

"Heavenly Music in Worship"
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Introduction:

What is Heaven's Music? There is nothing cryptic about this music. It is not the product of some form of secondary inspiration. It is not something that has all of a sudden become new under the sun. *Heaven's Music* is as old and as substantive as the Bible. A study of *Heaven's Music* reveals two aspects: first a Bibliology aspect and second a Musicology aspect. This is a study of the Bibliological aspect in which this exposé will examine four areas: *first*, What is Heaven's Music, *second*, Heaven's Music related to Bibliology, *third*, The Importance of Heaven's Music in Worship, and *fourth*, Principles Gleaned from Heaven's Music relative to Godly Worship Today.

I. What is Heaven's Music?

A. It is simply the "Music of the Scripture"

1. It is Psalmodic System of Music - adj. the art or practice of singing psalms:
n. psalmody
2. It is Prosodic System of Music - adj. the rhythmic and intonational aspect of
language: n. prosody
3. It is music constructed from accents, vowel point and syllables.
4. It is music with a distinct order: melody, harmony, rhythm.
5. It is music which is *onomatopoeic* - word revealing - *hiss, buzz, bang*
6. It is music with cantillation marks received by the Masoretes.

In 1978, Susanna Haik-Ventura deciphered the musical notation, restoring
the original sound of the music to the Hebrew language.

7. It is music inspired by God - Psalms, Song of Solomon, Song of Moses, etc.

B. It is in particularly the music of the Old Testament

1. Pre Abraham music includes:

- a. The Music of Jubal Genesis 4:21
- b. The Music of Laban Genesis 31:27
- c. The Music of Job Job 35:10
- d. The Music of Angels Job:38:7:

2. Post Abraham music includes:

- a. The songs of Moses - Ex.15:1-18; Deut.31:19, 32:1-43
 Declaring, “The LORD is my strength and song” cf. Isa.12:2
- b. The song of Joseph - Psalm 81:1-6
- c. The song of Miriam - Ex.15:21
- d. The song of Deborah and Barak - Judges 5:1-31
- e. The song of Hannah - 1 Sm.2:1-10
- g. The songs accompanying the prophets - 1 Sam.10:5
 Music instruments: psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp
- h. The songs of David - Psalms, also song of deliverance 2 Sm.22:1-51
- i. The songs of Asaph - Psalms
- j. The songs of Solomon - 1Kgs:4:32, 1005 songs; Song of Solomon
- k. The songs in the service of the Lord’s house - 1 Chr.6:31
 - 1) Division of musicians - 1 Chr.25:1ff
 Who should prophesy with harps, psalteries, cymbals
 Harp - to give the Lord thanks and praise v.3
 - 2) Music instruments in the house of God - 1 Chr.25:6
 Cymbals, psalteries, and harps
 - 3) Songs of the Lord - 1 Chr.25:7
 - 4) Song of the Lord - 2 Chr.29:27

II. Heaven’s Music Related to Bibliology: 2 Chronicles 29:27 “The Song of the LORD”

A. The Origin of Heaven’s Music:

- **Job 35:10**

But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs (זְמִירָה) in the night;

- **Job 38:7**

When the morning stars sang (זָמְרוּ) together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

B. The Revelation of Heaven's Music:

- *Job 35:10*

But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs (זְמוֹרָה) in the night;

- *Deuteronomy 31:19*

Now therefore write ye this song (שִׁירָה) for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song (שִׁירָה) may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

C. The Depository of Heavenly Music in the O.T. is Israel:

- *Exodus 15: 1,2ff*

Then sang (שָׁרָה) Moses and the children of Israel this song (שִׁירָה) unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing (שָׁרָה) unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and song, (זְמוֹרָתִי) and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

- *Exodus 15:20,21*

And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them, Sing (שָׁרָה) ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

D. The Depository of Heaven's Music in the N.T. is the Church:

- *Matthew 26:30*

And when they had sung an hymn, (ὕμνησαντες) they went out into the Mount of Olives.

- *Ephesians 5:19*

Speaking to yourselves in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ὕμνος) and spiritual songs, (ὠδή) singing (ᾄδω) and making melody (ψάλλω) in your heart to the Lord;

- *Colossians 3:16*

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ὕμνος) and spiritual songs,(ὠδὴ) singing(ᾄδω) with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

E. The Future of Heaven's Music:

- *Revelation 5:9,10*

And they sung (ᾄδω) a new song, (ὠδὴ) saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

- *Revelation 15:3*

And they sing (ᾄδω) the song (ὠδὴ) of Moses the servant of God, and the song (ὠδὴ) of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

F. The Language of Heaven's Music:

1. The Old Testament language of Heaven's Music is Hebrew.

a. It was the language written and rehearsed and sung by the Hebrews.

