

**AND THE PEOPLE CAME...**

- Week of February 13, 2022 -

Sunday Morning Service -----	33
Sunday Evening Service -----	30
Wednesday Evening Service, 02/16/22 -----	12

**AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...**

- Week of February 13, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,269.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/13/22:</b>	<b>\$ 1,319.00</b>

- Week of February 6, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 2,674.97
Love Offering -----	\$ 200.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/06/22:</b>	<b>\$ 2,874.97</b>

- Week of January 30, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 783.97
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/30/22:</b>	<b>\$ 833.97</b>

- Week of January 23, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,412.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/23/22:</b>	<b>\$ 1,462.00</b>

- Week of January 16, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 946.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/16/22:</b>	<b>\$ 996.00</b>

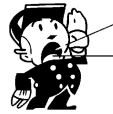
- Week of January 9, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,598.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 20.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/09/22:</b>	<b>\$ 1,618.00</b>

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED**

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



**THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!**

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Sadly, some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing **THEMSELVES** of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, most of our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

**WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:**

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=433047>

WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD & STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE!  
YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR RENEWED OUTREACH EFFORTS!

**Church Directory**

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
Mickie Shatwell -----	Evening Pianist
Derek Quinnelly -----	Greeter
Larry Byars -----	S.S. Teacher
Larry & Mary Byars, Derek Quinnelly, Harrison White -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebart -----	Custodian
Shirley & Brenda White -----	Flowers
Seth White -----	Sound/Video

**REMINDER**



**The Psychology and Negative Effects of Repetitive Lyrics in Modern Worship Music**

Today's worship landscape has been overtaken by modern, contemporary music as the hymns of the old days that contained good theology have been largely abandoned. In this article, I want to compare the psychology of the lyrics of two popular worship songs; one hymn without repetitive lyrics and one contemporary single with them.

Now, you might be wondering why I'm concerned with psychology. Shouldn't we only be concerned with what the Scriptures have to say about worship? The answer to that is a resounding "yes," however, a cursory look at the psychology will explain why charismatics—who don't actually adhere to biblical principles in worship—are attached to shallow, repetitive music in the way that they are.

In a 2014 study in the *Journal of Consumer Psychology*, it was demonstrated that repetitive lyrics in music were a key indicator in how likely a song would reach the top spots on the Billboard list. In other words, the more repetitive the lyrics, the more people became psychologically attached to a song. The study noted that these repetitive portions of music, also known as the chorus, have historically been "used as a 'hook' to catch the ear of the listener and is repeated regularly throughout a song." The effect of this, the study notes, is known as "repetitive priming" which results in a more pleasant experience among the listener.

Now, let's take a look at two popular songs. The first one is a hymn released by Stuart Townend, *How Deep the Father's Love For Us*. The lyrics contain three main parts with no repetitive lyrics, but for simplicity's sake, I'll only print the last section:

*I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom*

Even though this hymn is newer, it is nearly indistinguishable from the hymns written throughout history by the Reformers, the Puritans, etc. in it's theological richness. The accompanying music is subtle and the focus of this song is on the actual **words**. It is not overrun with psychological tricks to garner an emotional response; the solid and rich theology in this music alone is enough to do that for a true believer.

Now, let's look at another highly popular song that's making its waves throughout Evangelical churches around the world. This song was written and produced by a "worship artist" named Charity Gayle. The name of this song is *New Name Written Down in*

(continued inside)

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Every Day...*



**Glory** (NOT the one some of us old-timers remember - this is a completely different song with somewhat similar words). For this song, I'll post more of the lyrics, roughly half, as you should get the point. The other half is nearly identical. As you can see below, the song is repetitive and shallow:

*There is a new name written down in glory  
And it's mine, yes, it's mine (I've met Jesus)*

*I've met the Author of my story  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine  
(There is a new name)*

*There is a new name written down in glory  
And it's mine, yes, it's mine (Hallelujah)  
I've met the author of my story  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine (Yes, He's mine) Yeah, sing it,*

