

**September 27, 2015**

***Sing like no one is watching!***

Exodus 15:2 – *The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.*

In the text, God has just delivered the Israelites from Egypt through the waters of the Red Sea. After such a miraculous salvation, what do the Israelites do? They burst into song. When was the last time you were so happy that you just had to sing at the top of your lungs? Some of you are thinking, "Oh, pastor if you only knew how *bad* my voice is!" But in all seriousness, I fear that this seemingly spontaneous sounding of song is a lost practice. And, I really mean that I fear it is.

Luther often praised music as that art which he held second only to theology (the study and proper use of the Word of God for the proclaiming of Christ Jesus). He thought that along with the Word of God it drove the Devil away and gave voice to the praises of the hearts of man toward God. He actually wrote many hymns himself, many of which we still use today. For good ol' Marty, music was the highest of art forms.

Warriors have almost always used songs to focus themselves in order to prepare for the task at hand. Fitness people use music in the same way. Children break into dance and off key mumbling when music hits their ears. Personally, I wouldn't get much done in a day if I didn't have music playing at some point. But, I would imagine that at some point or another all of us have sat around a record/8-track/tape/CD/MP3 player relaxing to our favorite performers and songs.

# Roots

Music speaks to us on a deeper level than just words. Combined with the poetry of language, it tugs at our heartstrings and ensnares our souls. So, if music is such a powerful tool, why don't we Christians use it more?

Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe you all go around humming or singing a song all the day long. Maybe the poetries and melodies of your favorite songs constantly play in the background of your mind. I hope so, because as for Moses and the Israelites, the Lord is our strength and our *Song!!!* I hope that the joy that can cause spontaneous sonorous outbursts that only Jesus can produce is always on your mind. Just as your favorite song can pump adrenaline into your system, cause fear to fall away or wake you up enough for a long day at work, the song that is Jesus puts the Devil to flight, offers forgiveness for failing hearts and strengthens you for whatever task he has put in front of you.

So, sing! If you're afraid someone will hear you, sing in your head, but please sing. Fill your heart with the joy of Jesus' song. The true story of his life, death and resurrection is a powerful tune. Load your tongue with the melody and poetry of Jesus' forgiveness and everlasting life. Let the harmonies of His salvation flow through your veins and tug at the heartstrings of everyone around you. Sing Jesus' song with your lives. Wherever you are, SING!

Pastor *Carl P. Jh*