- *Deut.31:19,22*

Now therefore write ye this song (הַשִּׁיר) for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song (הַשִּׁיר) may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

Moses therefore wrote this song (הַשִּׁיר) the same day, and taught it the children of Israel.

b. It was the language written and used in the Psalms.

- *Psalms 119 - utilizes the Hebrew alphabet in its strophes*

c. It was the language used by the Prophets, holy men of old.

- *2 Peter 1:21*

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

d. It was the language of the Song of Solomon.

- *Song of Solomon 1:1*

The song (7'ψ') of songs, (7'7'ψ'7') which is Solomon's.

2. The New Testament language of Heaven's Music is Hebrew.

a. It was sung by Christ in His church in fulfillment of a Psalm.

- *Matthew 26:30*

And when they had sung an hymn, (ὕμνησαντες) they went out into the Mount of Olives.

- *Psalms 22:22*

I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

- *Hebrews 2:12*

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise (ὕμνέω) unto thee.

b. It was suspended (not rescinded) with the Great Commission.

- *Matthew 28:19,20*

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Note: There is a clear inference to the preserved inerrant translation of the scripture as the church goes to *all nations* and teaches *all things commanded*. Therefore today, church discipling, teaching and singing are not exclusively in Hebrew or Greek, but rather in the native language of the people to whom the church has gone.

c. It was continued in the early church.

- *Ephesians 5:19*

Speaking to yourselves in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ᾠμος) and spiritual songs,(ᾠδῆ) singing (ᾄδω) and making melody (ψάλλω) in your heart to the Lord;

- *Colossians 3:16*

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ᾠμος) and spiritual songs,(ᾠδῆ) singing(ᾄδω) with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Note: The singing of psalms and hymns and spiritual songs in Hebrew most likely continued in the early church where Hebrew was a prevalent language. However, as the early church continued to spread further from Jerusalem and into nations with different languages, it was those languages that were adopted and used by the church. Also, the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. brought a suspension of the singing of Hebrew in a nationally Jewish assembly.

3. The Millennial language of Heaven's Music will be Hebrew.

a. It will return during the Millennium.

- *Zephaniah 3:9*

For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.

Note: This is based upon the premise and belief that Hebrew is the original and pure language. When God

confused the common language of the people all language other than Hebrew became a confounded form of Hebrew.

b. It will be sung during the Millennium.

- *Revelation 15:3*

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

III. Importance of Heaven's Music in Worship:

A. In the Old Testament

1. It was used in personal worship.

a. By Hannah:

- *1 Samuel 2:1-10*

Hannah's rejoicing in the Salvation of the LORD

b. By David:

- *2 Samuel 22:1-51*

David's Song of Deliverance - The LORD is my rock...

*And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song (7'ψ)
in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of
all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul:*

2. It was used in personal edification and as a means of revelation..

By Job:

- *Job 35:10-11*

*But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs
(7'זר) in the night; Who teacheth us more than the beasts of
the earth, and maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven?*

3. It was used in national rejoicing.

a. By Miriam:

- *Exodus 15:20-21*

Miriam's Song of Rejoicing - Sing (שִׁיר) ye to the LORD...

b. By Deborah and Barak:

- *Judges 5:1-31*

Song of Praise - Praise ye the LORD...

c. By David:

- *2 Samuel 6:13-15*

Upon entrance of the Tabernacle into Jerusalem

- *Psalms 119:54*

Thy statutes have been my songs (שִׁיר) in the house of my pilgrimage.

4. It was used in the service of the Tabernacle until Solomon's temple was built.

Appointed by David and under the direction of the Levites.

- *1 Chronicles 6:31, 32*

And these are they whom David set over the service of song (שִׁיר) in the house of the LORD, after that the ark had rest.

And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, (שִׁיר) until Solomon had built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem: and then they waited on their office according to their order.

5. It was used in Temple worship.

a. Under the direction of Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

- *1 Chronicles 25:1, 6*

Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:

All these were under the hands of their father for song ($\gamma\psi$) in the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

b. Under the leadership of King Hezekiah:

- *2 Chronicles 29:27*

And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song ($\gamma\psi$) of the LORD began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel.

