

# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NEW SONG AND THE “NEW SONG”

Recently, I received a call from a good brother in the Lord. We were discussing something that has been becoming more and more prevalent in the Body of Christ these days. It had to do with the “New Song” and what its usage has become, or rather I should say, its misuse in the Body of Christ, has become these days.

Back in 2012, when I had just started to write these essays, I wrote an essay on the “New Song.” I wrote on what the scriptures had told us concerning the “New Song” and what the scriptures told us the “New Song” actually was. Over the past few years I have been hearing, especially as of late, what many ministries and what many in the church, have all of a sudden, began to think of what the “new song” has now become in “today’s church.”

I must say that what I have been hearing is not so much about what the “new song” really is, as much as what people have decided the “new song” is. Therefore, when in doubt, we must refer back to the scriptures. So let us proceed.

Oh, but wait a minute. I forgot that most of the scriptures are out of date and out of touch with Who and what God is now and what God is doing (or not doing) now. What we have been learning now-a-days is all about what man is doing and saying. We have been hearing about and learning about how God and His Word had changed and that we had it all wrong.

Over the past few years we have seen and heard many “new teachings” and many “new things” concerning God, His ways, what He desires and especially concerning His Word. All of a sudden, over the past few years, God has changed. Yes, don’t you know that God has changed!!! We have come to know God better than He knows Himself and better than His own Word tells us about Him.

Yes, it has finally happened. We can all thank the Lord that He has made us all smarter and wiser than He is or ever will be. After all, He has been around a long, long time and His ways have gotten old. Now He can relax and sit back and let “His people” take over for Him. Yes, we have all made God exactly what we now think and believe He is. However, those who think and believe like that are - **totally wrong!!!**

The truth of the matter is that God has not, and never will ever change. He is not getting old nor is He getting tired. He did not save us so that we can all take over for Him and now run things and change things the way we think they should be or what we would like them to be. No, the fact of the matter is that God was, is and always will be the same and that God was, is and always will be “in charge” of all things.

God was, is and always will be the same God that was, is and always will be from the beginning starting in Genesis and even before that. He will be the same God when we see Him in His fullness and glory at the end of this age. He will be the same God as we enter into that age to come when we will be with Him forever and ever.

I have written what I have just written to get us to the point of this particular essay which is the “New Song.” Over the past few years, I believe the correct understanding of what the “new song” truly is has been missed or should I just plainly say that it has been totally looked upon, interpreted and taught in an incorrect way. To say it even in a greater plainer and simpler way is that what the “new song” has become is the “singing of new praise songs” every week in our worship services.

Unfortunately, this is true. We no longer go to service and sing songs of praise unto the Lord as a whole congregation. Rather, we simply go to services and become intent “listeners” to those on the worship team singing songs that only they know. Next week we come to service and we do it all over again. We simply come, maybe we stand, maybe we raise our hands but most of all - we listen!!! I am sorry but the only thing we are truly to listen to is God and His Word. Other than that, we all, everyone in the service, is called to worship Him through the various ways that His Word tells us that we are to praise Him.

Worship is the “attitude of our heart.” Worship is the lifestyle of the true believer in Jesus. It is why we live and do the things we live and do. It is not only gathering together at service times but it is why we do come together – to worship our God. Worship is not simply just the “music” or dance part of the service. No, worship is the only reason why we are to truly come to the service – to express our love, our gratitude and to give all that we are to the One and only true Living God who has given everything to us, His people.

As I had mentioned, worship is the “attitude of our heart.” It is why we come to do what we do. All the things we do while we are in the service should and must reflect our love and adoration of our God. Our attitude of worship is then manifested in and through our praise. Our “praise” is expressed in and through the outward manifestations of our physical bodies which expresses the worship that is in my heart.

The “outward manifestations of our praise” may consist of but not be limited to times of singing our songs, dancing or presenting banners before our God, as well as offering our prayers of blessing unto the Lord; the giving of our offerings; communion; hearing the Word of God; praying for others or being prayed for by others for our own specific needs. Then we conclude with everyone blessing the Lord with the benediction.

The “benediction” is a fancy word that simply expresses a time when we bless and thank the Lord for all that He has done. It is also to ask our God to watch over and keep each of us until we meet again next week, when we gather once more to worship Him through our actions of praise. Then each of us goes our way and continues to worship Him throughout the days of the week, every day, until we return to honor Him together once again as one.

As we get back to the “new song” aspect of this writing we must take into account the true definition of what the “new song” truly is. As we look in the scriptures, we see that the “new song” is actually found in both the Old and the New Testaments. In the Old Testament we see that the word “new” comes from the Hebrew word “*ḥāḏāš*.” It is an adjective which is a word that describes something. It literally means, “new; a new thing; or something that is fresh.” The term in the New Testament is a Greek word which is very similar to the Hebrew definition. The Greek word is “*kainos*” which means “new; recently made; fresh; recent; unused; unworn of a new kind; unprecedented; novel; uncommon; unheard of.”

