

Thursday

March 12

S-Discipline of perspective in our present boot
camp for eternity J-we cannot mortify the flesh
but Jesus can R- we are to mortify not modify we
cannot beautify the carnal man we need to put on
Christ PJ- that we can be squinters of the dark
amd not of the light

Living the New Life

Paul's concern for peace and harmony in the church appears clearly in the last verses of Colossians 3. We've already looked at God's peace in some detail (see Lesson 7). Unlike the *pax Romana*, the *pax Christi* is not a peace imposed from the outside but is to "rule" us

from within. That can happen only if Christ is in control.

Read Colossians 3:16, 17. What specifically enables Christ to be in control, and what role does music play in all this?

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. 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 3:15-16 KJV

The language is very descriptive. It pictures the word of Christ making its home in us. That happens when we read the Bible attentively in order to listen and learn from God's wisdom. Apparently, though the Greek text is somewhat ambiguous, music plays an important

role in "teaching and admonishing one another"
(Col. 3:16).

But not just any music. Paul uses very
specific terminology both here and in Ephesians
5:19: "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs."

SONG FOR PAUL WAS AN EVANGELISTIC WEAPON
THAT PIERCED THE HARD HEARTS OF UNBELIEVERS.

LOOK ACTS 16:25 FOR EXAMPLE:

"AND AT MIDNIGHT PAUL AND SILAS PRAYED, AND
SANG PRAISES UNTO GOD: AND THE PRISONERS HEARD
THEM. AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE,
SO THAT THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE PRISON WERE
SHAKEN: AND IMMEDIATELY ALL THE DOORS WERE
OPENED, AND EVERY ONE'S BANDS WERE LOOSED. AND
THE KEEPER OF THE PRISON AWAKING OUT OF HIS
SLEEP, AND SEEING THE PRISON DOORS OPEN, HE DREW
OUT HIS SWORD, AND WOULD HAVE KILLED HIMSELF,
SUPPOSING THAT THE PRISONERS HAD BEEN FLED. BUT
PAUL CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE, SAYING, DO THYSELF
NO HARM: FOR WE ARE ALL HERE. THEN HE CALLED FOR

A LIGHT, AND SPRANG IN, AND CAME TREMBLING, AND
FELL DOWN BEFORE PAUL AND SILAS, AND BROUGHT
THEM OUT, AND SAID, SIRS, WHAT MUST I DO TO BE
SAVED?" ACTS 16:25-30 KJV

Though we can't be certain, it seems a distinction is made here between the existing Old Testament collection of psalms and a growing New Testament collection of hymns. "Spiritual songs" may be a more general term for any song of praise related to the spiritual life or the life of the church. The words of the songs are the means of teaching the truth and giving instruction on living the new life of a Christian. Many great hymns of the past few centuries have powerfully uplifting messages of hope and assurance, so needed in a world that so easily drags us all down.

Music's influence is powerful. David's
playing of the harp had a soothing effect on
King Saul (1 Sam. 16:23).

"And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him." 1 Samuel 16:23 KJV

But when David became his rival, Saul's anger and resentment rose (1 Sam. 18:10, 11).

"And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand. And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice." 1 Samuel 18:10-11 KJV

Calm classical music has been clinically shown to reduce anxiety, optimize brain function, increase relaxation, help with pain, and increase socialization.

Who among us has not seen for themselves the powerful influence music, for good or bad, can have on our emotions and thoughts? Music—the right music—can be spiritually uplifting.

We are told that whatever we do, “do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Col. 3:17). Can you truly say that you do that? If not, how can you change; that is, what must you stop doing if you cannot do it in the name of the Lord?

2 CHRONICLES 20 - AGAIN WE SEE IN THE OT THAT MUSIC IS A WEAPON AGAINST GODS ENEMIES:

“AND THE LEVITES, OF THE CHILDREN OF THE KOHATHITES, AND OF THE CHILDREN OF THE KORHITES, STOOD UP TO PRAISE THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL WITH A LOUD VOICE ON HIGH. AND THEY ROSE EARLY IN THE MORNING, AND WENT FORTH INTO THE WILDERNESS OF TEKOA: AND AS THEY WENT FORTH, JEHOSHAPHAT STOOD AND SAID, HEAR ME, O JUDAH, AND YE INHABITANTS

OF JERUSALEM; BELIEVE IN THE LORD YOUR GOD, SO SHALL YE BE ESTABLISHED; BELIEVE HIS PROPHETS, SO SHALL YE PROSPER. AND WHEN HE HAD CONSULTED WITH THE PEOPLE, HE APPOINTED SINGERS UNTO THE LORD, AND THAT SHOULD PRAISE THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS, AS THEY WENT OUT BEFORE THE ARMY, AND TO SAY, PRAISE THE LORD; FOR HIS MERCY ENDURETH FOR EVER. AND WHEN THEY BEGAN TO SING AND TO PRAISE, THE LORD SET AMBUSHMENTS AGAINST THE CHILDREN OF AMMON, MOAB, AND MOUNT SEIR, WHICH WERE COME AGAINST JUDAH; AND THEY WERE SMITTEN."