*I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me, come on  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am  
I am who I am because the I Am tells me who I am*

*There is a new name written down in glory  
(Sing it out, hallelujah)  
And it's mine, yes, it's mine (Oh, He's mine. Yes, He's mine)  
I've met the Author of my story (Oh, His name is Jesus)  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine (He's mine, whoa, He's mine)*

*There is a new name written down in glory  
And it's mine, yes, it's mine  
I've met the Author of my story  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine  
(Yes, He's mine. And He's mine)  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine  
(Yes, He's mine. And He's mine)  
And He's mine, yes, He's mine (Yes, He's mine)*

In the video of Gayle and her band performing this song, you can see that the music and the production itself is the focus of the song and the repetitive lyrics—as concluded in the psychology study cited above—serve one purpose: *to create pleasure*. That pleasure is evident in the reaction of the audience and the band.

So, the questions that must then be asked: *Is this an acceptable form of worship? Is God okay with this? Is this even worship at all?*

Clearly, this is a form of worship; it appears to be an emotional form of self-idolatry. As noted in the lyrics, the song isn't even about God, it's about **ME**. Count how many times the words “I,” “my,” “mine,” “me,” etc. have been used just in the lyrics above. Yet, just do a YouTube search for churches performing this song and see the reactions of the people in the churches. **These people believe they are worshiping God but this song isn't even about God.** Let's just be real, this song wasn't designed to cause

one to worship the one true God revealed in Scripture. This song was designed to **sell**.

In another study conducted by the National Institutes of Health (yes, I know, the NIH is run by awful people), various repetitive chanting practices were studied among various religious groups including Roman Catholics and Buddhists. The study demonstrated that:

*Verbal repetitions of a sequence of a particular tune or the vibration of sound may be utilized as contemplative aids for acquiring attentiveness, presence of mind, and for triggering a series of positive associations through correlative thinking that links the name of Amitābha Buddha with symbolic and literary narratives of his Pure Land Sukhāvati, literally the “land of bliss.”*

In other words, the verbal repetition in chanting and singing has been demonstrated to psychologically open one's mind to suggestion. Notably, the charismatic movement employs this technique to emotionally manipulate the audience prior to the preacher taking the stage to open their minds to be able to more easily receive whatever is being stated. Just watch any YouTube video from Bethel Church and its pastor, Bill Johnson, and you will see this. But this technique, to a certain extent, is now being regularly employed by many mainstream Evangelical churches whether intentionally or not. There is hardly a Southern Baptist church today that doesn't begin the worship service with Hillsong or Bethel music (and a LOT of independent baptist churches are using their music these days, too - TWW).

*But is this how we want to open the hearts and minds of people?* By emotional manipulation? Isn't that the job of the Holy Spirit? It is the Holy Spirit that does this work within us and he does so through the preaching of the Word; **not through psychological-emotional manipulation of shallow music.**

*“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26).*

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## **NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS**

□ **BLASPHEMOUS SONG POPULAR ON TIKTOK** - The following is excerpted from *“Peace PCR's ‘God Is a Freak’ Becomes Exvangelical TikTok Anthem,”* Christian Headlines, Feb. 7, 2022:

*“God Is a Freak*, a new song by Australian artist Peach PRC, was rushed into release early Thursday (Feb. 3) after ex-evangelicals embraced a leaked TikTok clip of the track as a rallying cry against purity culture and LGBTQ exclusion. ‘God is a bit of a freak--like what's the fixation on hating the way he creates?’ asks Peach PRC in the song lyrics. ‘So why would I spend my eternity with God when he's a freak?’ Sporting her signature pink hair and matching outfit, Peach PRC, whose real name is Shaylee Curnow, leaked a short section of the song to

TikTok on Jan. 10 with the caption: ‘an anti worship song for my religious trauma girlies.’ ... The video immediately took off and as of Friday morning had been viewed over 2.5 million times. The song has been used more than 7,700 times as a backing track for other videos by TikTok users.”