B. In the New Testament

1. Apostolic Church

a. Jesus sings with His Church

- *Matthew 26:30*

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

b. Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs

- *Ephesians 5:19*

Speaking to yourselves in psalms ($\psi\alpha\lambda\mu\acute{o}\varsigma$) and hymns, ($\u03b8\mu\nu\omicron\varsigma$) and spiritual songs, ($\acute{\omega}\delta\eta$) singing ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\omega$) and making melody ($\psi\acute{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\omega$) in your heart to the Lord;

- **Colossians 3:16**

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms (ψαλμοί) and hymns, (ὕμνος) and spiritual songs,(ὠδὴ) singing(ᾄδω) with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2. Post-Apostolic Church

a. Music of the saved from all nations

- **Matthew 28:19**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

b. Music based upon preserved translations of Scripture

- **Matthew 28:20**

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

IV. Principles Gleaned from Heaven's Music relative to Godly Worship Today:

A. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should be authored by godly men and women.

1. Examples of Godly Men writing music in the O. T.:

Moses
Barak
David
Solomon
Asaph

2. Examples of Godly Women writing music in the O. T.:

Miriam
Deborah
Hannah

B. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should be ministered by godly men and women.

1. Examples of Godly Men ministering music in the O. T.:

David - 1 Samuel 16:17-18

Sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun - 1 Chron. 25:1

2. Examples of Godly Women ministering music in the O. T.:

Miriam and the women - Exodus 15:20

Hannah - 1 Samuel 2:2-10

C. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should be determined by the Scripture.

- ***Psalm 119:54***

Thy statutes have been my songs (לְהַלְלוֹת) in the house of my pilgrimage.

- ***Colossians 3:16***

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ὕμνος) and spiritual songs,(ᾠδὴ) singing (ᾄδω) with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

D. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should be acceptable to the Holy Spirit.

- ***Ephesians 5:18,19***

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms (ψαλμός) and hymns, (ὕμνος) and spiritual songs,(ᾠδὴ) singing (ᾄδω) and making melody (ψάλλω) in your heart to the Lord;

E. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should praise the Lord.

- ***Judges 5:1-31***

Song of Praise - Praise ye the LORD...

F. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should rejoice in salvation.

- *1 Samuel 2:1-10*

Hannah's rejoicing in the Salvation of the LORD

G. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should be edifying.

- *Job 35:10-11*

*But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs (זְמִירָה) in the night;
Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth, and maketh us wiser than
the fowls of heaven?*

H. A church's music relative to *heaven's music* should reflect thanksgiving as a testimonial unto the Lord before the lost.

- *2 Samuel 22:50*

*Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will
sing praises (שִׁירֵי תְהִלָּה) unto thy name.*

In Summary:

*Heaven's Music is godly music written by godly people,
ministered by godly people, promoting godly purposes.*

It is the opposite of...

*Today's Contemporary Music which is worldly music written by worldly people,
ministered by worldly people, promoting worldly purposes.*

-CAR

V. Glossary of Music Terminology from the Bible

<u>Hebrew:</u>	<u>Pronunciation:</u>	<u>Meaning:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
(רָנַן)	ranan {raw-nan'}	sing aloud, sing for joy	Job 38:7
(שִׁיר)	shiyr (sheer)	song, sang	Song 1:1, Ex 15:1 2 Chr 29:27
(הַשִּׁירִים)	shiyr (sheer) plural	the songs	Song 1:1
(שִׁירָה)	shiyrah (shee-raw)	song, lyric song, religious song, song of Levitical choir, ode, musick	Deut 31:19,22
(אָזַמַּר)	zamar (zaw-mar)	to sing, sing praises, play an instrument	2 Sam 22:50
(זָמִיר)	zamiyr (zaw-meer)	song, psalm	Job 35:10
(זְמִירָה)	zemirah (zem-ee-raw')	songs	Psa 119:54
(זְמִרָת)	zimrath (zim-rawth)	song, song of praise, music, melody	Ex 15:2

<u>Greek:</u>	<u>Pronunciation:</u>	<u>Meaning:</u>	<u>Reference:</u>
(ᾄδω)	ado (ad'-o)	to sing praises	Eph 5:19, Col 3:16 Rev 5:9, 15:3
(ὠδή)	ode (o-day')	song	Eph 5:19, Col 3:16 Rev 5:9, 15:3
(πνευματικός)	pneumatikos (pnyoo-mat-ik-os)	spirit related	
(συμφωνία)	sumphonia (soom-fo-nee'-ah)	musick	Lk.15:25
(ψαλμός)	psalmos (psal-mos')	psalm, striking strings on an instrument, pious songs	Eph 5:19, Col 3:16
(ψάλλω)	psallo (psal'-lo)	psalm, strike strings	Eph 5:19, Col 3:16
(ὑμνήσαντες)	humneo (hoom-ney-o) from ὑμνέω	sung an hymn to sing praise singing of paschal hymns these were Psalms 113, 118 and 136, which the Jews called the "great Hallel"	Mt.26:30
(ῥυμνος)	humnos (hoom'-nos)	hymn, song of praise	Eph 5:19, Col 3:16

Overview of Heaven's Music

