lord has made (clink, clank)*.” *(*[***persecutionblog.com***](https://www.persecutionblog.com/2007/03/praise_in_priso.html)*)*

**(5 Prayers & praises on the subject.)**

1. Thank You, Jesus, for the gift of music and song You have given us. When my words are poor and clumsy, there is always a song I can sing to express my love for You! Please remind me to sing and praise You whenever I forget. Thank You that You always give me a song—even in the night seasons and all the day long!

2. May my lips praise You and glorify You! You have done so much for me. I want to praise and honor You with the fruit of my lips, songs of love and praise. Let me never stray away and start singing the world’s songs. I want to only sing songs that glorify You. That way, my heart will always be filled with love and praise for You.

3. I love to sing Your praises, dear Jesus! Whenever I sing to You, I feel like I’m being lifted up into the Heavenlies. All my fears and worries drop away like dead weights and I am free to revel in Your Love. Thank You for this wonderful gift of music and song.

4.Whenever I feel discouraged, You always remind me of a song I can sing. Instantly, my mood lifts and even the darkest day turns bright. I’m not a very good singer but my heart wants to sing all my praises to You and show You my love. I know You’re not looking for perfection so I want nothing to hold me back from singing my love and praise to You.

5. I praise You for all the beautiful songs You’ve given people throughout the ages. These songs tell of courage and faith and they inspire me and fill me with the same. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for always reminding me of songs that I can sing to praise You, and Jesus and Father God.

 **(5 Quotation from others, or hymn portion, or poem portion on the subject—names of who wrote it, or “author unknown” if don’t know.)**

1. Music is an intrinsic part of the human spirit; it is a powerful way we can express thoughts and feelings put there by God Himself. *—Sara Alexander.*

2. God delights to have us praise Him,

And believe His Holy Word

And He knows them that trust Him,

For they always sing to the Lord. – *Ida A. Gulrey*

3. “Glory, worship, laud and blessing,”

 Thus, the choir triumphant sings,

 Glory to the King of angels

 Heav’n and Earth His praises sing.

 Glory ever and forever,

 To the King of Glory bring.

 --*Rev. Dr. H. Bonar*

4. The famous composer, Haydn, was asked why his music was so cheerful. He replied, “When I think upon God, my heart is so full of joy, that the notes dance and leap from my pen. Since God has given me a cheerful heart, I serve Him with a cheerful spirit.” --*Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)*

5. “There where one sings, sit down safely: evil people have no songs” – Martin Luther

**(10 Bible verses or portions on the subject)**

1. “O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation – Psalm 95:1

2. “The Lord thy God will rejoice over thee with joy; he will joy over thee with singing” —Zephaniah 3:17

3. “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” —Psalm 40:3

4. “I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth” Psalm 34:1.

5. “Be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” –Ephesians 5:18-19.

6. **“**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

7. “It is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is beautiful” --Psalm 147:1.

8. “Sing unto the Lord a new song; for He hath done marvellous things” – Psalm 98:1.

9. “Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness” – Psalm 30:4.

10. “Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day” –Psalm 96:1,2.