CONCLUSION: The God against whom these people rage and blaspheme is the Author of all good things. Every individual owes his very being and every breathe to his Creator, **“seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things”** and **“in Him we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:25, 28)**. God is so kind and compassionate and gracious that He Himself paid the awful price that His fallen creatures owe for their sin against His holy and just laws. Those who rage against this gracious God and reject the salvation He offers in Jesus Christ deserve what they will get as their just reward. **“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion” (Psalm 2:1-6).**

□ **DEBUNKED ICONS FOR EVOLUTION STILL BEING USED** - The following is excerpted from *“Khan Academy Pushes Haeckel's Phony Embryo Drawings,”* Evolution News, Feb. 6, 2022:

“[W]hen it comes to the ‘evidence for evolution,’ Khan Academy shows that what biologist Jonathan Wells has called the ‘icons of evolution’ --lines of evidence refuted long ago--are alive and well on the internet. The ‘Evidence for Evolution’ video seems intent on recapitulating many such icons ... Those include Ernst Haeckel's notorious embryo drawings, in addition to the homology in vertebrate limbs, fossil horse, and human-chimp genetic similarity icons. In fact, these are centerpieces of their argument for evolution.

...The late Stephen Jay Gould called Haeckel's work ‘fraudulent’ because Haeckel ‘simply copied the same figure over and over again.’ The journal Science ... quoted embryologist Michael Richardson slamming them as ‘one of the most famous fakes in biology.’ Science went on to explain that the drawings: show vertebrate embryos of different animals passing through identical stages of development. But the impression they give, that the embryos are exactly alike, is wrong, says Michael Richardson, an embryologist. ... He hopes once and for all to discredit Haeckel's work, first found to be flawed more than a century ago.

...Not only did Haeckel add or omit features, Richardson and his colleagues report, but he also fudged the scale to exaggerate similarities among species, even when there were 10-fold differences in size. Khan says that the ‘early stages’ of embryos ‘look eerily similar.’ But the figure below, from Icons of Evolution by Jonathan Wells, compares Haeckel's embryos to

accurate drawings of vertebrate embryos. ... Sometimes evolution apologists like to claim that no one uses Haeckel's embryos anymore and when we mention these drawings, supposedly we are attacking a straw man. Well, as long as Khan Academy leaves its video on YouTube we can definitely say this is no straw man.”

□ **CHRISTIAN DRUG CULTURE** - The following is excerpted from *Psychedelic Seduction: Drugging the World and the Church* by Richard and Linda Nathan, available from lighthouse-trailsresearch.com:

“‘I am a youth pastor at a large church, and I smoke weed everyday [sic] that I am not at service (Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday). My lord still loves me.’

That quote reveals a bizarre phenomenon that couldn't have existed even thirty or forty years ago—a ‘Christian’ drug culture. Today, this drug culture not only exists, but it extends far beyond marijuana. That's partly because, unlike any other drug, a broad social movement already promotes and glorifies marijuana. Unfortunately, many Christians seem to join in it. ‘Weed is so normalized in America that it's hardly cool anymore.’

If you think marijuana is rare or couldn't be in your Christian community, think again. Pot communities and pot churches are on the rise nationwide, spreading bizarre forms of spirituality and taking advantage of religious freedom laws to act as medical dispensaries and avoid tax laws. Big Weed's deceptive campaign promotes pot as harmless and medicinal, and the big profits entice Christian businesspeople. Furthermore, pastors generally don't understand marijuana's negative spiritual effects. Sad to say, the drug culture is everywhere, and it's here to stay. As one youth said, ‘All you have to do is listen to a lot of popular music to hear about marijuana. All you have to do is watch TV or movies to see marijuana. And just attend a concert if you want to stand around inhaling it secondhand. It's everywhere.’

...Minimizing the biblical teachings about holiness and sanctification can invite lawlessness and drug use by Christians. Furthermore, some popular pastors and leaders encourage the culture of rebellion (e.g., John Piper's philosophy of ‘Christian hedonism’). The words ‘Christian’ and ‘hedonism’ are opposites because hedonism is the ethical theory that pleasure is the highest good.

