Singing - continued

Singing involves the whole person, the entire heart (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 13:15). It is for mutual edification (Ephesians 5:19) and is a form of praise worship unto God (Colossians 3:16).

Singing is a confession of faith and it is a sacrifice (Hebrews 13:15). It expresses deep emotion (James 5:13).

How Can We Improve Our Singing?

The first thing we can do to improve our singing is to sing out so others can hear and be taught and admonished. Parents, encourage your child at an early age to sing.

We can sing from the heart sincerely and with thanksgiving, not from ritual or routine. We can make sure we understand the words we sing. Remember, the words or more important than the notes.

We can sing new songs to keep us from merely "going through the motions". We can sing to worship and praise God and edify self and others, not to entertain or attract attention to ourselves.

- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.
- Life doesn't come with an instruction manual that's why God gave us the Bible.
- There is never a wrong time to do the right thing.
- There is no future in any job. The future lies with the one who holds the job.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - speaking one to another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord - Ephesians 5:19 -

With this article, I would like to continue our five-part series of studies on the basics of New Testament church worship. What did New Testament Christians do when they gathered together to worship the Lord? They gathered together to take the Lord's supper, to pray together, to hear preaching from God's word, and to sing songs of praise together. Let's take a look at the congregational singing found in the New Testament church.

Singing Basics

Like praying, singing praises to God can be done individually (Acts 16:25; James 5:13), or congregationally (1 Corinthians 14:15,26; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).

When singing was done congregationally, it involved the whole congregation; it was done by everyone. The members sang "one to another" and there were no soloists or choirs (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). We must follow this same pattern today.

Singing (which is vocal music) was done in the congregation by a cappella only, unaccompanied by instruments. Paul wrote, "making melody with your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19) and "singing with grace in your hearts unto God" (Colossians 3:16). Again, we must follow this same pattern today.



Singing is an act of worship to God (Acts 16:25; Romans 15:9; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 2:12; 13:15; James 5:13; Revelation 5:9; 14:3; 15:3).

Singing teaches and encourages both ourselves and others (Ephesians 5:19). Singing is a way to teach and admonish one another (Colossians 3:16). So, what about members who don't sing? They disobey this command to sing! So, let's all sing! Singing is to be heart-felt, not mechanical or routine (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). Do you put your heart, your all, into your singing?

Singing focuses on spiritual thoughts (psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, praise), not secular thoughts (Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26; Acts 16:25; Ephesians 5:<u>18</u>-19; Colossians 3:16; James 5:13).

Singing was done when times were good (James 5:13) and when times were bad (Acts 16:25).

Singing in Review

What can we gather about singing from the New Testament scriptures? Let's consider a few points.

Singing exemplifies the unity of the church (Romans 15:6). It brings Christians together. It is something that all Christians can do.

Singing is a form of teaching (Colossians 3:16) and it expresses the words of the Holy Spirit and Christ dwelling in us (Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16).

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