The term “song” in the Hebrew is the word “*šîr*” which is a noun and simply means, “a lyric or religious song as well as an ode.” The term “song” in the Greek is “*ōdē*” which literally means, “to be a song or an ode.”

If we put the two words together we can see that in both, the Hebrew and the Greek, the term “new song” literally means a fresh or recent, totally new religious song or religious ode. What this is really saying is that the “new song” is simply a totally new song or ode that is given to the people to express a move of God at that very moment of time. It is actually a form of the prophetic. It is literally a prophetic song.

It had nothing really to do with the time of worship or praise within a service. It was a momentary “new” thing that was given to the people for that exact moment in time. It was a distinct move of God for that moment of time to express something great that God has done or was about to do.

We see the term “new song” used in the Bible only a few times. In the Old Testament it is used six times in the Psalms and only one time in Isaiah. It is only used twice in the New Testament as found in Revelation 5:9 and 14:3. It was always used to declare a specific move of God. It was never meant to be used in terms of actual worship or praise. It was used as a method of expressing what God had done or what He was going to do.

The “New Song” is inspired by God, not the ways of the world or by any particular person. It is a “song” for a particular moment that is given by God to His people for that very moment in time. It is not simply singing new songs every time we gather together. That is where those in the church today have a misunderstanding of what the “new song” truly is. It is not simply singing new songs every week.

Our time of true worship should be a time for all those who gather together to turn towards God and truly worship Him with all that is within them with the different ways of praising Him – together as one. It is not a time to simply be listening to others singing about God. Our worship services have lost their value in many ways. Whether we realize or not we have stifled the Body of Christ by causing them to be more of a listener and observer instead of being an active participant. Could this be one of the reasons why attendance at Sunday services has been declining over the years? Hmmm.....

This is exactly what the enemy did when he caused the believers to be accepted by the pagans of the Roman Empire. Yes, God was allowed to be brought into the culture but it had to fit in with all the other “stuff.” To that I say no!!! I am not simply speaking of doctrinal issues but I am speaking of the true “attitude of heart” that the true worshipper must worship with and in. Coming unto Him in true worship causes us to enter into true praise which must come out of the person’s true born again spirit.

The “New Song” is to be a fresh, unused, unworn and unprecedented “song” for the times we are in. It is to declare that the climax of the ages is about to unfold. It is something that is initiated by God to give to His people for their edification, exhortation and comfort which is the basic definition of the prophetic. The “new song” is a prophetic word that is placed into a song or lyric that is simply for that moment of time.

It could be a song, an ode or it could simply be a voice that is crying out from the wilderness. However, we must remember that it is not simply a new praise song that we should sing this Sunday and never again. There are praise songs that are ageless and timeless and never lose their strength as being a part of our praise. They should be sung and sung again and then sung again. Why, because they truly are praising the Lord for Who He is.

Just as in the Old Testament and just as it is proclaimed in the Book of Revelation, the “new song” had nothing really to do with the “ordinary” time of worship or praise. It came at a spontaneous moment. It was a moment that was “God ordained.” So shall the “new song” continue to be “God ordained” in this hour and in this time.

Just as it was brought to us in the scriptures, the “new song” is something that God is giving to His people, prophetically, through a “song.” It is to be a momentary “new” thing that is given to His people for this exact moment in time. It is a distinct move of God for this moment of time to express something great that God has done, is doing or is about to do.

In essence, I guess what I am trying to say, is that there is a definite difference in the songs we sing during our times of ministry unto the Lord and the “new song.” I know that many will disagree with me and that is fine. The only thing I need to say is that I can only write what I know is correct deep down within my spirit. We are in a time of great separation within the Body of Christ. There are many who are following after different things and saying that God has changed and that we must change with Him.

I do not believe that God has changed at all. I believe that God is the same God He always was, is and will be. He never changes. The scripture is clear when it states that they who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth – His Truth. I make a plea for all of His true worshippers to stand up and sing. Sing out of your heart the praise songs that you know and love. I encourage you to sing the praise songs that have and will continue to not only bless His heart but also proclaim who He is. Yes, stand up and sing!!! Do not just be listeners anymore while a select few are singing.

Let your pastors or leaders know that the time has come. We are tired of being spectators. We desire to be full participants in the worship and praise of our God within our services. I guess this little writing of mine was not simply about what the “new song” really is, but rather it is about taking back our times of true worship unto our God within our times of corporate worship as we gather together.

Yes, it is time for the true worshippers to gather together and as the true worshippers, worship our God in spirit and in truth. If the “new song” flows, let it flow. However, our worship that will be expressed through our different ways of praising our God will never cease. Whether it is through song, prayer, communion, His Word being spoken, or through praying for one another, *“Let everything that hath breath, Praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.”* – Psalm 150:6