...By 2021, 18 states and Washington, DC, had legalized recreational marijuana, and 36 states had legalized medical marijuana. Now, more than a third of Americans live where marijuana is legal, and it's becoming part of mainstream American culture. Marijuana's dangerous THC content (tetrahydrocannabinol) has skyrocketed from around 3% in the 1970s to as high as 99% available in a huge variety of products today. And more teenagers are smoking pot and all its derivatives than cigarettes.”

□ **CHURCH HOSTS “SCREAM NIGHT” TO EXPRESS FRUSTRATION WITH COVID-19 PANDEMIC** - Duke Memorial United Methodist Church of Durham, North Carolina, recently hosted a “scream night” to express their frustrations with

life in general and Covid-19 in particular.

“Rev.” Laura Crosskey, event organizer and a licensed psychologist, said, “We wanted to provide people with a space to let it out with the intention of knowing that they were not alone in their struggles or in their efforts to heal” (“North Carolina church hosts ‘scream night,’” Christian Post, Feb. 8, 2022).

Pastor Crosskey led the congregation in five scream sessions: a regular scream; a scream combined with cursing; a vehement, pointed scream (e.g., “My partner is driving me crazy” or “I hate Covid”); and a scream competition. Finally, Pastor Crosskey “invited people to get quiet, to notice ... how the scream resonated in our bodies.”

This is what professing Christians do when they are not born again and lack the wonderful supernatural spiritual resources of God’s Word and God’s Spirit. Having turned away their ears from the truth of God’s Word, they heap to themselves teachers who scratch their itching ears with fables such as scream therapy.

***“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (II Timothy 4:3-4).***

□ ***CANADA WANTS TO MAKE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF EMERGENCIES ACT PERMANENT***- Canada’s Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland wants to make permanent the invasive financial surveillance system introduced as part of the “Emergencies Act” to crush the civil liberties protests.

Freeland had announced the initial powers earlier this week to freeze the bank accounts of those who support the protests.

“As of today, all crowdfunding platforms, and the payment service providers they use, must register with FINTRAC and must report large and suspicious transactions to FINTRAC (Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada),” Freeland said at the time. “This will help mitigate the risk that these platforms receive illicit funds; increase the quality and quantity of intelligence received by FINTRAC; and make more information available to support investigations by law enforcement into these illegal blockades.

“This is about following the money. This is about stopping the financing of these illegal blockades. We are today serving notice, if your truck is being used in these illegal blockades your corporate accounts will be frozen.”

Under the Emergencies Act, banks are required to freeze accounts without the need for a court order.

Freeland explained: “The government is issuing an order with immediate effect under the Emergencies Act, authorizing Canadian financial institutions to temporarily cease providing financial services where the institution suspects that an account is being used to further the illegal blockades and occupations. This order covers both personal and corporate accounts.”

But now, Freeland has announced that she plans to make some

of the emergency measures permanent.

The government also intends to introduce new legislation to make new authorities for FINTRAC.

“We used all the tools that we had prior to the invocation of the Emergencies Act and we determined we needed some additional tools,” Freeland announced in a panel interview on Zoom.

“Some of those tools we will be putting forward measures to put those tools permanently in place. The authorities of FINTRAC, I believe, do need to be expanded to cover crowdsourcing platforms and payment platforms.”

□ ***CANADIAN STATE MEDIA LABELS ‘FREEDOM’ A ‘FAR-RIGHT’ CONCEPT***- Following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s decision to invoke emergency powers to crack down on anti-vaccine mandate protesters, CBC wrote that “freedom” is now a “far-right” concept.

According to the CBC article, freedom is now a “malleable term” and is “open to interpretation.”

The outlet cites it used by the Canadian trucker convoy, suggesting it is a “far-right” movement.