2 CHRONICLES 20:19-22 KJV

James 5 -

MATTHEW 26:30 - JESUS USED SONG TO COMBAT THE DARKNESS OF THE ENEMY ON HIS WAY TO GETHSAMNE -

PSALM 22:1-3 - "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME? WHY ART THOU SO FAR FROM HELPING ME, AND FROM THE WORDS OF MY ROARING? O MY GOD,

I CRY IN THE DAYTIME, BUT THOU HEAREST NOT; AND
IN THE NIGHT SEASON, AND AM NOT SILENT. BUT THOU
ART HOLY, O THOU THAT INHABITEST ("ENTHRONED IN)
THE PRAISES OF ISRAEL." PSALM 22:1-3 KJV

INHABITS = A PRIMITIVE ROOT; PROPERLY, TO SIT
DOWN (SPECIFICALLY AS JUDGE. IN AMBUSH, IN
QUIET); BY IMPLICATION, TO DWELL, TO REMAIN;
CAUSATIVELY, TO SETTLE, **TO MARRY:**

REVELATION 19 - ALLELUIA

"AND AFTER THESE THINGS I HEARD A GREAT VOICE OF
MUCH PEOPLE IN HEAVEN, SAYING, **ALLELUIA;**
SALVATION, AND GLORY, AND HONOUR, AND POWER,
UNTO THE LORD OUR GOD: FOR TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS
ARE HIS JUDGMENTS: FOR HE HATH JUDGED THE GREAT
WHORE, WHICH DID CORRUPT THE EARTH WITH HER
FORNICATION, AND HATH AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS
SERVANTS AT HER HAND. AND AGAIN THEY SAID,
ALLELUIA. AND HER SMOKE ROSE UP FOR EVER AND

EVER. AND THE FOUR AND TWENTY ELDERS AND THE
FOUR BEASTS FELL DOWN AND WORSHIPPED GOD THAT
SAT ON THE THRONE, SAYING, AMEN; **ALLELUIA**. AND A
VOICE CAME OUT OF THE THRONE, SAYING, **PRAISE OUR
GOD**, ALL YE HIS SERVANTS, AND YE THAT FEAR HIM,
BOTH SMALL AND GREAT. AND I HEARD AS IT WERE THE
VOICE OF A GREAT MULTITUDE, AND AS THE VOICE OF
MANY WATERS, AND AS THE VOICE OF MIGHTY
THUNDERINGS, SAYING, **ALLELUIA**: FOR THE LORD GOD
OMNIPOTENT REIGNETH. LET US BE GLAD AND REJOICE,
AND GIVE HONOUR TO HIM: FOR THE MARRIAGE OF THE
LAMB IS COME, AND HIS WIFE HATH MADE HERSELF
READY." REVELATION 19:1-7 KJV

SOP

AS THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, JOURNEYING THROUGH
THE WILDERNESS, CHEERED THEIR WAY BY THE MUSIC
OF SACRED SONG, SO GOD BIDS HIS CHILDREN TODAY
GLADDEN THEIR PILGRIM LIFE. THERE ARE FEW MEANS
MORE EFFECTIVE FOR FIXING HIS WORDS IN THE

MEMORY THAN REPEATING THEM IN SONG. AND SUCH SONG HAS WONDERFUL POWER. IT HAS POWER TO SUBDUE RUDE AND UNCULTIVATED NATURES; POWER TO QUICKEN THOUGHT AND TO AWAKEN SYMPATHY, TO PROMOTE HARMONY OF ACTION, AND TO BANISH THE GLOOM AND FOREBODING THAT DESTROY COURAGE AND WEAKEN EFFORT.

IT IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF IMPRESSING THE HEART WITH SPIRITUAL TRUTH. HOW OFTEN TO THE SOUL HARD-PRESSED AND READY TO DESPAIR, MEMORY RECALLS SOME WORD OF GOD'S—THE LONG-FORGOTTEN BURDEN OF A CHILDHOOD SONG,—AND TEMPTATIONS LOSE THEIR POWER, LIFE TAKES ON NEW MEANING AND NEW PURPOSE, AND COURAGE AND GLADNESS ARE IMPARTED TO OTHER SOULS!

THE VALUE OF SONG AS A MEANS OF EDUCATION SHOULD NEVER BE LOST SIGHT OF. LET THERE BE SINGING IN THE HOME, OF SONGS THAT ARE SWEET AND PURE, AND THERE WILL BE FEWER WORDS OF CENSURE AND MORE OF CHEERFULNESS AND HOPE AND JOY. LET THERE BE

SINGING IN THE SCHOOL, AND THE PUPILS WILL BE
DRAWN CLOSER TO GOD, TO THEIR TEACHERS, AND TO
ONE ANOTHER.

AS A PART OF RELIGIOUS SERVICE, SINGING IS AS
MUCH AN ACT OF WORSHIP AS IS PRAYER. INDEED,
MANY A SONG IS PRAYER. IF THE CHILD IS TAUGHT TO
REALIZE THIS, HE WILL THINK MORE OF THE MEANING
OF THE WORDS HE SINGS AND WILL BE MORE
SUSCEPTIBLE TO THEIR POWER. . ED 167.5-ED 168.3