

7-Day-A-Week Christianity

The Church, Instrumental Worship, & Prophecy

I wonder at the command, “*be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit*” --- specifically speaking, how it is achieved via, “*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making a melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Eph. 5:18-20)! Furthermore, beloved Brethren, let us understand a principle truth: **The environment in which prophecy flourishes is music** – music by *anointed men* singing and making a melody to the LORD in their hearts (Eph. 5:19). Remember, brethren, the gift of prophecy is essential in all enterprises of the Church because it is the gift from whence cometh edification (“*be that prophesieth edifieth the Church*”-1 Cor. 14:4). Without the gift of prophecy, the heart of God is hidden from redeemed humanity. With the gift of prophecy present, unction to edify flows from the mouth as a river. Prophecy is essential for preaching, for prayer, but also for worship. Not all music is prophetic, but all music does foster prophetic revelations to flourish within the heart of every saint. An example of prophetic worship is when the psalmist said,

“I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.” – Psalm 49:4

Notice how the psalmist said, “*I will open my dark saying upon the harp*”. This is why men would play instruments and sing, and then, shockingly, prophetic utterances would come forth as a whirlwind around the Presence of God – whether in praise, prayer, or prophetic words! It is essential to see how linked the ministry of music is to the gift of prophecy; and let us remember, also, how essential the gift of prophecy is to the Church! Paul said, “*Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy*” (1 Cor. 14:1)! Amen. Hallelujah! Dear Brethren consider the example of Elisha - a veteran prophet who did twice as many miracles as Elijah, and, yet, he needed the aid of a minstrel to prophecy! The minstrel compelled his spiritual senses into the Throne Room of Heaven!

“But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.” – 2 Kings 3:15

Dear Brethren, it is expedient for us to understand how music joins our hearts to Heaven. What is happening in the congregation of holy beings that surround the Throne of God? One thing we know for sure is, every heart is electrified with adoration, admiration, and praise! Yes! And we can see how the adoration of God is expressed – namely, by SONG! It is written, “*And they sung a new song*” (Rev. 5:9)! And again, “*they sung as it were a new song before the Throne*” (Rev. 14:3)! Take careful note, Brethren. The scripture states that there were new songs, therefore it is certain that the most common singing in Heaven was old songs, as it were. In the future event of a new song being sung in Heaven, it is new because it is contrary to the ordinary songs which were being sung. Witnessing to this fact, Heaven’s company is cited to sing “the song of Moses the servant of God”. This song is in every respect, an old song. How many songs does Heaven sing, we do not know, but we can be confident that there are new and old songs being sung before the Throne throughout the echoes of eternity! Should we be any different? For good reason the Lord said, “as in heaven, so in earth” (Lk. 11:2). Let it be, dear Lord!

My reader, how expedient is worship? It is expedient to fulfill the Lord’s prayer in real time. It is expedient that the Kingdom of God on earth looks like the Kingdom of God in Heaven. The same

EYES of God are in both assemblies, in heaven and on earth. The same holy angels could be seen attending according to the will of God, in heaven and on earth. Therefore, also, let us understand how expedient this matter is because it pertains to our heart-connection to the GOD of Heaven! Namely that, musical worship does help join our hearts to Heaven! And this joining will empower and fan-a-flame the gift of prophesy within us! Attesting to this, behold the conversation of the prophets in the days of Samuel:

*“After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet **a company of prophets** coming down from the high place with a **psaltery**, and a **tabret**, and a **pipe**, and a **harp**, before them; **and they shall prophesy:**”* – 1 Samuel 10:5

Notice the inseparable bond, like wood the flame – the company of prophets had in their hands “**psaltery**”, “**tabret**”, “**pipe**”, and “**harp**”, and they did **prophesy**! Dear Brethren, what was the environment which was inviting to the Holy Ghost, as it were? In what environment did “The Spirit of Prophesy” fall upon the prophets? The environment in which the Holy Ghost fell was **song and instrumental praise**! Yes, and this must become the **7-day-a-week environment** of the Church House, dear Brethren! Therein, within the Church House, we must learn to minister unto the LORD by song and instrumental praise, by prophetic utterance and prayer, by abounding edification and singleness of heart! This is the whole duty of our Christianity! The Church is for the LORD, and not for man. The Church is the arena where the LORD’s desires are manifest before the eyes of the saints, then to take their flight yonder (Ps. 68:24). The Church is a place in which the LORD must be praised, a place in which an ecosystem of life-giving praise is inhabited by Almighty God (Ps. 22:3). Therefore let us learn to gather before the LORD in this acceptable way, to be an ecosystem that God desires to inhabit, to be a garden of the Lord wherein He might find comfort and rest (Jer. 9:2). Let all of God’s people engage in the holy pursuit spoken before by the psalmist, “*But Thou art HOLY, **O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel***” (Ps. 22:3)!

*“Let the people praise Thee, O God; **let all the people praise Thee**”!*

*“Let the people praise Thee, O God; **let all the people praise Thee**”! – Ps. 67:3, 5*

*“They have **seen Thy goings**, O God; even **the goings of my God, my King, in the Sanctuary.**” – Ps. 68:24*

Let the decree be made over us, dear Lord. Let Thy words be fulfilled in us. Let Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven, for we are the people of Thy pasture and Thy portion forever. Amen.

Your Fellow Minister of the Sanctuary,

Brother Sean