CBC quotes the director of the Centre on Hate, Bias, and Extremism at Ontario Tech University, Barbara Perry, who claims freedom “is a term that has resonated....

“You can define it and understand it and sort of manipulate it in a way that makes sense to you and is useful to you, depending on your perspective.”

“I think it... maybe takes some inspiration from what we’ve been seeing in the U.S. over the last year and a half or so, leading up to the last election and events of Jan. 6.”

The article also quotes Elisabeth Anker, an associate professor of political science at George Washington University, who says that “Freedom is a slippery concept.”

Anker states:

“On the far right, [individual freedom] is often translated into somebody who refuses to be bound by norms of equality, treating all people equally or norms to remedy inequality, whether that’s trying to remedy racial discrimination or gender discrimination.”

The “professor” also said that when right-wingers exercise their rights, it is “violent freedom” that can easily lead to danger, discrimination, and be anti-democratic.

CBC also claimed that the truckers are really Russian agents.

Another Canadian media outlet, the Globe & Mail, also jumped aboard the “freedom is hate” bandwagon.

The author Gary Mason states that freedom is “a word that has become code for white-identity politics and the far-right’s weapon of choice in the culture wars,” adding that it “has not always been a concept usurped for selfish, malicious purposes.”

Earleir this week, Trudeau threatened to freeze assets and suspend insurance of the truckers involved in the Freedom Convoy protests.

Trudeau’s Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland said:

“This is about following the money.”

“This is about stopping the financing of these illegal blockades.”

“We are today serving notice if your truck is being used in these illegal blockades, your corporate accounts will be frozen.”

After threatening to freeze truckers’ corporate accounts, Freeland warned vehicle insurance would also be suspended.

□ ***TGC AUTHOR SAYS HE DOESN’T NEED TO REPENT OF HIS SAME-SEX ATTRACTION TO MEN BECAUSE HE’S BEEN WIRED THAT WAY***-

[*Pastor’s Note*: BEWARE of THE GOSPEL COALITION (TGC)! While it SEEMs on the surface to be a conservative, Bible-believing Christian group, it is FAR FROM IT!]

Ed Shaw is one of the partners at *Living Out* — a ministry which was founded by Sam Allberry, an admittedly gay Anglican priest — who was exposed for his implicit and explicit promotion of unbiblical sexual ideology. Shaw’s statements and ideas were so gross that even Sam Allberry himself attempted to distance himself from him after it was exposed. Yet, despite Shaw’s continued promotion of LGBTQ activism, The Gospel Coalition continues to platform him as though he has anything to offer in the way of Church edification.

Recently, it was reported that Ed Shaw told parents that God uses homosexuality and transgenderism to make them more like Christ, therefore, they shouldn’t be concerned about it. In another podcast, Ed Shaw explains to his host that he doesn’t need to repent of his same-sex attractions to men because he’s been “wired to appreciate” the beauty in other men as they walk past him in the streets.

Ed Shaw, as a member of the LGBTQ-Transgenderism blasphemy community, heavily promotes the idea that Jesus understands the struggles of transgender people because Jesus, himself, suffered from body dysphoria. In an article at The Gospel Coalition, he says,

***“I’m wanting the young people who come to this event to know that Jesus is the one person that they can fully trust with***



***their sexualities, identities and gender because he is both their Creator God and a human being who knows what it is like to grapple with a sexuality, identity and gender. Teenagers today are being presented with such a confusing range of options that they especially need the tender care that Jesus offers all of us as we struggle with what it means to be a human being.”*** ■



## *When Night Falls*

by Anabel Gillham

***But none saith, “Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night?” - Job 35:10***

Wesley, our brave dog, and I walk around our circle during the day and have no fear at all—unless we meet a great big dog! It’s relaxing; fun; and good exercise for both of us. I would not walk around our circle during the night with or without Wesley, my constant companion. I’d love to do that, but this isn’t something women do with utter abandonment. (I told my husband Bill just the other day that I resent it that a man can walk in the dark but a woman can’t—safely, at least.) Oh, I love the night time—the stillness, the quiet chirping of the birds going to bed, the crickets serenading, the lightning bugs having fun turning on and off, the moon and the wonder of the numberless stars and some times a haunting song from a bird making the night lovely. Yes, night is fascinating—magical, but men choose to do their evil in the darkness (John 3:19).

Night doesn’t have a good reputation in the Bible either. I love John 1:4-5: ***“In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not”*** (the darkness can never extinguish it). John 3:19 says, ***“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”*** Even our favorite Psalm 23 gives darkness a bad name: ***“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...”***

When we are going through severe problems, coping with illness, devastation, death, or depression, we feel enveloped by shadows and we say we are going through a ***“dark time in my life”***—night has hidden the beauty of the day. But God gives us a promise—a wonderful promise: ***“...the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me...”*** (Psalm 42:8). As you read that, do you see that to hear His song in the night we must be in the night—go through the night?

We must remember: ***He loves us***. He has given Himself to us - ***for us!*** He never intended for us to walk by ourselves in the darkness, He longs to go through the darkness with us and face it ***for us!*** He will never, never leave us or forsake us! He is with us every second of the day and He doesn’t go to bed when night falls, He is still with us!

***Lord, I feel so all alone when the darkness of life covers me—but I’m not alone, am I, Lord? And, if I listen carefully and open my heart to hear, You have a song for me. Thank You, Lord, that when night comes You are still with me—meeting the darkness for me—holding my hand as we walk together. Yes, how I thank You and praise You for Your constant presence,***

Your strength, and Your never-failing love. We will sing together in this darkness....

*“And the night shall be filled with music,  
And the cares that infest the day,  
Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,  
And as silently steal away.”*

*- Anabel Gillham spent decades teaching in many contexts through Lifetime Guarantee Ministries. She taught countless others how to have a genuine intimate faith and a sound marriage. She shared from her heart about living from the heart.*

## Why I Am A Baptist

by the late Dr. Noel Smith

Baptists are a people. They have a historical identity. They have a historical image. Their continuity is the longest of any Christian group on earth. Their doctrines, principles, and practices are rooted in the apostolic age. I am not a Pharasaical sectarian, but I don't confuse Baptists with the Reformers. The Reformers wanted to reform the Roman Catholic Church; the Baptists were against the Roman Catholic Church, because it was not a New Testament church.

Protestantism originated in the Reformation. Protestantism is “protest-ism.” That’s a Negative. Negativism has within it the seed of its own disintegration. The Baptists were **not** reformers. They were not protestors. They were positive. Freedom of conscience is not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. Religious liberty is not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. Believer’s baptism is not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. Baptism of the believer by immersion in water, symbolizing the believer’s death, burial and resurrection with Christ is not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. The local, visible, autonomous assembly, with Christ as its only head and the Bible as its sole rule of faith and practice, is not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. Worldwide missions are not a Reformation doctrine; **it is a Baptist doctrine**. The Reformers had no missionary vision and no missionary spirit. For almost two hundred years after the Reformers, the Reformation churches felt no burden to implement the Great Commission.

What kind of world would the Western world have been had Protestantism become its master? Who but the Baptist kept Protestantism from becoming master? The general attitude today is that the truth is determined by the passing of time; that there aren't eternal, abiding truths. “You can't turn the clock back. Time invalidates all truth. Time invalidates one set of truth and fastens another set upon us.” Baptist history repudiates this philosophy of fatalism. Baptists today are believing, teaching, preaching, and practicing the truths that they believed, taught, preached, and practiced two thousand years ago. It gives me a feeling of stability to reflect that I, as a Baptist, am in the stream of this long continuity of faith and practice. The Baptist people are a great continuity...a great essence...a great dignity. The world never needed them more than it needs them today. ■



Ira D. Sankey  
1840-1908

## THE STORY OF GOSPEL HYMNS

by Ira D. Sankey

### ONLY TRUST HIM

Words by J. H. S.  
Music by J. H. Stockton

*“Come, every soul by sin  
oppressed - There's mercy  
with the Lord.”*

While on the way to England with Mr. Moody in 1873, one day in mid-ocean, as I was looking over a list of hymns in my scrap-book, I noticed one commencing, “Come every soul by sin oppressed,” written by the Rev. John Stockton, with the familiar chorus,

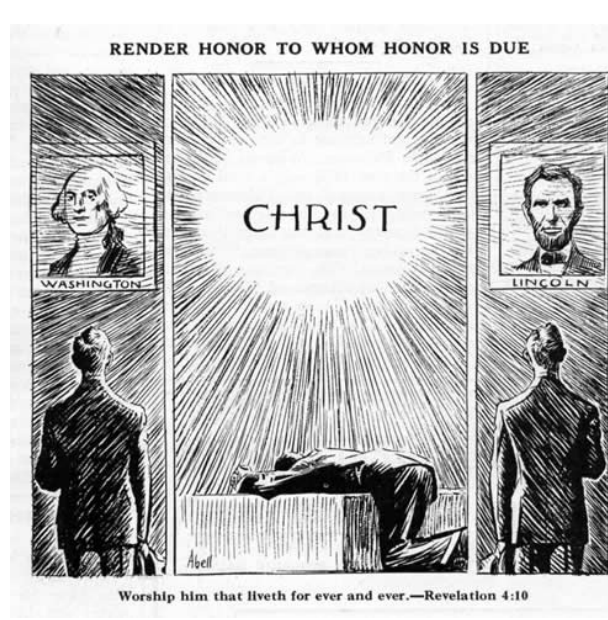
*“Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus, Come to Jesus just now.”*

Believing that these words had been so often sung that they were hackneyed, I decided to change them and tell how to come to Jesus by substituting the words, “Only trust him.” In this form it was first published in “Sacred Songs and Solos” in London. While holding meetings in Her Majesty’s Theater in Pall Mall, London, and singing this hymn, I thought I would change the chorus again, and asked the people to sing -

*“I will trust Him,  
I will trust Him,  
I will trust Him just now.”*

Then as we sang I decided to change it once more, and asked them to sing, “I do trust him.” God blessed this rendering of the hymn to eight persons present, who testified afterward that by the change they were led to accept salvation.

“I am much interested in sacred songs,” writes a missionary in England, “because it was the first verse of ‘Only trust Him’ that opened the door of my heart to let the Master into my soul in all his fullness. I was in the army, and found my way to the Woolwich Soldiers’ Home, where I heard the Gospel; and for a fortnight I was groping in the dark for peace, when one evening I heard the singing of ‘Only trust Him,’ which brought light into my soul. I have ever since been happy, serving Him with my whole heart. I am now a missionary to my comrades.” ■



## ATTENTION ALL MEN! PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 2022 MEN'S ADVANCE

Friday, April 29,  
at 7:00 p.m.  
and Saturday,  
April 30,  
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



The Men's Advance has been hosted by Bible Baptist Church of Stillwater for over ten years and is attended by men from all across the Midwest. The goal of the Men's Advance is to impact the lives of men spiritually to make a difference in their homes, churches, relationships and community.

The meeting runs on a two-day format, beginning this year at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, April 28, 2022 and concluding at approximately 3:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 29. Again this year, we will again meet at the Payne County Expo Center, just east of Stillwater. Meals are provided on-site to allow the men more time to fellowship with one another, and include a full smoked meat dinner Friday night, complete breakfast Saturday morning, and a great lunch Saturday afternoon. In addition to the Advance, a golf tournament is open to all attendees and precede the Advance earlier on Friday.

The service times and break-out sessions are the focus of the event. Here, the men are challenged to examine their lives in the light of God's Word. Both humorous and contemplative skits are interspersed to reinforce the truths presented. Special music provided by the Bible Baptist Church Men's Group and others adds to the wonderful congregational hymns, including the traditional “It Is Well With My Soul” finale.

## REGISTRATION BEGINS SOON!